

Student/Advisor Partnerships

The following surveys are designed to clarify the student/advisor roles within student organizations. Feel free to use these documents with your student officers and members to increase understanding and improve communication.

Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

- Y N A well-organized, effective group of students could plan and produce a quality program of activities without the aid of an advisor.

- Y N A well-organized, effective advisor could plan and produce a quality program of activities without the aid of a group of students.

- Y N In situations where the violation of a university policy is in question, the advisor should have final authority in making decisions.

- Y N In a true student / advisor partnership, the advisor has full and equal standing and voting privileges within the student organization.

- Y N The most successful student / advisor partnerships are often achieved with students who are relatively self-sufficient and independent of their advisors.

- Y N In the case of an ineffective student leader, it is appropriate for the advisor to assume some of the student's responsibilities.

- Y N The student leader's channel to the administration should always be through the advisor.

- Y N The role of an advisor can be a fragmenting one. In other words, there is a fine line between playing a number of demanding roles and trying to be all things to all people.

- Y N Without students, staff advisors stagnate. Without advisors, student learning is slight.

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Whose Role Is It?

Identify the following roles as the advisor's (ADV), the student leader's (STU), or both the advisor's and the student leader's (BOTH) by circling the appropriate response.

ADV	STU	BOTH	Attending meetings
ADV	STU	BOTH	Calling and presiding at meetings
ADV	STU	BOTH	Preparing meeting agendas
ADV	STU	BOTH	Serving as parliamentarian
ADV	STU	BOTH	Being aware of and understanding group's rules/policies
ADV	STU	BOTH	Being aware of and understanding college's rules/policies
ADV	STU	BOTH	Explaining and interpreting college rules/policies
ADV	STU	BOTH	Vetoing decisions in violation of rules/policies
ADV	STU	BOTH	Initiating ideas for group discussion
ADV	STU	BOTH	Participating in group discussions
ADV	STU	BOTH	Formulating goals
ADV	STU	BOTH	Influencing decisions
ADV	STU	BOTH	Voting
ADV	STU	BOTH	Approving expenditures
ADV	STU	BOTH	Attending all group activities
ADV	STU	BOTH	Keeping accurate records
ADV	STU	BOTH	Keeping the group focused (on goals and tasks)
ADV	STU	BOTH	Mediating when interpersonal conflicts arise
ADV	STU	BOTH	Suggesting events / programs
ADV	STU	BOTH	Planning leadership development workshops
ADV	STU	BOTH	Allowing the group to make mistakes
ADV	STU	BOTH	Canceling inadequately planned events / programs
ADV	STU	BOTH	Evaluating events / programs
ADV	STU	BOTH	Creating a spirit of teamwork and cooperation
ADV	STU	BOTH	Representing the group to the college community
ADV	STU	BOTH	Being familiar with college facilities
ADV	STU	BOTH	Clarifying expectations at the beginning of the year