

# The Officer-Advisor Relationship

## Chapter officers may expect an advisor to:

- Assist the group in formulating long-range goals and planning and initiating short-term projects.
- Provide resource information pertaining to the goals and purpose of the organization.
- Suggest ways that organization meetings can be improved.
- Assist the officers in evaluating projects, performances and progress.
- Suggest ways to increase the officer's leadership skills.
- Be available when emergencies or problems arise.
- Attend meetings and programs.

## An advisor may expect chapter officers to:

- Keep the advisor informed of all organizational activities, meetings, issues and agendas, and send the advisor minutes of all meetings.
- Meet regularly with the advisor to discuss organizational problems.
- Inform the advisor of any potential problems or concerns.
- Inform the advisor of programs and services sponsored by the organization.

## **Building an open and honest relationship between a chapter and an advisor requires considerable effort and time. How does a chapter leader build an open and honest relationship that affords the opportunity to share ideas and receive feedback from the advisor?**

- The responsibility for building the relationship must be shared between advisor and student.
- The relationship must be based upon open, direct communication.
- Both must recognize their various roles and responsibilities in and outside of their activities position.
- Both advisor and student are human beings who make mistakes, follow their own value systems and work in individual professional and personal styles.
- Both advisor and student are continually growing, changing and learning, each within their own unique stages of development.