

Mission ~~im~~possible

How advisors can develop and optimize chapter life

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Agenda:

- Develop a clear mission statement
- Craft an advisor job description
- Craft a chapter president job description
- Create measurable outcomes
- Assess results
- Goal: develop re-useable examples in real-time workgroups, as we try to be effective leaders, cultivate relationships, manage risk, and motivate students for success.

Mission:

- What is Alpha Chi's mission?
 - "Promote academic excellence and exemplary character among college and university students and to honor those who achieve such distinction."
- What is YOUR chapter's mission?
 - "Make scholarship effective for good"?
 - Send out an emails and hope people respond?
 - Don't have one?
- For a mission statement to be effective, it must be:
 - Disseminated, known, and appropriate
 - Reviewed regularly
 - Consistent with the mission of the institution
 - Reference student learning
- What is Shorter's mission?
 - Provide quality higher education, enabling and encouraging student commitment to active life-long learning, personal spiritual values, responsible citizenship, and community and societal leadership in a global context.
- What is Georgia Theta's mission?
 - As part of the mission to provide quality higher education, Georgia Theta promotes and honors academic excellence and exemplary character, providing learning opportunities for scholarship and leadership.
- What is yours?

Let's share and compare:

- How can you disseminate this mission?
- How can you make it known?
- How can you judge if it is appropriate?
- What will the review cycle be?
- Is it consistent with your school mission?
- Is student learning emphasized?

Advisor:

- What is Alpha Chi job description of an advisor?
 - Alpha Chi says that the advisor functions as the “liaison to the Alpha Chi national office. The chapter advisor is responsible for overseeing all aspects of local chapter life.”
- What is your job description?
 - Send an occasional email?
 - Do paperwork?
 - Something to put on my annual review?
- For an advisor job description to be effective, it must:
 - Define the role
 - Define responsibilities and objectives
 - Provide clear direction and expectations
 - Designate a specific supervisor
 - List minimum requirements
- What is Georgia Theta’s advisor’s job description?
 - Act as primary liaison between Shorter and the Alpha Chi National Office
 - Function as the single point of contact for developing and disseminating information about the society and scholarship opportunities
 - Set the mission and strategic direction of the chapter
 - Select and induct new members, as well as plan the ceremony and reception
 - Have excellent communication, PR, and marketing skills to promote, motivate, and advance the chapter
 - Develop academic and service activities to retain Star status
 - Set the calendar of events
 - Supervise the chapter
 - Advise scholars, as appropriate
 - Manage the budget
 - Report to the Provost directly
 - Be a full-time faculty member in good standing
- What is yours?

Outcomes:

- Examples?
 - At least 90% of the students invited will join Alpha Chi annually
 - The chapter will at a minimum develop service and academic programs to qualify it for Star status annually
 - The chapter will be featured for at least one photo of the week on the university website to promote accomplishments annually
 - The chapter will team with at least two other organizations on campus for service and academic programs annually

Assessment:

- Assess how well you achieved your outcomes annually
- Establish expectations and maintain accountability
- Create buy-in among all stakeholders – advisors, students, upper administration – due to the rigor of assessment
- Substantiate the need for celebration of scholarship and service
- Provide a basis for fundraising
- Manage risk
- If you do not achieve your outcomes, then what?
 - Repeat the assessment to look for trends before making perhaps unnecessary adjustments
 - Adjust expectations based on this “reality check”
 - Adjust outcomes to better map to your mission and job description – or vice versa

Conclusion

- Do you have some good ideas now?
- Do you have a template for success?
- Do you have usable examples?
- Now...
 - Be more effective leaders
 - Cultivate relationships
 - Manage risk
 - Motivate students for success