

The Fraternity encourages enthusiastic participation in its election process, with the expectation that all sisters will be guided by the values expressed in our Ritual and carry themselves in conformity with the AOII Governing Documents. We are confident that sisters will balance their enthusiasm with awareness that all our actions, whether in person or via social media or digital communication, reflect upon our Fraternity.

This Executive Board (XB) Election Advocacy Policy applies to all members of Alpha Omicron Pi.

This Policy is designed to: (1) specify permitted and prohibited election related activities; (2) ensure that each member of Council has opportunities to be informed about the qualifications and intent of each candidate; (3) provide fair and equitable opportunities for members and XB candidates to interact about issues, goals, and priorities; and (4) foster respectful, dignified, courteous, and constructive exchanges of information and opinions.

Each XB candidate on the ballot will receive a copy of this Policy and a statement to sign which commits her to abiding by it and correcting any supporter who violates it.

All questions about whether an election advocacy activity is acceptable should be directed to the Nominating Trustees in writing and signed via email (nt@alphaomicronpi.org). The Nominating Trustees have the authority to enforce this policy as written.

The Nominating Trustees expect the spirit of Fraternity and love, self-control, and fair play to be exercised by all members throughout the election processes.

1. General

For the purposes of this Policy, the term "election advocacy" includes any attempt by a candidate, proxy, and/or supporter, to influence a sister's vote directly or indirectly in the XB election.

Some forms of election advocacy within the parameters of this Policy are permitted.

What is not permitted is any "election campaigning." For the purposes of this policy, campaigning is distinct from advocacy. Campaigning includes any organized actions, by an individual or any collective of individuals, that is meant to support a candidate. This includes any organized use of social media, websites, blogs, emails, and other communication forms that are not personal in nature.

The following activities are allowed and are not considered to be election advocacy:

- Private conversations with personal friends
- Attending or serving as a speaker at any official AOII event. The Nominating Trustees do not regulate or restrict private travel of candidates to AOII events during the election year.
- Undertaking any task necessary and usual for the performance of an appointed or elected AOII position.

All election advocacy activities must be conducted openly, with respect, and with focus on positives about what a particular candidate can do for AOII without any reference or allusion to perceived shortcomings or weaknesses of any other candidate. Disparaging comments or attacks will not be tolerated.

Additionally, all election advocacy activities must be focused on pertinent issues and visions for the future of the Fraternity.

2. Resources

No candidate, proxy, supporter, or opponent may incur expenditures or in-kind donations and/or gifts for any election advocacy activity. Fund-raising for election advocacy activities is not permitted.

No candidate, directly or through proxies or supporters, may enter into a formal or informal agreement with any other candidates and/or any candidate's proxies or supporters to conduct election advocacy activities together or for their mutual benefit, or to otherwise affect the interests of any other candidate(s).

As there is to be no campaigning, the Nominating Trustees will provide multimedia opportunities for membership to learn more about the candidates and their views.

Each candidate will be highlighted in the Call to Convention.

3. Communications – ***All communication must be personal communication between two individuals.***

Personal telephone calls may be used for election advocacy. Use of automatic calling services (robocalls) is prohibited.

Personal text and email messages to individuals may be used for election advocacy. Use of automatic texting services is prohibited. There is to be no group messages sent on behalf of a candidate.

Election advocacy via social media is allowed only through *personal* social media accounts and those public social media posting opportunities provided by the NTs.

- No private or public social media groups or campaign-style social media accounts (AOII-related or others) may be created or used to engage in election advocacy. Private or public groups used to send non-one-to-one messages about a candidate are considered campaigning in the view of this policy.

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- All communication must be personal in nature and the use of tagging multiple individuals in a post or message is prohibited.

Mailing lists, listservs, and/or social media groups, pages, or accounts to which a member has access due to her AOII roles or involvement may not be used for election advocacy.

Campaign style materials, such as brochures and advertisements, and/or mailings through any physical postal service are prohibited.

Campaign style social media materials, such as special websites, pages, blogs, social media accounts, hashtags, advertisements, gifts, tokens, or swag indicating preference for candidate(s) are prohibited.

Election advocacy, as outlined in this Policy, is permitted only after the NTs have announced the ballot during March 2025.