

II. Tips on Being an Effective Advisor

1. Spend time informally to get to know the members of your organization
2. Be able to devote a reasonable amount of time to the group activities and scheduled meetings.
3. Have a philosophy which is compatible with the goals of the organization
4. Maintain constant communication with the organization to insure a good, open and supportive relationship
5. Meet regularly formally or informally with your organization president
6. Define your role as an advisor early. Let them know what other commitments you have.
7. Remember, students are the leaders, not the advisor
8. Set expectations early, what you expect of them and what they expect of you
9. Be Consistent
10. Recognition is important, it helps with retaining members
11. Don't just listen, hear what students have to say
12. Always follow through
13. Know your students culture, what do they read, watch and listen to
14. Set standards for accountability
15. Challenge your students
16. You can not use the same advising style with all students
17. Be professional
18. Encourage students to plan ahead
19. Use every situation as a learning/developmental moment
20. Be an advocate for students
21. Have a sense of humor
22. It's about the process not the product
23. Be Patient
24. Hands on is not hands in
25. Keep an open mind
26. Evaluate programs, events, the process etc
27. Sometimes you need to let them fail
28. Model a balanced life for your students
29. Empower and enable students instead of doing for them
30. There are no failures; only learning experiences
31. Have FUN