

**Name:** Ruth Ford  
**Pledge Class:** Spring 85  
**Officer Position:** Legacy Rep  
**Decade:** 80's

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

My strengths are that I understand people. As an Employee Relations Consultant, I routinely mediate conflicts and work with a wide variety of stakeholders to bridge gaps, find solutions and help get people on the same page. When it comes to the ODPAA, I try to be a voice of reason.

**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.**

Strong written/verbal communication skills; Masters in HR Management, non-profit/fundraising background.

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

Ideally, I'd like to see the ODPAA function as a UNITED organization--all decades, working together and valuing what we all bring to the table. Whether it's philanthropy or recolonization--we're not going to accomplish anything if we can't work together and bridge some of the divide that exist in our organization.

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

I'd like to play a role in bringing all of the decades together so we can be ONE organization.

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

Simply put, this is the house we all love.

**How would your sisters describe you?**

Thoughtful; reflective; kind

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

I treat people the way I would want to be treated -- with respect, transparency, openness.

**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 try to talk it out -- explain my position but also listen to others so I can understand their position. Try to come to an understanding or agreement, then wipe the slate clean and move on.

**How do you motivate others?**

I try to be a good listener. I think I am good at articulating the mission or vision and explaining how they play an important role in that mission or vision.

**How do you handle criticism?**

I am good with feedback as long as it's constructive.

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

Empathy, listening skills, skilled at bringing people together.

**Would you rather be liked or respected? Why?**

I think I am well liked and respected by my peers.

**How do you spend your free time?**

Reading, travel, live music...spending time with people I enjoy being around.

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

My super power is planning events. I enjoy bringing people together.