

Dear Brothers of Alpha Phi Omega,

I would like to first thank you all for your nomination! :) During my first semester here at Cal, I was not involved in any extracurricular organizations, and found it isolating and lonely. This led me to join AΦΩ my second semester hoping in the least to find a community, but I unaware that I would gain so much more. Through fellowship, I found some of my best friends at Berkeley in APhiO; friends who support me and I them through tough times; friends who I study, eat, and travel with; friends who I interact with both in and outside of fraternal matters. Fellowship has been an integral part of not only my experience in this fraternity, but my college life as a whole - I wish to give back to the organization that has shaped me professionally, socially, and most importantly, personally. Therefore, I would like to announce my candidacy for Fellowship Vice President of Spring 17', with 5 main points headlining my platform:

- To cater to all kinds of people, and ensure that no one feels left out or constrained.
APhiO has a certain tendency to foster cliques, and I would like to discourage this through *significantly* increased frequencies and variations of fellowship buddies (and even fellowship squads), dynasty events, and other groupings that bring people out of their usual niches. By avoiding grouping the same people to certain Chapter events such as Campout or Talent Show, people will be incentivized to bond with people *outside their family*. In doing so, if a brother makes strong active and pledge connections outside of their assigned family, they will not be constrained by the traditions of family groupings at chapter events, and will be free to sit with and interact with other brothers of their choice. I hope this will bring together our active body, and bring our pledges out of possible constraints.
- To link the fellowship buddy and dynasty systems.
A subpoint of what I stated above, dynasties are a wonderful idea in encouraging brothers to interact with one another, but have much unexplored potential. I would like to suggest that dynasty events be held more frequently, and the frequency of fellowship buddies to rise in proportion, linking the two. Fellowship buddies would be assigned within and across dynasties, and encouraged to attend dynasty competitions and events together for credit. This would again decrease the frequency of cliques, and bring brothers together.
- To make fellowships more creative, engaging, and varied by encouraging new places and activities.

Most fellowships on our calendar are either milk tea runs or food outings - while I understand that people bond easily over food, I would like to encourage further variation for fellowships, as I believe fellowship means more than food and drink. In combatting this, I would like to suggest a new rule in which two-hour fellowships are permitted - but only if the activity per hour completely differs from the other, and if only *one* of the hours is allocated to food or drink. Photos would be mandated in documenting the two halves. I believe this would foster connectivity, as people often are in the mood to further bond over games, movies, and outings after eating, and

fosters convenience, as the people attending the first half will already be present for the second. These would count for two fellowship credits.

I would also like to suggest another system in which we have regular, repeating, but engaging fellowships such as rock climbing, swimming, or basketball (an intramural APhiO basketball, volleyball, or badminton team is an idea) on certain days, paralleling our regular service opportunities on certain days of the week. An existing fellowship I believe would work well under this is our semi-regular hikes at Mission Peak, as Fremont is accessible and offers good food and activity. These repeating fellowships would be allotted the two-hour system suggested above, allowing for transportation, continuation and variation versus the short timeframe of one hour. Suggestions vary among hiking, trips to nearby hometowns of brothers, days in SF; etc. I believe this system would create a sense of consistency and cater to the busy schedules of students.

- To spice up hotspot.

Joseph Lee, our current president, has suggested a system in which pledges who attend hotspot have their names (1 per day) entered into a raffle for banquet. I would like to both permanently implement this idea, and elaborate on it: Eshleman is a place where actives go to study, hang, and do work, and is much of the time preferred over hotspot - but is not accessible for pledge-active interactions. I would like to incentivize more actives to go to hotspot by adding a raffle opportunity for them as well.

A second suggestion would be to make hotspot hours and locations more accessible and comfortable (indoors, not outside in the cold), possibly extending them to weekends - the goal would be to create a more comfortable and accessible place for pledges to speak with actives.

- To make IC events more accessible and approachable.

Alpha Phi Omega is a fraternity that spans many different schools in our area, and holds a great network of brothers that need to be more interconnected. I would like to suggest that we open many of our fellowships, especially those located outside Berkeley/which require transportation across distances, to interchapter brothers. This would incentivize our brothers to attend more IC events, making them less of an obligation. Each chapter has a different culture, and I believe our chapter would benefit from being less insular and more integrated with the different personalities and types of people from other schools.

Qualifications

MMC Semester, Spring 17'	DP Semester, Fall 17'
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pledge Oak Recipient• Little for Om Lit (Small Family)• Service Committee for MMC Pledge Class	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chairing: Rush Chair for Membership VP• Chairing: IC/PR Chair for President• Hotspot Committee for Fellowship VP• Big for Preggo Eggos (Small Family)

51.5 hours 18 fellowships	24 hours 9 fellowships
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