



DAVIDSON COLLEGE PATTERSON COURT OFFICE ALUMNUS/A ADVISOR FORM

_____ (Academic Year)

Each fraternity and eating-house is encouraged to have an Alumnus/a Advisor. The Advisor serves as a liaison between the group, its alumni and inter/national headquarters (where applicable.) The choice of Advisor and the acceptance to serve as Advisor is a voluntary association that depends primarily upon the group, the Advisor, and the HQ (where appropriate.) In the case of inter/national fraternities, the Alumnus/a Advisor does not have to have been a member of the Davidson College chapter of your organization.

The Advisor shall:

- *Become familiar with Davidson College rules and regulations applicable to fraternities and eating-houses.*

The Advisor should also be available to:

- *Attend regular meetings of the organization and become familiar with its activities;*
- *Provide assistance in the administration of the financial affairs of the organization;*
- *Provide assistance in the planning and implementation of program activities;*
- *Provide assistance in the areas of organization and personal development; and*
- *Ensure that the group operates according to its constitution on file in the Patterson Court Office.*

Role of the Advisor

The real learning for the students involved within an organization takes place when they function as group members within the organization. Members must function as leaders and voting members and must be held responsible for their decisions. Under ordinary circumstances, the advisor should not assume a role as a leader, officer, or voting member within a chapter. The advisor is to advise on matters requiring an opinion from someone who has a more sophisticated bank of knowledge in group dynamics, purpose of the organization, the institution as a whole, etc. However, the advisor must also realize that in his or her role, the student members of the group decide on what advice to accept and what advice to reject.

Understanding that the following list of items is in no way complete, the primary functions of an advisor are:

A. To Caution When Necessary

The advisor should alert the group when he or she feels the group is about to make a decision before all known facts are gathered or when the group appears to be functioning outside the boundaries established within their constitution, by the College, or by law.

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B. To Function as a Liaison

There are times during fact gathering or after a decision is made that the group will need the assistance of an advisor in making appropriate contacts with College officials, faculty, fraternity headquarters (where applicable), etc.

C. To Work Closely With the Leader

Much advice and counsel can be provided by an advisor on a one to one basis with the designated leader. Standing appointments are conducive to assuring that there will be continuing dialogue between these two individuals. A new student leader can gain needed assistance and advice from the advisor on a one to one basis and then be able to function as the group leader in a much more effective fashion.

D. To Clearly Establish the Role of the Advisor with members of the organization

It is advantageous for the advisor and group members to know and agree upon the role of the advisor. It is the responsibility of the organization and the advisor to agree upon the expectations of the advisor. Each will feel more comfortable throughout the experience if this is done.

E. To Provide Continuity

It is important for the advisor to provide continuity with new members by building on past activities of the group. The advisor may also help develop long-range plans and encourage officers to keep on-going files.

F. To Have a Comprehensive Understanding of Policies and Procedures

It is essential for advisors to have an understanding of all policies and procedures and to advise student leaders in advance of possible violations.

Organization: _____
(Type full name as it appears in the constitution on file in the Patterson Court Office)

Primary Alumnus/a Advisor Name: _____

Address: _____
Street, City and ZIP

Email Address: _____ **Phone:** _____

Advisor's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO THE PATTERSON COURT OFFICE, Belk Hall, Box 7187

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