



THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE BUILDING CHAPTER TIES

As students strive toward excellence and develop their skillset through service, advisors help the chapter sustain and grow. The advisor role is especially important because you are a mentor, motivator, coach, trainer and a stable source of resources for a chapter. Advisors supply stability to a chapter. Advisors encourage and confirm chapter officers, as well as offer support and guidance when asked. Advisors provide resources and connections to the university, to the community and to the Fraternity as a whole.

With mentorship, coaching and guidance comes trust. So how can chapter advisors strive for excellence in building strong chapter ties?

This resource should be shared with the chapter's support team so that each advisor can be sure to provide mentorship and guidance toward solutions and success for their chapter in an organized and cohesive manner.

SUPPORTING CHAPTER OPERATIONS AND PROGRAMMING

- Assist the chapter with planning, implementing and evaluating chapter programs, as needed.
- Take a back seat to decision-making and allow chapter leaders to learn through problem-solving and planning.
- Share (or invest in understanding) institutional knowledge of chapter successes and shortcomings to help members make educated decisions for the future of the chapter.
- Get acquainted with other members of the chapter's support team, including the sectional chair, regional chair and National Office staff to understand how they, too, support chapter growth and development.
- Connect the chapter with resources in which they might otherwise not have access.
- Facilitate the learning of chapter and National Bylaws and policies to ensure safe operations and programming.

COMMUNICATION BEST PRACTICES

- Set clear expectations with chapter members about availability and preferred communication method(s).
- Arrange for there to be advisory presence at executive committee and chapter meetings – present but not controlling.
- Refrain from saying, "In my chapter..." or "When I was active..." and make the example more general by saying, "I know of a chapter that..." Doing so may allow the chapter to better understand and relate to your perspective.
- Build connections with all members of the chapter through regular communications. Inquire about joining the chapter group message or play an active role in the new member education experience.
- Hold each other accountable for communication expectations. Advisors should make it a point to regularly connect with the chapter and vice versa.

"COMING TOGETHER IS A BEGINNING. KEEPING TOGETHER IS PROGRESS. WORKING TOGETHER IS SUCCESS."

- HENRY FORD