



UNIVERSITY OF  
**TEXAS**  
ARLINGTON

**GREEK LIFE**  
& **UNIVERSITY EVENTS**  
DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

## **Your Role as an Advisor**

### **Your Responsibilities**

You have been selected by the members of a Fraternity or Sorority to act as an advisor to their chapter. Advisors assist in the general operation and governance of the chapter, including identifying educational, scholastic, cultural and developmental resources within the University community.

#### **As a Chapter Advisor, you are expected to:**

- Provide general guidance to the chapter.
- Oversee the selection of other advisory board members.
- Regularly attend chapter meetings.
- Regularly attend executive board meetings.
- Be available to meet with individual members who may need guidance.
- Attend chapter advisor meetings hosted by the office of Greek Life.
- Maintain close contact with the inter/national organization headquarters and the office of Greek Life

#### **As a Faculty Advisor, you are expected to:**

- Meet once a semester with the scholarship chair and/or president to talk about scholarship related issues.
- Attend two chapter meetings each semester to emphasize academics and your availability as a mentor.
- Be available to meet with individual members who may need academic guidance.
- Provide guidance to the chapter if they want to develop a speaker series or host a faculty reception or dinner.
- Attend any faculty reception the chapter hosts
- Help the chapter formulate academic incentives to reward members who do well academically
- Review the scholastic achievement of the chapter and determine whether it meet the national's expectations.
- Attend one chapter event (other than a chapter meeting) each semester.
- Advise chapter and or officers on university issues.

### **Tips for Advising Chapters**

1. Get to know the chapter members. It s important to know your audience. Different groups require different approaches.
2. Keep the group s goals and objectives firmly in mind.
3. Know what group members expect of you as an advisor.
4. Express a sincere interest in the group and its mission.

5. Express a sincere interest in each individual within the group.
6. Assist the chapter in setting realistic, obtainable goals.
7. Assist the chapter in developing a system through which they can evaluate their progress.
8. Address the needs of each individual while helping the group achieve its goals.
9. Assist the chapter in understanding the dynamics of the group and human interaction.
10. Realize the importance of the peer group and its affect on how each individual participates or fails to participate.
11. Assist the group in determining the needs of the people the group is serving.
12. Be aware of the various roles you'll be filling from time to time:
  - Consultant
  - Information source
  - Clarifier
  - Counselor
  - Facilitator
13. Don't allow yourself to be placed in the position of chairperson. Work toward a balanced approach to group participation.
14. Be aware of the institutional power structure both formal and informal.
15. Provide continuity for the group from year to year.
16. Challenge the group to grow and develop.
17. Be creative and innovative.
18. Know how to access University resources.

### **How You Benefit the Chapter**

- You can offer advice to graduating seniors on career opportunities.
- You can give encouragement to students to participate in campus events and organizations.
- Officers and members will have access to you, an additional mature resource.
- You may be able to positively impact the chapter academic performance by reviewing the scholarship plan, meeting with the scholarship chairperson, new members, and/or the chapter, and by providing a system of accountability.
- You can advocate for the fraternity experience to other faculty, university administration, and/or parents.
- You may have specific organizational, financial, facility, or other resource management expertise to share with the chapter.
- You can assist in the development of chapter goals, procedures and action plans.