

20 Tips for Advisors to Increase RSO Productivity

1. Know what the students expect from you as an Advisor.
2. Let the group and individual members know what you expect from them.
3. Express a sincere interest in the group and its mission.
4. Assist the group in setting realistic, attainable goals. Ensure beginning success as much as possible, but allow the responsibility and implementation of event to lie primarily with the RSO.
5. Have the goals or objectives of the group firmly in mind.
6. Assist the group in achieving goals. Understand why people become involved. Learn strengths and emphasize them.
7. Know and understand the student with who you are working.
8. Assist the group in determining the needs of the people the group is serving.
9. Express a sincere interest in each group member.
10. Assist the members in understanding group dynamics and human interaction.
11. Realize that importance of the peer group and importance on each member's participation or lack thereof.
12. Assist the group in developing a system by which they can evaluate their progress.
13. Use a reward system and recognition system for work well done.
14. Develop a style that balances active and passive group membership.
15. Be aware of the various roles that you will have: educator, mentor, policy interpreter, etc.
16. Do not allow yourself to be place in the position of chairperson.
17. Be aware of institutional power structure—both formal and informal.
18. Provide continuity the group from semester to semester.
19. Challenge the group to grow and develop.
20. Be creative and innovative. Keep a sense of humor!

