

Why you should become an advisor!

1. The joy and excitement of seeing students learn and grow.
2. Keep yourself up-to-date with the ever-changing student population.
3. Sharing your experience with students and being a mentor.
4. Helping individuals and organizations work toward common goals.
5. Engage in meaningful events and activities outside of the office and classroom.
6. Developing the leaders of tomorrow!

What does an advisor do?

The advisor serves as a model for students through leadership, educating, and advocacy. Advisors should provide a sense of direction and guidance for the students and the organization. An advisor supports the growth and development of the students. An advisor advocates and provides support necessary for a student organization to build, maintain and be successful.

The role of an advisor is to...

1. Help the organization identify its goals, identify what the organization and its members want to accomplish. The advisor should be prepared to guide the students into a meaningful direction. An advisor should never manipulate organization members into accomplishing goals only deemed important by the advisor.
2. Assist and ensure accurate information and records are maintained by officers. This can include bank account records, minutes of meetings, or historical documents that may be beneficial in officer transitions.
3. Have developmental conversations with members and provide students with leadership skill development encouraging student's growth and learning.
4. At times, you may be asked to be a mediator or resolve internal conflicts between executive officers. Remember this is a learning experience for students so you may want to help the students learn how to better problem solve or compromise.
5. Be a listener. Sometimes a student just needs someone to hear them or talk to. There may be an issue that a student has and just needs someone to be a sounding board.
6. Be a mentor. Students see you as a leader and may see themselves in you and want to be where you are at. Help and guide them to accomplishing their individual goals.
7. Be available, be approachable, and communicate.
8. Be present, your students appreciate you for taking the time out of your busy schedule. There is no better way to show your support for your organization by being present for their events, meetings, and being in the moment with them when they come talk to you.
9. Sign off on risk assessments, SOAC paperwork, and other university documents (i.e. on-campus accounts).