

Communication, Confidence, and Trust

Alumni support is essential to a progressive and healthy chapter. This support, along with the guidance and assistance given by chapter advisors, provides continuity for our chapters when the collegiate members change from year to year. Chapter Advisors, as experienced Brothers, see and demonstrate life membership. Your guidance, assistance and positive direction ensure the growth of the chapter and the Fraternity.

Through your advice, the chapter is encouraged to follow the rules, policies and procedures of the Fraternity. Through offered assistance, the chapter learns that an individual Advisor or Alumni Advisory Board is available to help in planning and implementing programs, as well as meeting other chapter needs. Positive direction will help the chapter avoid costly mistakes. Advisors never dictate, for the chapter learns through experience and is responsible for its own management. The consequences of mistakes and rewards for achievements are excellent learning techniques.

Communication, confidence, and trust are the keys to becoming an effective Advisor for a collegiate chapter.

COMMUNICATION. In any good relationship, there must be a sharing of ideas, an ability to listen, and a willingness to accept the ideas of others, even though they may differ from one's own. Collegians are adults, but just beginning the adult life experience. It is extremely important that advisors understand the collegiate lifestyle in regard to time and schedule habits. It is equally important that the collegians understand the advisors' lifestyles as well. Communication increases when advisors share their professions, fields of study, life experiences, hobbies, interests, etc. with the chapter members. Equally important is sharing feelings about the Fraternity, our brotherhood, the chapter and our pride in their accomplishments.

CONFIDENCE. The chapter needs to know their advisors are confident that chapter goals can be met. Lots of positive direction, guidance, assistance and love build confidence and ensure success.

TRUST. Trust is part of the foundation of a good relationship. To cement this trust, advisors keep confidential matters of the chapter and the Fraternity to themselves; however, the Fraternity expects advisors to inform the Headquarters staff of achievements and problems.