Michigan Engineering Advisor & Student Organization Leaders 2015-2016 Engagement Document

Advisors are an important resource for student organizations at the University of Michigan, providing advice and historical perspective to the organization’s student leaders. Advisors work in partnership with the Office of Student Affairs and the University Center for Campus Involvement to provide support essential to successful student organizations. These educational experiences help students learn valuable leadership and professional skills and become engaged members of the community.

Students and advisors are highly encouraged to regularly review expectations to ensure a beneficial and productive relationship. Student organizations are unique and the advising relationship is just as unique, changing with each new leadership transition. Advisors may be asked to provide minimal support or take an active role in advising the organization - the involvement level is a mutually determined decision made each year between the advisor and student organization leaders.

Most student organizations have a largely autonomous relationship with the University – students make decisions, accept the consequences (positive or negative) and learn from them. Advisors may be called upon to help resolve situations that arise in the organization but advisors are not responsible for the student org’s actions, nor can advisors “make” student organizations do what they desire. An advisor is one who provides ideas, insights, and new perspectives to encourage the student organization to fully live their mission and be actively engaged in Michigan Engineering and the U-M.

For the 2015-2016 academic year, all College of Engineering Sponsored Student Organizations are strongly encouraged to complete this Engagement document with their advisor, however another form may be used as long as it contains all the information on the next page. It must be signed by the advisor and all members of the student organization executive board. This requirement must be completed by October 15, 2015. Voluntary student organizations are encouraged to complete the Engagement document with their advisor, but it is not mandatory for engineering affiliation.
2015-2016 Engagement Document

Please discuss the following points and note the decisions made about each expectation:

Communications – what are the expectations for how often the advisor and student leaders will communicate? How frequently? What methods (i.e. in-person, email, gchat, phone)?

Attendance – what are the expectations for the advisor to attend meetings? Which meetings, how frequently?

Information Sharing – does the advisor have access to your transition materials, documentation, policies, etc? Will the advisor be an authorized signer to the organization SOAS account?

Relationship Goals/Needs – for student org leaders, what do you need from the advisor? What are your goals for the relationship? For the advisor, what do you need from the student org leaders? What are your goals for the relationship?

Signatures

Student Organization: ____________________________________________________________________________________

Advisor: ___________________________ President: __________________________________________________________________

Executive Board Members/Leadership Team: __________________________________________________________________

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