

**Spring 2019 Nominated Officer Questionnaire**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

Please attach your **current résumé** and **Spring 2019 schedule** (class, work, other extracurricular activities).

This questionnaire is due **no later than** **SUNDAY November 18th 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. If you are running all or nothing for a co position, you may share a speech with your running mate and have **up to** **two slides**. If you are not running all or nothing, you must have a separate speech and slide. Slides are due by **SUNDAY November 25th 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:**

[X]  President

[  ]  Pledgemaster

[  ]  VP of Service

[  ]  Co-VP of Membership

[  ]  VP of Fellowship

[  ]  Co-VP of Finance

[  ]  VP of Communications

[  ]  IC Chair

Name of person you are running with (leave blank if no running partners):

Are you running all or nothing (leave blank if not applicable)?:

**PART II: SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS**

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

This upcoming semester will be my 7th semester in Alpha Phi Omega, and words cannot describe how much I appreciate what the chapter has given me in all fields of LFS. While I was never sure if I would end up running for this position, I am glad I waited until my last semester to try for President because I believe that a president is strengthened greatly by their experience and knowledge due to their advisor-type role on Excomm. I want to be President because I respect how much time each Excomm member dedicates, so I want to make sure that they feel supported and appreciated throughout the semester. After being in APO for so long and decently active, I feel that I can give substantive advice based on experience from previous semesters while also staying open-minded to new ideas. I also want to be President because as the leader of the organization, I would have chances to set the tone and direction our chapter will strive towards. After witnessing the fantastic leaders and role models that have come before me, I wish to follow in their footsteps and continue shaping APO for current and future members to enjoy.

1. **What is your vision for APO and what are your goals for the position(s)?**

As always, I envision APO as an organization where people from different backgrounds can come together to help the community, make meaningful friendships, and discover more about themselves. Before APO, I had barely any volunteering or leadership experience, and I was scared of the idea of making new friends. For me, the journey of growth and learning I have went through and the people that have helped me along the way are part of why APO is so different from other college organizations. As President, I hope that I can lead by example to encourage other Excomm members and actives alike to truly dedicate themselves to our core values. I would like to work with VP of Service especially to highlight the service part of LFS more. Community service serves as the forefront of our organization from which other types of growth and learning extend from. As the student organization that won the USC award for service last year, I want to ensure that we live up to that expectation and responsibility. I also want to work with the VPs of Membership and Alumni Liaison to emphasize and improve our chapter’s professional and academic resources. Hopefully, pledges, actives, and Excomm members can see me as someone they can go to for anything, from improvements they would like to see in the chapter to achievements they want to celebrate to simple chats about life. Ultimately, I want members to feel that they have purpose and gratification in being a part of APO.

Some goals I wish to achieve include solidifying our chapter’s last faculty advisor and improving transition documents for Excomm members. Without our correct number of advisors, our standing with the national office can be questionable. Better transition documents are a part of my goal to help alleviate the overwhelming feelings that Excomm members, especially first-timers, can struggle with. Lastly, while I know the culture of an organization as big as ours can be hard to change, I hope that in general, our chapter can shift towards more respect and compassion. Whether it’s at community service events or working with other organizations, APO members should demonstrate respect for the time that we are putting aside to meet and help others, for the people we are serving with and serving for. We should respect the amount of work the Excomm members put in and respect actives and pledges that go above and beyond the minimum. We should also respect that being in APO is a privilege that not everyone is afforded, and thus we ought to demonstrate our belief in this organization through our actions and dedication. I want members to feel proud to be in the Alpha Kappa chapter of APO and what it stands for because we *do* achieve a lot.

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

As with any position, it is up to the person to choose how much they want to do with it. While President is not the first position many people think of in terms of bringing new ideas to the organization, I do have some of my propositions for the upcoming semester.

After serving on Excomm for a few semesters, I believe that our chapter’s transition documents, especially for certain positions, can be more standardized and comprehensive. Even though we have transition meeting requirements, it is easy for information to be overlooked. Additionally, one tough part of Excomm positions is that there is a steep learning curve and fast turnaround, so better transition documents could help target this problem. I would communicate and work extensively with previous and new Excomm members to develop guidebooks for each position on a shared Google Drive folder, similar to the SEC Bible.

For EBM, I believe that the structure can be changed slightly to make the environment more collaborative and dynamic. Small changes like changing the table setup to a more circular layout instead of the rows we have currently can encourage Excomm members to communicate with each other. As President, I will do my best to foster constructive discussion and feedback as a facilitator so that Excomm can be on the same page and improve from hearing each other’s’ perspectives.

Lastly, I also have different ideas in terms of working with other Excomm members to improve our chapter. For service, if allowed, I want to help the VP of Service to find more non-weekly events since some organizations contact the president email for service opportunities. I also wish to work with the Directors of Recruitment and suggest that service is highlighted more in our info session presentations. As stated earlier, I want to work more with VPs of Membership and Alumni Liaison to improve our leadership and career development opportunities. I feel that with an organization of our size, we can do more in terms of helping each other with things like preparing for grad school applications, looking for internship opportunities, and choosing classes. Whether this comes in the form of events where panels of upperclassmen or alumni comment on their field or more informal avenues, I am open to whatever the membership committee members deem fit. At the end of the day, I do not wish to overstep any boundaries with other Excomm members but just hope to provide support and insight on other possible new ideas.

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.**

As someone who has been on the APO Excomm for 4 semesters, I feel that I have a good

understanding of how to work in committees and groups in general. As VP of Service, Finance, and Membership, I had to help run productive weekly committee meetings to help the chapter run smoothly. Since President may attend pledge meeting and help out with the pledging process as a member of the Big 4, my experience as Pauntie this semester would help me transition into this new role as well. The Pauntie position also taught me how a cohesive team is the most efficient and effective at accomplishing tasks, so I strongly value teamwork and clear communication. While I have not been president of another college organization before, I believe that the leadership skills I have developed in the past few years both inside and outside of APO have prepared me well for being President. From working in research labs to volunteering as a Dornsife Ambassador to working in leadership positions in various cultural and pre-med orgs, I understand what it takes to work as a team towards a common goal.

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?**

As a second semester senior, I will be taking a light course load with 12-14 units. I am not recruiting or applying to medical school yet, so I predict that I will have plenty of time to dedicate to my position. At most I will have a couple hours of volunteering and research each week, and I have been able to balance other APO executive board positions decently with heavier time commitments. Per usual, I will rely on my trust Apple calendar and prioritization of APO above all to carry out my duties.