

SPOUSAL/LIFE PARTNER (SLP) FORUM

Spousal/Life partner (SLP) champion and chair A quick-start guide for chapter leadership

For newly-launched chapters, young chapters 1–3 years old and chapters without SLP Forums:

An **SLP champion** can support your chapter in engaging SLPs and families into the chapter community. This position can be held by an EO member who is passionate about this cause or an EO member's SLP. The goal is to support board leadership, specifically the Forum, engagement, learning and membership chairs; to improve chapter energy through increased event attendance; improve member retention and experience; and support chapter communication.

For existing chapters with one or more SLP Forums:

An **SLP chair** is someone who is Forum and moderator-trained and sits on the chapter board. This position supports your chapter in incorporating SLPs and families into the chapter community and supports existing and future SLP Forums. This position can be held by an EO member who is passionate about this cause or an EO member's SLP. The goal is to support board leadership, specifically the Forum, engagement, learning and membership chairs; to improve chapter energy through increased event attendance; improve member retention and experience; and support chapter communication.

Please note:

We recommend that chapters with two or more SLP Forums consider an SLP committee to share the responsibilities.

CHAPTER ENGAGEMENT

- Work closely with the board, president and chapter manager to grow SLP involvement and engagement at events and in the chapter
- Be the ambassador for the SLP community in the chapter
- Build relationships with the chapter manager, board and SLPs
- When asked, participate in the yearly chapter Strategy Summit with the board and the area director
- Help demystify EO among unengaged SLPs and new EO members' SLPs
- Complete the yearly chapter SLP engagement survey
- Act as the liaison with the regional EO SLP global champion
- Recruit an SLP committee including the following positions after two or more SLP Forums are launched: Chair, vice chair, engagement and events, learning and communication and member/Forum chair

ADMINISTRATIVE

- Work with chapter manager to create and maintain an SLP database and a roster of SLP Forums and moderators
- Encourage EO members to grant their SLPs limited access to the EO network
- Work with the chapter manager to keep accurate statistics of SLP engagement (eg, number of SLPs, number who are Forum-trained, number of SLP Forums, etc.)

LEARNING AND EVENTS

- Ensure SLP Forum informational brochure(s) and a list of upcoming events are available at chapter events
- Work with learning chair to ensure that SLPs are invited to the majority of the chapter's learning events
- Create events throughout the year for SLPs only (ie, to demystify EO and Forums and to encourage SLPs to connect)

Continued on next page ...

SPOUSAL/LIFE PARTNER (SLP) FORUM - *continued*

COMMUNICATION

- Support the needs of, and connect, SLPs with one another throughout the chapter
- Develop a WhatsApp group or Slack community to connect SLPs
- Create/manage the EO SLP chapter Facebook page: EOSpouses (name of chapter)
- Promote the EO SLP Facebook page:
www.facebook/groups/EOSpouses/
- Encourage all EO membersto grant their SLPs access to the EO network with a personalized, restricted login so they can see global, regional and chapter events and access Forum resources

INTEGRATION

- Work with engagement chairs to integrate SLPs at the same time as new EO members and introduce them to EO benefits, including SLP Forum, regional and global learning events, EO partnerships and Healthnetwork (eg, include a presentation to demystify EO and Forums, along with a welcome pack of informational SLP documents)
- Casual in-person welcome or phone call extended to new SLPs

FORUM RECRUITMENT AND PLACEMENT

- Make initial contact with new and interested SLPs
- Coordinate the planning of SLP Forum informational meetings/recruitment events/Test Drives
- Work with Forum chair to facilitate recruitment and placement of SLP Forum members
- Assist the Forum chair in launching new SLP Forums

SLP FORUM HEALTH

- Ensure all SLPs are Forum-trained

- Assist SLP Forum moderators and SLP Forum members in gaining access to EO SLP Forum resources, exercises, tools, SLP Forum surveys and chapter health surveys
- Meet with Forum chairs and moderators on a regular basis
- SLP Forum members attend the annual All-Member Meeting
- Attend Moderator Summits and Moderator Workshop Series

TERM AND SUCCESSION

- One to two-year term, 1 July through 30 June
- Participate on a monthly SLP Forum chapter committee call/meeting
- SLP chair can be voting member of the chapter board (at the discretion of the chapter board)

QUALIFICATION

- **EO member.** Current/previous board experience preferable
- EO SLP Forum experience or Forum training preferable (within three months of accepting role)

FUNDING

Request funding from chapter for quarterly events for SLPs to build community.

**The amount is at the discretion of the chapter board.*