



The support and engagement of a skilled faculty/staff advisor can dramatically increase the ability of a fraternity/sorority to achieve its goals and gain valuable perspective. Faculty and staff engagement outside of the classroom has proven to increase opportunities for student success and student learning.

An engaged faculty/staff advisor can serve any or all of the following important support roles:

- Assisting the chapter with strategies that promote academic success.
- Promoting intellectual dialog and conversation within the chapter surrounding important social, political, and economic topics
- Assisting the chapter in navigating and understanding university policies and procedures, and assist in planning complex events
- Provide perspective on effective strategies for leading your peers

Engaging your faculty/staff advisor takes both an intentional allocation of time and strategic effort. Use the tips below to strengthen your relationship with your faculty/staff advisor.

1. **Schedule a standing appointment on a regular basis with your faculty/staff advisor.** Meeting on a regular basis will help your faculty/staff advisor to learn more about you, your organization, and how they can contribute. While once a month is minimal, a meeting every other week can help to make sure you stay connected.
2. **Share your success/challenges/goals, both organizational and personal, with your faculty/staff advisor.** Faculty/staff advisors are there to support your organization, but also support you as an individual student and student leader. Feel free to use them as a sounding board for both your chapter's goals, but also your personal leadership and academic goals.
3. **Share the 'Sample Faculty/Staff Advisor Meeting Agenda' with your faculty/staff advisor.** This can be an effective way to start conversations about what you hope to accomplish, and how they might be able to assist you. You can find it on our 'Advisor Resources' at <http://www.uh.edu/cfsl/resources/>.
4. **Ask for their perspective.** While they may not be a member of your organization, they have had many personal and professional experiences that can assist you in your decision-making as a leader. Most often, having a perspective that exists outside of our organization can
5. **Schedule a meeting with your alumni advisor/alumni advisory team and your faculty/staff advisor.** Strong chapters have a seamless relationship between alumni advisors/advisory teams and faculty/staff advisors. Ensure that your faculty/staff advisor is in consistent interaction with your chapter's alumni advisory team, and is engaged in advisory team meetings.
6. **Invite them.** Many faculty/staff advisors may wonder where they fit in, or how they can become engaged. Inviting them to a chapter meeting, recruitment event, or educational program can allow other members to meet them and allow them to see the organization in action.



Questions? Comments? Ideas? Contact or visit the Center for Fraternity & Sorority Life  
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