

**Spring 2020 Nominated Officer Questionnaire**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

Please attach your **current résumé** and **Spring 2020 schedule** (class, work, other extracurricular activities).

This questionnaire is due **no later than** **SUNDAY, November 24th 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 24th 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: Andrew Oh

Year: Junior

Major: Human Biology

Pledge Class (Year): Alpha Lambda, Fall 2017

Have you finished requirements?:

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

[ ]  President

[X]  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?**

I believe that a person’s pledging experience plays a big role in determining their personal future and experience in APO as well as the future of APO. The pledgemaster and pledge team have the responsibility of helping to shape the future of APO and it is a position that should not be taken lightly. In my five semesters in APO, I have seen both great and lacking pledgeteams and I have seen it ultimately impact the pledge class in very drastically different ways in terms of their passion for the organization and the retention rate/active participation after their pledging semester. Understanding the importance of the pledge team, I believe I can fulfill these responsibilities well. I believe I have the necessary balance to ensure that the pledge class truly respects the process and values of APO while also providing a welcoming environment to ensure that they feel like they are a part of a caring and close community.

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

As a community service fellowship, I believe that APO’s values fall into those two categories: the community service and the fellowship. The pledge class is the future of APO, and as pledgemaster, I see the goal of the position to be to ensure that the pledges truly follow the community service values of our organization while also incorporating well into our active APO community and even strengthen the sense of community in APO. I believe that the pledge team plays a direct role in the pledges’ experience and that when the pledges have a better experience, they create stronger bonds with one another and care more about the leadership, friendship, and service values of APO. My goal is to ultimately create a pledge class that feels fulfilled in finding a fellowship and family under like-minded people who seek to serve their community.

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

While it is not necessarily a part of the pledgemaster’s duties, I believe that one thing we could and should change is our deliberation process. To me, it seems wrong that we spend so much time and effort into such a long process to ultimately carelessly speed through the most important part of the process: actually choosing who gets in. While it would add additional time to an already long deliberations, I believe it is necessary for us to go through a “2nd round” of deliberations for those near the cutoff. While we already somewhat have this in place, it often is for 1 or 2 more spots in the pledge class and only reconsiders a small number of rushees. I believe this re-voting net and number of spots should be bigger as it makes sure we are truly choosing the people we want in our organization.

For the pledging process itself however, I think it is important that we as a pledge team provide the pledge class with every resource and opportunity possible to make sure they can meet requirements smoothly. Therefore, I’m offering to free up my Monday from 3:30 to EBM as a sort of “office hour” where I would let any of the pledges come to me with help with binder checks, quizzes, or any other questions and concerns about the pledging process. I hope by doing so, we can drastically limit the number of failed binder checks and quizzes. On top of this, I want to create weekly progress reports to show where pledges on average should be if they are pacing their requirements. I believe this will help let pledges evenly distribute their requirements and will serve as a guideline of how ahead/behind they are in meeting their requirements. Having this guideline would also allow me to keep an eye on who is falling behind in their requirements and I would use this to notify pledges when they seem to be falling too behind. My reasoning is that by making all these changes and added efforts to provide the pledges with all the resources to meet their requirements, the pledges should strike less and have a smoother pledging experience.

I believe that the pledge class is as strong as their bond to one another and that forming a strong pledge community is essential to a good pledging experience. Therefore, I want to introduce a lot more bonding events and opportunities for the pledges, especially early onto the pledging process. This could come in the form of study nights at Kings or just casual boba runs as a pledge class.

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 that my most relevant and applicable experience for this position is my time as recruitment chair last fall. As recruitment chair, it was important to find and inspire people who were interested in finding a community of people who valued serving their community. As pledgemaster, this is just furthered upon by turning interest in joining a community to interest and passion in being an active member of a community shaped around these service values. As recruitment chair, we played a huge role in making sure that the rushees felt that they were in a welcoming community and the skills I learned to do so will definitely be applicable to making sure pledges feel the same welcoming environment in their pledge class and in the overall APO community. As recruitment chair also we were responsible for making sure that all rushees met their requirements and understood the rules and expectations. My ability to do so during rush makes me confident I can provide the same support to the pledges as they finish their requirements.

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?**

Outside of academics, my only other time commitments are my hospital shift (4 hours a week) and my work in my research lab. I purposely chose to run for this position next semester as it will be my most free and easiest academic semester. I would like to point out that the obligations and commitments I have next semester were the same for this semester on top of what was my most difficult academic semester with Organic Chemistry B and my hardest Major Biology Class. However, even with the additional academic pressure, I still found the time to be a big this semester and go out of my way to interview around 20 of the pledges. While this is nowhere near the time and effort needed to run a pledge class, I believe it shows my potential to handle my responsibilities in APO on top of my other obligations and also shows my work ethic and desire to truly get to know the pledge class.