



**Sigma Nu Fraternity**

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# **Alumni Institute Webinar**

January 17, 2024

# Today's Presenter

**Todd Denson**

**Director of Alumni Advisory Programs**

**Nicholls State University**



# Program Topics

- **Best Practices for working with Today's College Students**
- **Chapter Advisor and Alumni Advisory Board Member Best Practices**
- **Resources Available to Advisors**



# Best Practices for Working with Today's College Student



Building Relationships with students takes:

**Communication**

**Confidence**

**Trust**

# **Best Practices for Working with Today's College Student**

## **Communication**

**State Expectations**

**Establish Goals**

**Share your**

**Calendars**

**Schedules**

**Appreciation**

## **Confidence**

**Provide**

**Positive Direction**

**Guidance**

**Assistance**

## **Trust**

**Honor Commitments**

**Keep confidential**

**matters confidential**



# Best Practices for Working with Today's College Student

## Effective Advising

**Be a role model**

**Hold the chapter to high standards**

**Clearly establish your role with the chapter**

**Ask for input**

**Give them respect**

# How to be an Effective Advisor

Work most closely with the chapter officers

Be cautious of talking about the past

Allow mistakes to be made

Build on an officer's strengths

Function as a liaison

*When RESPECT and COURTESY are shared,  
responsibilities to each other are easily fulfilled.*



# **Best Practices for Working with Today's College Student**

## **Habits of Successful Advisors**

**Make yourself available**

**Increase your knowledge base**

**Support Chapter Officers in decisions that they have reached jointly**

**Be familiar with University policies, chapter bylaws, The Law, and support officers and chapters in upholding these rules**

**Exemplify the ideals of Sigma Nu Fraternity**

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# **Increase Your Knowledge Base**

- **Utilizing the many resources available to the you through the Fraternity's website**
- **Having frequent communication with the Headquarters staff**
- **Utilizing additional volunteers**



# **Utilizing the many resources available to you through the Fraternity's website**

**Officer Manuals (Updated Fall 2023)**

**The Law of Sigma Nu Fraternity**

**The Risk Reduction Policy**

**Health and Safety Resources**

**The LEAD Program**

**Pursuit of Excellence Program**

**Important Due Dates**



# Important Due Dates

- **College of Chapters Jan 3-6, 2024**
- **Sigma Nu Institutes Saturday, Jan. 20 & 27**
- **Feb 15th Risk Reduction Affidavit Due**
- **Membership and Officer Roster Updates Due Jan 2024**

## **Candidate and Initiation Verifications Due within 72 hours of Ceremony**

- **Founders Month of Service April 2024**
- **Pursuit of Excellence Submissions Due April 30**
- **CommunityEDU completions Due May 1**





**Sigma Nu Fraternity**

## **Alumni Engagement Series Webinar**

**Supporting the Commander's  
College of Chapters Action Plan  
and Chapter Goal Setting**

**Best  
Practices  
Library**



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# Sigma Nu Institute

- January 20 **1:00-5:00 p.m. Pacific (4:00-8:00 p.m. Eastern)**,  
January 27 **1:00-5:00 p.m. Eastern**
- 4-hour afternoon program; 1-5 p.m.
- Participants can attend any program
  - Allows for more individual attendees and officer positions than in-person
  - Expanded tracks – time and # of officers
  - Solves scheduling and geographic limitations
- Info & registration at [www.sigmanu.org/institute](http://www.sigmanu.org/institute)

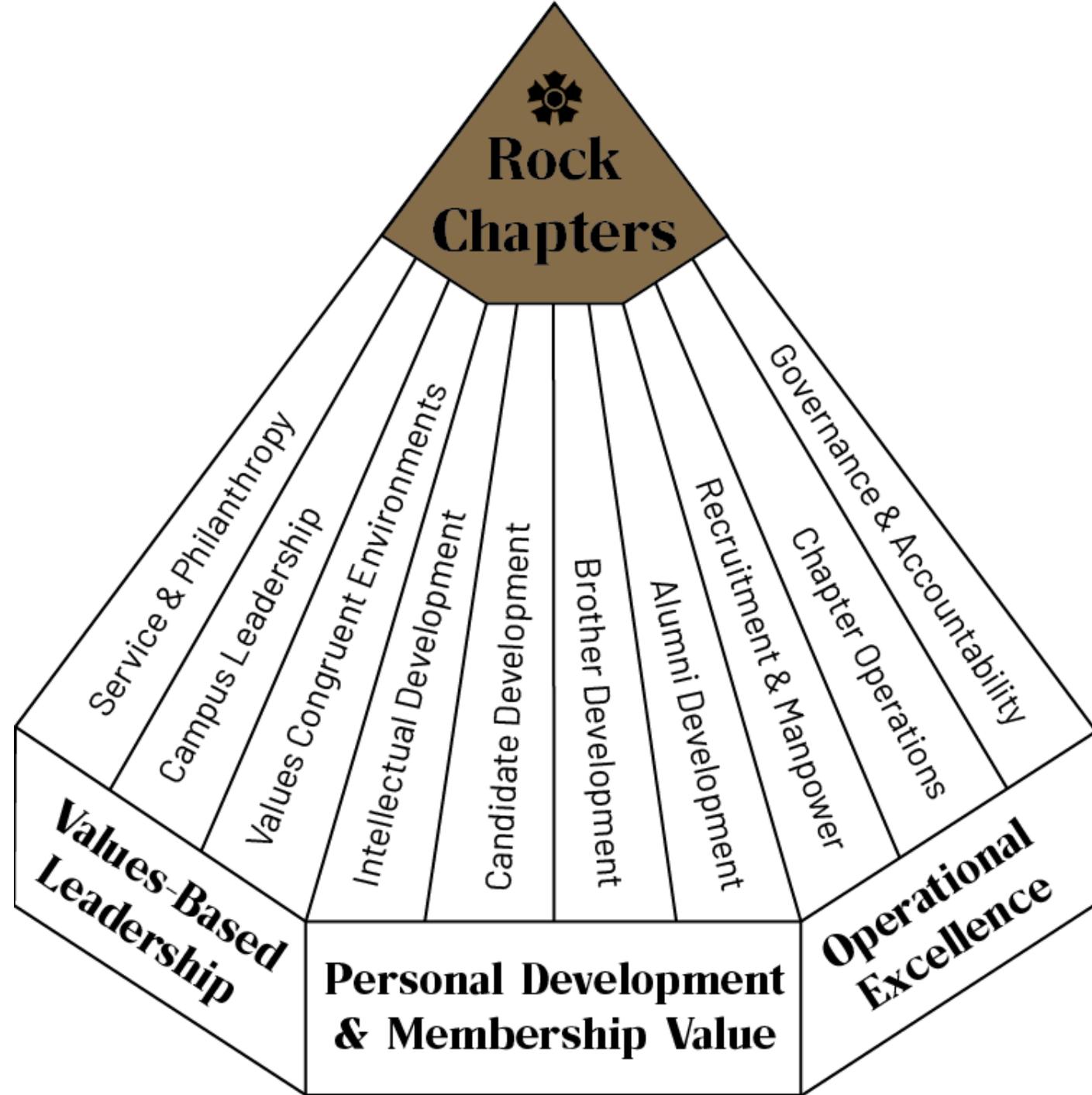




# The Helping Hand Initiative

Founders Month of Service:  
April 2024





# The Pursuit of Excellence Submission Due April 30



# Alumni Advisory Board Overview

*When college days are through,*

*We still will cling to you.*

*Loyal and true,*

*To you old Sigma Nu.*



# **Primary Expectations of Alumni Advisory Boards**

**Three or more volunteers will serve on the Alumni Advisory Board**

**Member(s) of Alumni Advisory Board attend chapter meetings once a month (or more often)**

**Member(s) of Alumni Advisory Board attend all candidate and initiation ceremonies**

**Meet quarterly (or more often) to review chapter goals and objectives**

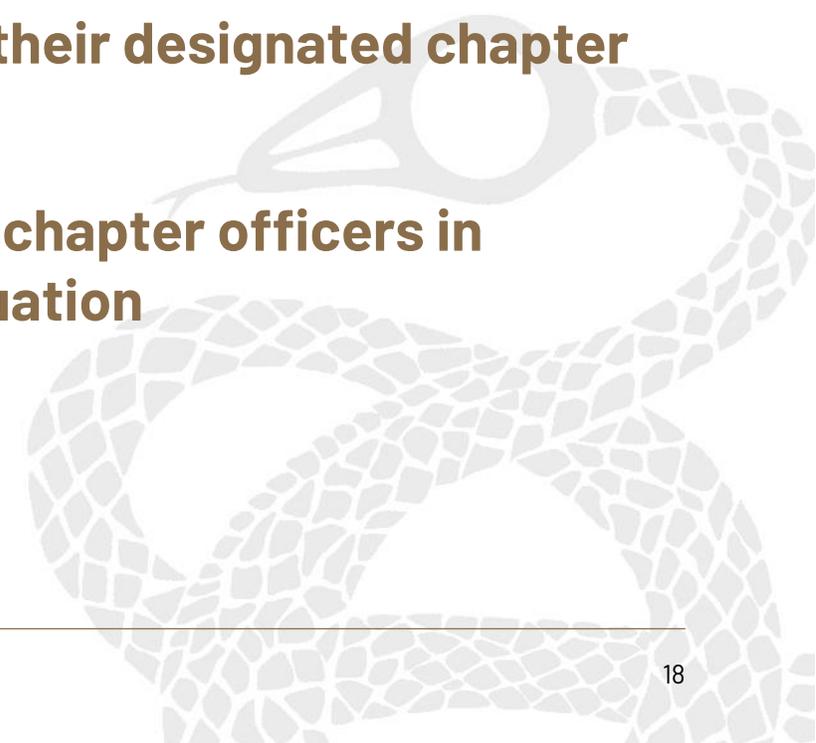
# Primary Expectations

**Facilitate an officer transition workshop each election cycle**

**Facilitate a strategic planning session with measurable goals and objectives with the chapter leadership each year**

**Individual advisors maintain monthly communication with their designated chapter officer(s) to offer mentoring/coaching advice**

**Member(s) of Alumni Advisory Board assist and advise the chapter officers in completing the annual Pursuit of Excellence Program evaluation**



# Primary Expectations Cont.

**Review *The Law of Sigma Nu Fraternity, Inc.*, the *Risk Reduction Policy and Guidelines*, and relevant college/university policy each year**

**Continually identify, recruit, and train new Board members to ensure the sustainability of the Board**

**Member(s) of Alumni Advisory Board meet with the Leadership Consultant during each consultation visit**





# **Recommended Positions for Alumni Advisory Boards**

**Board Chairman**

**Chapter Advisor**

**Financial Advisor**

**Recruitment Advisor**

**LEAD Advisor**

**Alumni Relations Advisor**

**Social Advisor**

**Risk Reduction Advisor**

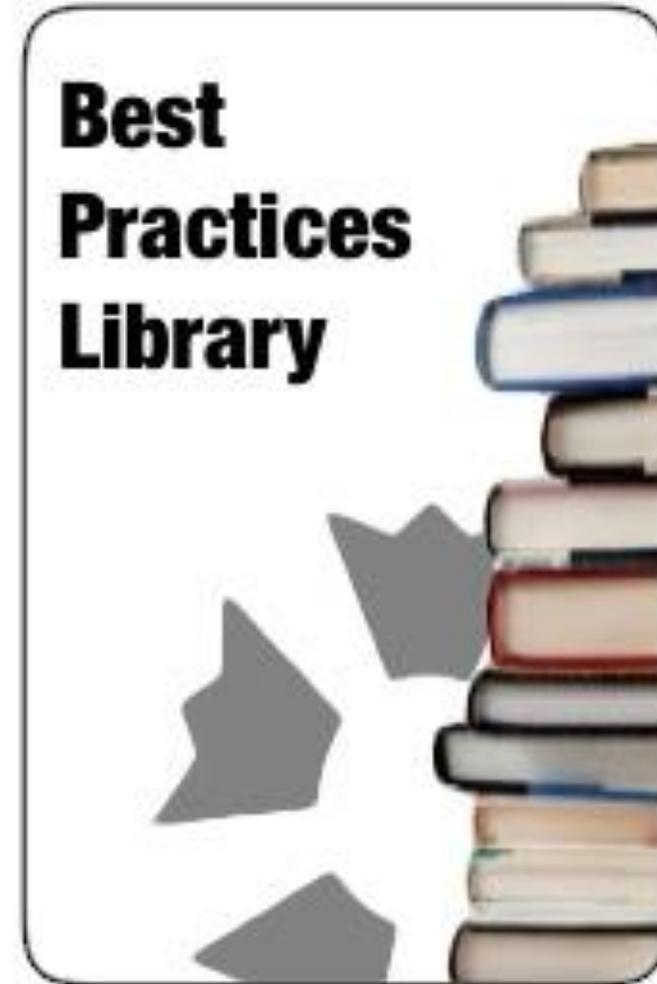
# Practices of Successful Alumni Advisory Boards

- **Communication**
- **Board Meetings**
  - Consistent
  - Meet Regularly
  - Require Attendance
  - Include Chapter Officers
- **Recruiting for the future**



# Alumni Resources

- [Alumni Advisory Boards](#)
- [House Corporations](#)
- [Alumni Development](#)
- [Alumni Engagement](#)





# Resources

- Chapter Officer Manuals
- The LEAD Program
- The Pursuit of Excellence Program
- Human Resources
  - Division Commanders
  - Campus and community Professionals
  - Staff



# Questions?



# Thank You!

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**Resource Links:**

[Alumni Advisory Board Overview](#)

[Alumni Best Practices Library](#)

[Division Commanders](#)

[Chapter Consultation and Support](#)

