

# OFFICER ELECTIONS...IT'S NOT A POPULARITY CONTEST!

## **Objective:**

- To educate members on Tri Sigma's chapter officer election process

## **Preparation:**

Approximately two weeks before the presentation of the program, the Education Director will meet with the Education Committee to plan program presentation. Five presenters will be needed to incorporate role playing segment. Duplicate the handouts included for distribution to entire chapter. Presentation Committee should read through General Section of Officer Manual regarding elections to be prepared for questions.

## **Program:**

### Presenter:

The program about to be presented was developed to help educate the chapter on the following:

1. How Nominating Committee is selected
2. Selecting a Slate of Nominations
3. Seeking out the best qualified members to serve as Chapter Officers
4. Why Sigma doesn't campaign
5. Election of Officers

### Part I: Appointing the Committee

#### President:

President reviews the criteria for appointing the committee as this is her role as President:

The committee includes the following:

- One initiated member from each academic class. Large chapters may wish to appoint two initiated members from each class
- President is NOT an ex-officio member of the Nominating Committee
- Outgoing officers may not serve on the committee, except in the case of a smaller chapter
- An AAB member serves as Advisor to the committee
- The Nominating Committee is appointed and announced at least two weeks before elections, which is held the first meeting in November.

## Part II: Selecting a Slate of Nominations

### Parliamentarian:

Review Selection Criteria of Chapter Officers as stated in the General Section of the Officer Manual.

### *Presenter:*

Refer to Handout #1: Officer Suggestion Form, the Officer Interest Form, and review with the chapter.

## Part III: Seeking out the best qualified members to serve as Chapter Officers

The presenter sets up the role play and describes the skit as a conversation among Nominating Committee members.

The five participants conduct the skit acting as a Nominating Committee. See attached script.

## Part IV: Why Tri Sigma Doesn't Campaign for office

Presenter reviews Handout #2

Campaigning can be defined as any action to get the chapter to "vote for you" or someone else, and actively seeking votes for office rather than letting names be suggested and each initiated member vote according to her own conscience.

## Part V: Election of Officers

### Presenter:

- Nominations may be made from the floor, but it shall be the responsibility of the person making the nomination to have previously determined the eligibility of the nominee to serve and to have obtained her consent to have her name placed in nomination.
- All initiated members must be present to vote.
- During voting there should be no speeches, no discussions, and no one leaving the room.

### **Program Sources:**

General Section of Officer Manual regarding Chapter Officer Elections

### **Program Follow Up:**

Members evaluate program. Tabulate a chapter evaluation and record on Form K-87W and mail to National Headquarters monthly.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE ROLE SKIT

The presenter describes the skit as a conversation among the Nominating Committee.

### Five Participant Roles:

1 Senior                      1 Sophomore  
1 Junior                      1 Freshman  
1 Advisor

(Do not include a new member here as not to confuse the chapter and to remind them that a new member does not sit on the Nominating Committee.)

**Junior:** Thanks (insert Senior's name) for serving as chairman of this committee. You'll present the Nominating Committee report to the chapter. And thanks to you too, (insert Sophomore's name) for being the Secretary of this committee and tallying up all forms.

**Senior:** You're welcome. Now that we've finished tallying up all the interest and suggestion forms as outlined in the General Manual, we just need to review the results, office by office.

**Advisor:** Let's all keep in mind that the work of this committee is strictly confidential. Topics of discussion with anyone outside the committee, including current officers, are not to be shared.

**Sophomore:** Let's also be sure we all understand before we start our discussions, that we are only the facilitators of the chapter voting process. We're just taking the written recommendations and matching the responsibilities and duties of each office to personalities, talents, and abilities of the sisters recommended.

**All:** OK, we all agree.

**Junior:** Remember, even if members didn't list themselves as interested in holding an office, they could be considered anyway, so keep those names on the list.

**Sophomore:** With what Office should we start?

**Junior:** It doesn't really matter, let's start with President.

**Senior:** OK, let's see. We have two women interested in being President, Olga Organized and Peggy Popular. More people suggested Olga Organized than Peggy Popular.

**Sophomore:** Peggy's my best friend, she introduced me to Tri Sigma. But Olga is always so organized. She did such a great job for the chapter last year as Efficiency Chairman.

**Junior:** I think both women demonstrate qualities of a good officer.

**Freshman:** Peggy is so pretty and popular, she always has so many dates. Wouldn't she represent the image we want to portray on campus as being really popular?

**Senior:** No, Tri Sigma is about Sisterhood. Remember, being an officer is about being capable of performing the duties of the office and being able to communicate with the other officers as well as the members. It's not a popularity contest, that's for sure.

**Freshman:** Yeah, you're right.

**Junior:** Well, I think Olga Organized has a good image as well on campus, don't you? Remember last year when the Greek Council voted her Outstanding Campus Greek for being such a team leader in the Greek community!

**Advisor:** Ladies, just remember, the women shouldn't be campaigning for offices. We need to select members who know what it means to give much is to receive much. Someone who is a real team player. Someone who has **the time**.

**Senior:** That's for sure, I think Olga Organized demonstrates that. And remember last year on the morning we did the highway cleanup, Olga volunteered to make sure everyone had gloves to wear before we left. She really cares a lot.

**Junior:** And remember the manual stated that we shouldn't rely only on the suggestion forms as they are not votes, but to remember that they do reflect the confidence of the members in someone to hold office.

**Senior:** Let's also consider that we really need a President who is going to be confident in making decisions and actions that are required to lead this chapter to winning the Chapter Excellence Award!

**Advisor:** OK, well let's move on for now. We'll need to set up meetings starting tonight with members who were listed as suggestions for the office of Secretary since no one responded to being interested on the interest form. We'll need to ask them if they would be interested in holding that position.

**Sophomore:** Great, we have a good start on this whole Nominating Committee thing. Let's finish up next week so we'll be ready by the first meeting in November when we present the slate to the entire chapter.