08

**Fall**

**Fall 2013 Nominated Officer Questionnaire**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

Please attach your **current résumé** and **Fall 2013 schedule** (class, work, other extracurricular activities).

This questionnaire is due **no later than** **FRIDAY, APRIL 26TH at 8:00PM.** Please send this document and all supplemental materials to [president.apousc@gmail.com](mailto:president.apousc@gmail.com).

*Election Day:* Candidates for President and Pledgemaster will have three minutes to give their speeches. Candidates for all other positions will have two minutes.

You may present one slide per position you run for at the time of your speech. Slides are due by **SUNDAY, APRIL 28TH at 11:59pm** to [president.apousc@gmail.com](mailto:president.apousc@gmail.com). You will not be allowed to pass out additional materials or papers during your speech.

**PART I: GENERAL INFORMATION**

Name:

Year:

Major:

Pledge Class (Year):

**Please mark which elected position(s) you are running for with an X:**

[ ] President

[ ] Pledgemaster

[X] VP of Service

[ ] VP of Membership

[ ] VP of Fellowship

[ ] VP of Finance

[ ] VP of Communications

[ ] Fundraising Chair

**PART II: SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS**

1. What is your vision for APO?

My vision for APO is to become a well-recognized and respected service organization that is known among students and external service organizations. For students, I would like APO to be recognized as an organization that truly makes a change in the community and that community service is our core focus, along with developing lifelong friendships and leadership skills. Community service is a channel through which I believe solid friendships can be formed and maintained, while leadership skills can be developed and created through the planning and execution of service events, especially philanthropy.

I want students to know APO to be an organization where they can truly flourish, knowing that they are able to maximize their inner potential as well as making a long-lasting and positive change in the community. Students will be able to participate in a variety of service events that will contribute to different areas of our community, as well as being pushed out of their comfort zone to learn more about themselves as well as the local community around them. They will learn more about social issues and the problems that plague the local community, and learn how to take action so that they can contribute towards fixing those problems.

Meanwhile, I want APO to be recognized by external service organizations as a source of dedicated and long-term volunteers that are equipped with the necessary knowledge and passion to truly help them make a difference in their mission. This can be achieved through the development and establishing of long-term relationships with nonprofits that we work with, so that they will spread the word about us to other non-profit organizations. To create long-term relationships with external volunteer organizations, I would like to focus on several service organizations that we currently work with and show our dedication and passion through regular attendance of their events as well as truly making an effort to help the mission of the non-profit. In addition, to help foster these relationships, I would like to work on multiple projects with non-profit service organizations that are long-lasting and will help to create a permanent change in the community.

Both of these perceptions are tied together because the quality of service events depend on the commitment of our members. If our members are dedicated and committed, the external volunteer organizations will recognize that and they would be more willing to work with us on multiple projects, knowing that we are able to carry through on them and commit until the end. Through these service projects, we will be able to engage our members in a variety of projects that truly have a meaning and will make a long-lasting impact to the community. This will draw out our members and help increase active retention, because of the variety of projects that will accommodate to a wide variety of interests of our active members.

1. Why do you want the position(s) you are running for?

I would like to be the VP of Service because I realized that there are so many potential projects and changes that we could implement as a result of my role last semester as the Philanthropy Co-Chair. I want to be able to motivate our brothers to participate in more service events and to draw them out with more accommodating service hours. Since my pledging semester, I have always felt strongly about being committed to service events and I want to use my drive towards service to help bring out people to more service events.

I truly believe that service is the core of our organization and I would like to emphasize that and draw more people out with service, with a variety of events. I want to consult with the active body and cater to their interests in the service events that they do as well as drawing on their past experiences to help identify possible service opportunities for our chapter as a whole.

1. What are your goals for the position(s)?

My goals for the position are to increase the active participation in service events and to ensure that there are a wide variety of service events to cater for the interests of the majority of the active body. In order to increase the active participation in service events, I will do my best to create engaging service projects that are long-term that will allow active members to identify with and commit to for the long-term, so that they can see the changes that they are making in the community. For example, having actives regularly work at a tutoring program will allow them to see the fruits of their labor when the student they are tutoring does well on a test, or even perhaps gets into a college that they helped them apply to.

Also, I noticed that another problem that was encountered this semester was the difficulty of attending service events for many people because of the scheduling of service events that was often during class hours. This prevents active participation in service events because then people are not able to go and we will not be able to regularly commit to these events because of the sporadic amount of volunteers that we are able to send. Instead, I would like to create more events that our members are able to attend. For example, this past semester there were often many service events that were scheduled at around 4PM on weekdays, and I realize that many people have class at these times (I was one of these people). As a result, I was unable to attend service events on weekdays and much of my participation in service events were on weekends. To fix this, I would place higher priority on finding service events that are later on (possibly around 7PM) and creating those as service events, having a constant stream of volunteers being able to go to these events, than having events at 4PM and constantly having to cancel them because of the lack of volunteers.

In addition, in my capacity as VP of Service, I would also like to assist the Philanthropy Co-Chairs in the planning and execution of philanthropy events and to bring out a large portion of our chapter to these events because I feel like these events are very rewarding and set out our chapter apart from many typical volunteer organizations.

1. What new ideas can you bring to the position and organization as a whole? Please provide examples.

I would like to work more closely with certain organizations and have larger scale events on weekends that will be able to accommodate more of our active members because many of them are busy on weekdays. For example, I have been in contact with LAPD about the Jordan Downs mentoring program that we do and both sides would like to increase our participation in the tutoring. Billy (the LAPD officer primarily in charge of the tutoring) has mentioned that he has received a small amount of money from a student organization in UCI and he would like to host a spelling bee across all the low income housing communities in the Watts neighborhood, and that he would like to use APO members as mentors. Through long-term projects like this, we will be able to develop a solid relationship with the LAPD which will open up opportunities for other great service projects. For example, during Spring Break when I was planning for the Jordan Downs gardening program, there were other LAPD officers that approached us who were from other low income housing communities in the Watts area, saying how they had heard much about the Jordan Downs mentoring program and they would like to bring their kids to Jordan Downs so that they can be tutored as well. A week after Spring Break, several kids from Imperial Gardens (another low-income housing community) was brought over by several LAPD officers to Jordan Downs and they were tutored by our members.

Other projects that I have been discussing with Billy next semester are being more involved with the kids and bringing them to do different activities. For example, most of the kids at Jordan Downs love playing with dogs and both me and Billy agreed that it would be a great experience if we brought them to Furbaby to walk and play with puppies. Through interactive service projects like these, are able to foster ties with multiple service organizations and show the organizations the diversity and variety of service organizations that we work with, as well as helping both service organizations with their causes.

This does not mean that I want to restrict most of my work to Jordan Downs, it is only an example. I would also like our chapter to become more actively involved with Furbaby, as they have many volunteer opportunities outside of regular dogwalking. For example, one of the events this semester was helping out Furbaby at an adoption event at the Farmer’s Market at the Grove. To me, this was a very rewarding experience and a very fun service event that truly helped to make a difference in the dogs lives (especially as 2 of the dogs were adopted). Events like these could be held more regularly next semester, as I keep in contact with the organizers for Furbaby.

However, I do not want to restrict service events to ones that only I find interesting, and I would like to consult the active body for ideas and events. I would like to delegate certain events to active members, if they feel particularly strong about a certain event I would like for them to be in charge of creating and the execution of an event, with my assistance, because I strongly believe that would help improve the event with their passion, but also help develop the leadership skills of my fellow brothers. Through having brothers plan and find service opportunities, I will be able to dip into more resources and be able to increase both the quality and quantity of our service events.

1. What relevant experience, if any, have you had working in committees or other organizations for the position(s) you are running for? Please be specific.

For the past semester, I was one of the Philanthropy Co-Chairs so I was able to work extensively with quite a few service organizations (Jordan Downs and Furbaby), so I have experience and the necessary contacts established to help further my goals and to do my job as the VP of Service. Also, by being the Philanthropy Co-Chair this semester, I was able to work extensively with the VP of Service to understand the roles and responsibilities of the position. I have also worked with the Master Doc sufficiently so that I understand the process of editing and using it.

1. What other time commitments will you have next semester (i.e. other student organizations, work, research, etc.)? How do you plan to balance APO executive board duties with those commitments?

For the next semester, I will not be working at Good Karma anymore due to class conflict. I have also stepped down from my responsibilities as the Vice President of the Badminton Club to help better dedicate my time to APO. I am also a part of the Marshall Student Ambassadors, which only meets once a week and during the Fall semester is very relaxed as we only prepare for the Spring Semester, where we help with Explore USC. I will most likely also join Beta Alpha Psi next semester, an accounting society, to help develop my professional network but the meetings are only once per week and there are very little requirements for joining (much easier than the pledging requirements of APO). I do not work or participate in any research so I believe I will be able to better balance my duties.

***Don’t forget to attach your résumé and schedule.***

Thank you for taking the time to complete the Elected Board Questionnaire. Please be sure to send in your election slide(s) no later than Sunday, April 28th at 11:59PM. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact [president.apousc@gmail.com](mailto:president.apousc@gmail.com).

Good luck! ☺