

Suggestions for Effective Advising

The maturity and skill level of the organization and its leadership should dictate your style of advising. If they have beginning skill levels, you may need to be more involved with the organization. As the leaders' skill level matures, you can then decrease the amount of direction you need to provide the organization.

- Express sincere enthusiasm and interest in the organization and its activities.
- Be open to feedback from the group. Talk with them regarding your role as advisor. Be willing to admit mistakes.
- Provide honest feedback to the group and the leaders regarding their performance.
- Be familiar with the university's rules and policies and this handbook so that you can be a knowledgeable resource for the organization.
- Participate in the organization and get to know the members. Be available and accessible to them. They will feel more comfortable with you and more open to your input if they know you.
- Following organization meetings, discuss any problems encountered during the meeting with the officers.
- Should you miss a meeting or an event, follow up with the leaders to stay updated on the activities of the organization.
- Be careful of becoming too involved with the organization. Remember that you are not a member. Your role is to assist, facilitate and advise.