

**Alpha Phi Omega National Board Meeting**  
**International Relations Director Report**  
February 7, 2004, DFW Airport Marriott/North, Irving, TX

**Action Items:** none

**Progress toward National Goals:**

**National Strategic Plan:** International Extension

**Objective:** To provide support to and fulfill a commitment to the International Council of Alpha Phi Omega by leading extension efforts in Canada.

**Team Members:** Marilyn Mims Dow, Craig Muckle, Beth Tom, Allen Wong, Dave Emery

**Goal #1:** *By December 2008, the Fraternity will establish five new chapters in Canada.*

**Status:** We have 2 interested students at the University of York in Toronto. They are children of Brothers from the Philippines. Allen is working with these students to form a solid interest group.

On the afternoon of June 12, 2003 the team (minus Dr. Wong) confirmed or added the following Milestones and Actions Steps.

**Milestones** By December 2005, one new chapter will be established in Canada

**Action Steps:** By Feb 2004, establish a method of communication for leads to use for Canadian and Australian extension efforts. Completed: [australiaapo@yahoo.com](mailto:australiaapo@yahoo.com) & [canadaapo@yahoo.com](mailto:canadaapo@yahoo.com) were established specifically for this purpose.

By Spring 2004, conduct a Canadian Extension Summit in Canada.

By Spring 2004, publish membership brochures specifically targeted for a Canadian student audience.

By February 2004, begin a Canadian Extension PR campaign, including publishing articles in T&T soliciting for Canadian contacts.

By February 2004, establish a list of APhiO (USA) alumni living in Canada and send them a letter stating our Goal and asking for additional student/university extensions contacts.

By February 2004, establish a list of APhiO (Philippines) alumni living in Canada and send them a letter stating our Goal and asking for additional student/university extensions contacts.

By April 2004, establish a separate (but linked) APhiO Canada website

By June 2004, establish a list of Youth Organizations in Canada who may be looking to establish a presence in the U.S.

By October 2004, determine the differences between the Boy Scouts of America (USA) and Scouts Canada, by conferring with the Scouting and Youth Services committee. (O'Leary, Nathan, APhiO-Phil alumni)

By October 2004, determine the administrative logistics and challenges of supporting chapters of social Greek letter organizations in Canada from a national headquarters in the U.S. (Katz, Nathan)

**Goal #2:** *By December 2010, complete a feasibility study of extending Alpha Phi Omega to universities in countries where we do not have active Chapters.*

On the afternoon of June 12, 2003, the team (minus Dr. Wong) confirmed or added the following Actions Steps.

Action Steps:

Comprise a list of countries and criteria to be considered for active extension recruitment outside the United States.

- Countries where Greek letter organizations exist and are allowed
- Countries where U.S. copyright and trademark policy and law are enforced
- Countries where APhiO (USA or Phil) alumni reside

APhiO Membership policies should be followed to the extent feasibly possible.

Look for other service partners with international chapters and expertise (e.g. Lions, Kaiwanas, etc.)

By February 2004, publish our policy for dealing with passive requests or interest in establishing APhiO chapters outside of the U.S.

**Proposed Policy:**

**National Office:** The National Office will not mail out support materials (including extension materials) outside of the U.S. or Canada.

Rationale: Having the National Office send out official materials outside of the United States could be construed as the Fraternity actively allowing our insignia and trademarks to be used by non-members in foreign countries where U.S. trademark laws may not be respected.

**Local Sponsor:** The international request must be accompanied by a sponsoring APhiO group or individual. That may mean an alumni member, a chapter, section or region.

Rationale: Most international inquiries come from alumni or active members living abroad, so they already have a connection to Alpha Phi Omega in North America. A large majority of international extension requests do not result in a serious extension effort that would be appropriate for the National Board of Directors to consider supporting.

**Board Notification and confirmation:** At the time that the group is ready to officially submit Fraternity membership/petitioning applications, the Board will be notified after consultation with the Membership & Extension Program Director, the sponsoring group/individual, the appropriate Regional Director and the International Relations Director. The Board will determine whether or not to officially support the extension effort.

Rationale: This policy balances our founder's dream of extending Alpha Phi Omega world-wide, with our fiscal and legal responsibilities to the National Fraternity and our membership practice of having a sponsor individual or group. This has been the unwritten policy regarding international extension (outside of the U.S. and Canada) for more than the last decade.

(See attachment - Suggested Response to a request for support)

(See attachment - Philippine Membership Validation)

**Events:** By **December 2004** - ICAPO Meeting in conjunction with our National Conventions in Denver. This meeting is mandated by the ICAPO Operating Policies.

**May 2005** – Alpha Phi Omega of the Philippines, National Convention. We will look forward to and plan on attending the next convention in 2005. Allen established an email address to facilitate communication regarding this event: [apousadelegation@yahoo.com](mailto:apousadelegation@yahoo.com).

**IR Committee:** Allen Wong, DDS, Canadian Extension Chair

**Additional Goals:**

1. Improve communication with APhiO Philippines by establishing regular contact with counterparts on the Board in the Philippines.
2. Improve communication with ACNA (Alumni Council of North America) chapters and officers by ensuring that all APhiO-USA Board members have a current ACNA roster. (Spring 2004)

**Working with Service and Communication Program Director**

International Service Project Possibility for 2005 (2002 Convention Directive #32)

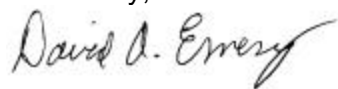
*The National Service and Communications Committee is charged to research and present a proposal to the 38<sup>th</sup> National Convention for another International Project to be held in 2005. This report should include a budget, timeline, strategy, and details of any partnerships in other organizations.*

I have agreed to head this effort. No progress to date.

**Communication & Public Relations Goal: (Beth, Marketing, Team Leader)**

**Goal #2:** By Jan 1, 2005, a structure will be in place that allows free and open communication between students, chapters and regions of APO-USA and APO-Philippines.

Fraternally,



## International Relations Director Report – Supplemental Attachment

### **Suggested Response to a request for support:**

“Thank you so much for your interest in Alpha Phi Omega in (country). It was certainly our founder’s dream to make Alpha Phi Omega an international movement as Scouting is.

**Alpha Phi Omega Around the World:** There is a separate national Alpha Phi Omega organization thriving in the Philippines since the early 1950s. In addition, Alpha Phi Omega (USA) and Alpha Phi Omega (Philippines) have committed to active international extension efforts in Canada and Australia, respectively. In addition, the International Council of Alpha Phi Omega (ICAPO) works closely with both national organizations to further the efforts of international extension.

**First Steps:** Since you have expressed an interest in establishing Alpha Phi Omega collegiate-based chapters in (country), here are some steps that you can consider. We’ll be asking you to find an Alpha Phi Omega sponsor. That could be an Alpha Phi Omega alumnus there in (country), an Alpha Phi Omega chapter in the United States or even a section or region (groups of chapters) in the United States. Your sponsor will assist you in the steps in setting up a new Alpha Phi Omega chapter. After discussing the extension process with you, your sponsor will send you a Membership Extension Starter Kit which will walk you through the process of establishing an Alpha Phi Omega chapter at your institution of higher education. Your sponsor will keep in touch with you assisting you with your progress.

**Support:** I am copying your Regional Director, (RD Name), who is the Alpha Phi Omega Board member closest to your location. (RD Name), along with our Membership Extension Director and me, will be your primary contacts with the Fraternity during this initial process. You will be following the same requirements that we ask of any extension efforts at campuses within the United States. If there are minor changes that need to be made to accommodate local laws, university regulations or cultural differences, we will certainly work with you and your group. When your group of students is ready to submit official paperwork to our National Office, we will present your efforts to the entire National Board of Directors to grant approval for continued support.

We hope that this process goes smoothly for you and your fellow students and that you have a wonderful experience as part of Alpha Phi Omega! Please let me know how else I can assist you.

Fraternally,

**Philippine Membership Validation:** On occasion we may receive occasional requests from Alpha Phi Omega, Philippines members or alumni, to validate or verify the membership status of APhiO USA brothers. In general this would be an administrative burden and I would suggest that you reply with some kind words similar to the following:

*“Membership in Alpha Phi Omega (USA) is different from that in the Philippines. As such, there is not a culture nor tradition in the United States of non-members masquerading as Alpha Phi Omega members. There is also not the same measure of political advantage to be gained from posing as a Fraternity member in the U.S. Membership in Alpha Phi Omega (USA) while quite valued internally, is generally not sought after by non-members. Requests to validate a person’s membership would generally be handled by merely asking the Brother. If you have any need to “double-check” the membership status of a Brother (male or female) of Alpha Phi Omega (USA), we would merely recommend that you kindly and in the spirit of Brotherhood, ask that brother to show their membership card. Certainly any routine request can in most cases be handled this way, rather than placing an administrative burden on the National Office of Alpha Phi Omega.”*

**Rationale:** In the Philippines, membership in Alpha Phi Omega is highly sought after and sometimes politically motivated. There are non-members individuals who would lie about their membership status in the Fraternity (masquerade as members) for their own personal or political gain. In addition, the membership database of Alpha Phi Omega of the Philippines is not complete or accurate.