

Name: Cindi Shear
Pledge Class: Spring 1979
Officer Position: Secretary - BOT Admin Dir.

As a prospective officer & leader of the ODPAA, what do you consider your greatest strengths? Weaknesses?

My greatest strengths are my ability to work with others and my perseverance to see things through completion . I pay attention to detail and take pride in a job well done.

If elected or re-elected to the position you seek, what is your commitment to serving out the full term?

I am committed to the full term.

Please describe accomplishments in your career and personal life that would benefit the ODPAA.

I have been a classroom teacher/leader/coach and mentor for over 40 years. I served as a secretary on the School Based Planning Team as well as a variety of committees at the district level. I have also led many professional development workshops throughout the Rochester City School District. I served as a site manager for a few years for a testing company and managed all operations at the Rochester site for the president of the company.

What is your vision for the future of the ODPAA? What changes would you advocate and why?

I believe that we need to obviously switch gears to focus on alumni and philanthropy, considering the current struggles with enrollment numbers and lack of interest in Greek organizations at the present time in Potsdam. I would love to see our alumni organization thrive and strive to include all our sisters. I also would like to see our constitution revamped to meet our current situation.

If elected or re-elected, please describe what you seek to accomplish:

I believe that the greatest accomplishment would be to empower sisters of all decades and experiences to become more involved and vested in our alumni organization.

What does Omega Delta Phi mean to you? Please describe your experience as both an active member and an alumni.

Omega has and always will have a special place in my heart. In my active years I was social chairperson and I was always willing to work hard and do whatever needed to be done for the good of the sisters and the house. As an alumni, I have served two terms on the BOT as the legacy representative of the 70's decade. I have consistently attended meetings and participated in discussions and I have tried to listen to all perspectives with respect for all opinions. I have also advocated for the 70's group.

How would your sisters describe you?

I would have to guess that my sisters would describe me as dedicated, hard working, knowledgeable and caring.

Please describe your approach to communicating and working with the ODPAA membership.

I believe in open communication and listening to all perspectives. I also realize I represent all sisters and want input from them, especially when making decisions for the organization.

How do you deal with difficult people & situations? Please describe a situation in which you took a position that upset someone else, and explain how you handled it.

I guess one situation that I had to deal with a difficult person was while I was serving in the Army Reserve and I had one soldier that would not follow orders and was unwilling to listen to any suggestions to improve her performance. She accused me of being unfair and I had to come up with a plan to get her to change her behavior and I did it by giving her choices and making her think it worked in her favor and it was her idea.

How do you motivate others?

I motivate people by encouraging the best in them. I have a pretty good sense of humor and believe that putting others at ease will help them to be open to new ideas and inspire them to want to be more involved.

How do you handle criticism?

I try to handle criticism as an opportunity for improvement. I believe that as a lifelong learner I need to be open and willing to accept others opinions, even when I don't necessarily agree.

What top 3 qualities do you think a leader should have?

I think a leader needs to be able communicate effectively with others, listen to a variety of opinions, and to lead others with compassion.

Would you rather be liked or respected? Why?

I guess I would rather be respected. I believe that respect is more important because sometimes difficult decisions need to be made and they may not always be popular but the good of the organization needs to be first and foremost.

How do you spend your free time?

I enjoy running and belong to an amazing running community in Rochester. When I am not running I enjoy volunteering for races as well as pacing new and experienced runners on long runs. I started sewing a few years back and continue working to pay for my quilting hobby and attend many classes to improve my skills and socialize with fellow quilters. I belong to a few

different book clubs and love being exposed to a variety of genres and hear different perspectives on books that I have read. I enjoy traveling and spending time with my family.

For Fun: What's your 'superpower' or 'spirit animal' and why?

I guess my superpower would be dedication.