

The Seven Habits of Highly Successful Advisory Boards

1. Recruitment Strategy
 - a. Fill your needs
 - We have been successful in that over the years. There have been very few times when a vacancy went unfilled. We would prefer however, having more alumni involvement.

 - Several goals in Strategic Plan relate to Alumni board recruitment
 - b. Recruit in-person
 - We have done this in person in addition to mass appeals via our communication tools.
 - c. Find those willing to learn & who have thick skin
 - We have no unwilling volunteers.
 - d. Use tools to help you succeed (other volunteers, organizational chart, goals, etc.)
 - We have no formal package to sell involvement. Have relied on personal desire, personal bonds and contact as tools to persuade.
2. ABBA (Advise By Being Around)
 - a. Officers/Committee Chairs should see you often
 - Probably most true for President, Treasurer and Maintenance Officer. Less true for other board members due to geographic separation.
 - b. Chapter needs to see you as a resource and not someone to punish them
 - Try to encourage a joint approach and a mentorship role
3. Education/Training
 - a. Read websites (chapter, national, & university)
 - Assume this is being done by most members
 - b. Read magazines (chapter & university)
 - Assume this is being done by most members
 - c. Attend national and University leadership conferences
 - President has attended
4. Written Goals & Monthly Evaluation
 - a. Advisors and officers should develop monthly, semester, and annual goals
 - Not formally done beyond our strategic plan.
 - b. Goals should be reviewed between officers & committee chairs weekly, between officers and the chapter every 2-3 weeks, and between officers & advisors monthly
 - Annual formal assessment of strategic plan goal achievement.

- c. Goals should be posted in the chapter house and on website
 - Strategic plan is provided electronically to all members.
 - Strategic Plan is posted in private part (PDF copy of signed plan) of website.
 - Only goals from plan are on public portion.

5. Effective Communication

- a. Advisor speak with regional officer monthly and HQs quarterly
 - President talks to National often.
- b. Advisory board meet with each other monthly
 - Geographic separation precludes that. Frequent e-mail interaction.
- c. Advisors meet with their fellow officers monthly (phone/email every 2 weeks)
 - Done by President and Treasurer.
- d. Advisors attend chapter meetings monthly
 - Encouraged but impractical.
- e. Advisors meet with University Greek Advisor quarterly
 - Done on annual basis.
- f. Advisors & officers have a retreat each semester
 - Done at annual Quo Vadis to discuss strategic goals.

6. Recognition

- a. Chapter needs to find ways to thank advisors
 - Alumni board does this for former presidents and long time board members.
 - Chapter used to recognize "Alumni of the Year;" hasn't been done in about 5 years.
 - Subject of a Strategic Plan Goal.
- b. Advisor needs to thank fellow assistants as often as he can
 - President does this
- c. Service award for volunteers
 - Not Done
- d. Recognition in newsletter, website, and in the chapter house
 - Done in Newsletter and at Homecoming

7. Fun

- a. Advisors and officers hold some fun activities with each other
 - Done in annual golf outing and diner at Homecoming and open to all alumni.
 - Ensure that advisors have fun with each other outside of fraternity activities (golf, dinner and drinks, weekend getaway with wives/girlfriends)
 - We do.