



Please fill out all 5 questions

Full Name: Nico Paik

Expected Graduation Date (Month/Year): 2020

1. Have you previously rushed Alpha Kappa Psi? (Yes/No)

Yes

2. What other organizations/extracurriculars are you a part of?

Babson Asian Pacific Student Association (BAPSA) Executive Board, NETSEAT Startup, Babson Latin American Club, Babson Korean Student Association



3. How will you contribute to the fraternity? (max 300 words)

One of the main ways I can contribute to the Alpha Kappa Psi fraternity is by applying what I have learned thus far as an executive community developer in BAPSA. AKPsi stood out to me as a group of charismatic brothers who can rely on each other thanks to the solid relationship among each member. However, I can contribute to the fraternity by helping foster an even stronger community of brothers by organizing and encouraging interactions, outings, and social activities beyond what is expected.

Apart from that, my social self-awareness has allowed me to step out of my comfort zone to reach out and recruit other potential general members within BAPSA. I am always attentive to make sure that every member in the organization feels comfortable and want to be a mentor that underclassmen can look up to and seek for advice. Similarly, I am driven to bring this attitude to the AKPsi brotherhood in order to further strengthen and develop the bond among members.

Also, I can contribute to the fraternity by organizing and executing spontaneous events that can allow further opportunities for brothers to bond. Last week, I reached out to new BAPSA members whom I felt was not close to in order to not only get to know them at a deeper level, but also ultimately, help them find a place in the organization. I make sure to execute this achieve this through fun, memorable moments, such as 1A.M McDonald drives, bubble tea dates, and even helping them prepare for their speech in Spanish class.

Thanks to my experience in BAPSA, I am confident that I am ready to provide input, share ideas, and help in the planning and execution of the organization's campus-wide events. As a community developer, I have a lot to offer in terms of further solidifying and maintaining close relationships in the AKPsi brotherhood.

4. How do you measure success? (max 300 words)

In the past, when I measured success, I immediately associated milestones of life with wealth; luxury cars, pensions, and glossy accessories. However, I realized that wealth can be inherited easily and does not necessarily display the type of arduous and sincere success I envisioned. Now, I have started to associate and measure success with the number of close, motivated friends around me.

Surrounding myself with individuals whom I can rely on at any time of my life brings not only success, but also purpose. I started tracing the reasons why I ever wanted to feel "successful", and came to the conclusion that it was primarily because I wanted to share happy, glorious, and exciting moments with people whom I genuinely cared for - what is the value of achieving great things in life when you are not inspiring and lifting those around you?

I was disappointed that my immaturity blinded me from being able to grasp the crucial importance of friends in life. I imagined two simple scenarios in my head: a lifestyle full of extravagance but no close acquaintances, and a lifestyle that was not as grand as the other, but



with numerous close friends. The second lifestyle is more fitting to what I associated success with; I am able to feel the reassurance and family-like atmosphere that bonds within friends provide regardless of any hardships I go through in life.

Creating close relationships with passionate, driven members within Alpha Kappa Psi is the type of success I picture. With dependable brothers, I hope I will have sturdy pillars that support me become the best I can be at all times; vice versa, I want to provide the same kind of encouragement to other brothers – which indicates a high level of success in my scale.

5. What previous experience from your past makes you feel like you relate to AKPsi?

Growing up in Chile was tough at several points of my life because most of its people had not been yet exposed to other ethnicities and people from different backgrounds. As a result, it was tough confronting the demeaning glances of people as I heard racial slurs behind my back for being Asian. Attending an elementary school where I was the only non-Hispanic student was discouraging, but thankfully my parents finally decided to take my studies to an international school.

The experience of attending an international school, where I was welcomed with open arms despite my differences, made me feel like I can relate to the community within AKPsi. When I went out to buy groceries, my Asian features did not blend in with those of other Chileans', but inside this nest, I felt safe and discrimination was the least of my worries. I stopped perceiving myself to be a minority, and gained the courage to accept myself as a stable member of a community.

Transferring to an international school was the best decision my parents made; I am grateful that it has allowed me to mold me into the person I am today. I have learned the significance of inclusion and the essence of diversity. Seeing how AKPsi brothers motivate and accept each other's differences reminds me of the embracing community that I was exposed to in my international school. The experience of finding my place in a diverse environment makes me feel like I can relate to AKPsi in a deeper level, almost as if I were home. AKPsi complements a social and cultural identity that I wish to maintain for the rest of my life.