

**Spring 2018 Nominated Officer Questionnaire**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

Please attach your **current résumé** and **Spring 2018 schedule** (class, work, other extracurricular activities).

This questionnaire is due **no later than** **SUNDAY November 19th at 11:59 PM.** Please send this document and all supplemental materials to [president.apousc@gmail.com](mailto:president.apousc@gmail.com) and cc webmaster.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 November 19thth at 11:59 PM** 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

[  ]  VP of Service

[  ]  VP of Membership\*

[  ]  VP of Fellowship

[ X ]  VP of Finance\*

[  ]  VP of Communications

[  ]  IC Chair

\*Are you running with another candidate? (please bold your answer) **YES** NO

What is the name of the person you intend to run with? **­­­Grace Camia**

Are you running “all or nothing,” or are you willing to be split up if that is what the vote decides?

**­ALL OR NOTHING**

**PART II: SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS**

1. **What is your vision for APO?**

I believe APO has yet to reach its full potential. I am always in awe at how much we do, but I still believe we can improve further. I want each and every member to be able to get the most out of the organization because I believe everyone can grow a lot from what APO has to offer, LFS and otherwise. I envision an excomm that is efficient, cohesive, and approachable; we are able to communicate with each other and the active body effectively to work towards maintaining and bettering our organization. I want to see people rekindle and fuel their passion towards serving the community and towards meeting new people from all different backgrounds. APO should be THE organization that other service and philanthropy organization look towards to model and collaborate with. APO should be a community and a family where people feel comfortable enough to be themselves.

From a VP of Finance standpoint, my vision is that we can minimize financial constraints that limit our excomm and active members because growing in leadership, service, and friendship should be at the forefront of people’s thoughts instead of worrying about money.

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

After serving as VP of Service and VP of Membership, I have learned so much about how APO functions, and ultimately one if not the most important factor behind many things is money. I believe that the way we approach fundraising and our finances in general can be changed to improve our financial efficacy and the culture of the active body. I hope to bring more innovation to our fundraising efforts while also formalizing policies that have not been clear, such as excomm reimbursements, dues/payment plans, and more. I would also argue that the experiences and skills I have gained from my previous positions put me in a good position to both maintain and improve the duties of VP of Finance. I understand that being in charge of our organization’s finances is an extremely important responsibility that cannot be overlooked or treated in an unserious manner, and I am confident in having the necessary dedication and awareness for being VP of Finance.

I understand that running for a Co position is different from running for a singular one. I have the utmost trust in my ability to work with Grace Camia on a professional level after working together as Co-VP’s of Membership. We know very clearly how to effectively communicate with each other, split duties and tasks, and support each other - all qualities that cannot be ignored in an APO Co position, especially since turnaround time is so short for spring.

After talking to my Co-Candidate and previous VP’s of Finance, I am extremely excited for how I can impact the chapter via this particular position. I see a lot of opportunities for change and improvement, and as always, I want to make APO the best it can be for its members.

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

As a whole, I feel that VP of Finance, as a position, has stayed stagnant for a long time and I want to revitalize it. In particular, I feel that active/associate fundraising and the way we do fundraising needs to be formally changed. As VP of Membership, we asked people during midsemester reviews what they felt was the most difficult requirement, and many stated fundraising. The reasons varied, from the lower frequency of events to the dislike of “paying for points.” These are both issues we would like to address, and a main goal would be to help actives/associates/pledges finish their fundraising requirements with more ease and earlier in the semester to avoid people just resorting to APieO to finish. Another goal is to change the nature of fundraising from focusing on “paying” to focusing more on “dedicating time” for the points. Finally, I wish to add more formality to the active membership fundraising goal, as it always seems like the pledges put more effort and time into fundraising. With a different structure and perspective on fundraising, we hope to increase inflow of money from outside the organization, change how we use money to be more cost-efficient, and reduce financial burden of other excomm members and general members.

I will do also do whatever maintenance duties I need to keep the chapter thriving. I recognize that Spring is especially important for VP of Finance because of dealing with taxes. We would address the issue as soon as possible because we know there has been issues in past spring semesters. In addition, other regular responsibilities like APoker during rush, planning the budget, dealing with dues and payment plans, working with Pledge Fundraising Chair, running Penny Wars and retreat auction, and running Fundraising Committee would be executed to the best of our ability. We hope to make the financial operations of the chapter as legible and visible as possible to the active body while also formalizing procedures and policies that have not been clearly worked out in the past.

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

As an Eboard position, I recognize that the job often focuses on maintenance rather than innovation. We will very much keep in mind what has worked in the past but also will remain open-minded to new ideas.

First, I want to set an explicit active body fundraising goal that is separate from the pledge fundraising goal. Depending on what seems suitable, we would add biweekly or monthly updates to our GBM slides on how we are doing regarding this goal so everyone is informed on our progress as a chapter.

In terms of adding structure to fundraising in general, my Co and I would draft a formal calendar during winter break before the semester of what fundraisers we plan to do and when. We would set a concrete plan of at least two fundraisers a month (February, March, April). These would include selling products to the general public (donuts, cookies, boba) because those are time-and-time-again proven methods of generating 100-200$ an event. They would also include our fundraisers paired with local restaurants like Chipotle, Cava, and Blaze, that could also double with pledge membership interview party events. While many of these have been done in the past and they are not necessarily “new,” the change lies in how we will execute them - more frequently and efficiently than in the past by planning much more ahead of time. We would also formally refocus on active members dedicating time rather than money. We would take time to manage excel spreadsheets for people to table and sell products rather than just encouraging them to just buy a box of donuts, rewarding 1 point per dedicated hour. Another way we can change our approach to fundraising is marketing. For example, having themed fundraisers like for Valentine’s Day can make something repetitive seem interesting. We may still be selling cookies and maybe flowers, but the spirit and marketing would be different. In addition to the above fundraising changes, I would like to market one fundraiser to solely be dedicated to raising funds for Kid City.

We also want to clarify how reimbursement works with other excomm members. We want to make it explicit that excomm members should never feel like they have to pay out of pocket, especially for large events or orders. Rather than just the reimbursement form, we want to create a formal “request form” that all excomm members would know about and have access to prior to large payments. To ensure accountability, receipts will still be mandatory.

We also want to change how dues are enforced to maintain accountability and fairness. Dues will be decided as early as possible and enforced with markers like retreat where all people going must have paid dues or established a payment plan with us. On the other hand, we will maintain understanding that financial constraints are too real for all college students. We will ask ahead of time on the membership survey for people to indicate if they even think they will need a payment plan. We will always offer a 1 on 1 consultation to develop a personal payment plan as early in the semester as possible along with the standard payment plan.

In regards to Uber and Lyft, we want to formalize the policy of when it is appropriate to spend funds on ride services because it has not been clear in the past two semesters. Since this would be new, we would be extremely open to input and changes from other excomm members as the semester goes on.

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.**

I believe my most relevant experience is serving on APO Eboard for the past year as VP of Service and VP of Membership. VP of Finance requires a complete understanding of how APO functions and how to work with other members of excomm, and my previous Eboard positions have wholeheartedly prepared me. I have served on fundraising committees in high school such as for student council, my Chinese school, and multicultural club, but at the end of the day, I would argue that common sense added with deep knowledge about the inner workings of APO are still the most important. In the past, I have brainstormed and executed fundraising ideas along with putting together budgets for other student orgs I have served on Eboard for like HSEP and FAB.

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?**

My other time commitments are much smaller for next semester than this semester. I will be continuing my job as a research assistant but have finished my hospital volunteering program, so I will have that extra time. My time commitments to other organizations like Dornsife Ambassadors is minimal, as I always prioritize APO over everything else. I believe that after serving as VP of Service and VP of Membership, I have shown that I am able to balance APO Excomm duties with the other parts of my life. My class schedule is also lighter for next semester, as I will no longer be taking organic chemistry. I am not studying for the MCAT or preparing for med school apps, so I will be able to fully dedicate myself to VP of Finance and APO.