Maintaining a Relationship with your Advisor

As a Member of Phi Sigma Pi, there are many people who are available to support you. Your Advisor is one of the most valuable resources you will have at your disposal to ensure that your Chapter is the best it can be. Here are some tips about how to make the most of the Chapter/Advisor relationship and best practices for ongoing communication:

1 Stay in Touch

Open and direct communication with your Faculty Advisor on a regular basis is imperative to the success of your relationship. An Advisor who feels in the know will be more likely to engage with the Chapter, providing valuable support and guidance throughout the year. It is much easier for an Advisor to jump in to assist with a Chapter issue when they are knowledgeable about events leading up to that point. Regular communication via email or, ideally, in-person conversations will make sure your Advisor is equipped to assist the Chapter whenever needed.

Best Practices for Communicating with Your Advisor

- Share the Chapter Calendar at the beginning of the year so they know what events are coming up
- Email meeting minutes from Exec Board and Chapter so they are always current with what's going on
- Schedule a regular meeting at least once a month to check-in about any pressing issues and share recent successes
- Meet once a year to review the Advisor/Chapter Checklist and discuss expectations for the future.

2 Share Highs and Lows

Your Faculty Advisor wants to hear from you! They want to know what's going on so they can support the Chapter through challenges, but also celebrate your successes. Make it a point to involve the Advisor in Chapter events and service opportunities so they can see all the great things you're doing.

3 Show Appreciation

It's important to be intentional about showing appreciation to your Advisor for all they do to guide and encourage your Chapter. The Advisor can offer a wealth of knowledge, and they can also be your most enthusiastic cheerleader. Don't forget to tell them how much you appreciate all they do! National Volunteer Week is a great time to do this, but your appreciation should be evident year-round.