

Student Organization Advisor Session

September 25, 2008

Jason Bergeron & Rachel Wussow
Assistant Directors of Student Activities

What Will We Cover Today?

- Office of Student Activities
- Office/Advisor Relationship
- Student Organization Recognition Requirements
- Funding
- Identity Standards
- Student Development
- Risk
- Communication – ZIMBRA

Michigan Tech

Student Activities Office

Jared Johnson, Associate Director
Chris Nightingale, Coordinator
Jason Bergeron, Assistant Director
Rachel Wussow, Assistant Director
Mary Ann Struthers, Office Assistant

112 Memorial Union Building

906-487-1963 (Ph)

906-487-0332 (Fax)

activities@mtu.edu



Michigan Tech

Advisor/Student Activities Relationship

■ Consultation & Communication with...

- New initiatives and important dates for student organizations
- Advisor Listserv
- Transition of Officers/Advisor
- Risk & Conduct
- Event Planning
- Community Service
- GLBT Questions/Safe Place Program
- Awards & Recognition
- Leadership

Michigan Tech

Student Organization Recognition

- All groups are required to enlist a faculty/staff advisor
- Student Organization Database Update
 - 4th Friday of the fall semester (Tomorrow-Friday, Sept 26)
 - Again in spring if officers transition over winter break
- Constitution update
 - Every 4 years as a minimum requirement

Michigan Tech

Funding

- Opportunities Fund
 - Money set aside by USG
 - New initiatives for organizations or startup costs for new student groups
- Reserve Fund
 - Fluctuating amount
 - Used to assist student organizations with significant liabilities/debts
- Tech Parents Annual Fund
 - Based on donations from parents and friends
 - Has funded travel, campus events, and other miscellaneous costs

Michigan Tech

Identity Standards

- Michigan Tech Name
- Publications
- Logos
- Web Guidelines
- General Information

www.mtu.edu/idstandards

Michigan Tech

Advisor Liability

- Limited liability by institution/advisor regardless of level of involvement
- Over-involved advisors vs. under-involved advisors
- High Risk Statements posted on website
- Advisor Statement (handout)
- Planning – Prevention – Response
- Use the Student Activities staff to determine when intervention is necessary

Michigan Tech

Millennial Successes & Challenges

■ Successes

- Teamwork is a core value
- Progressive and forward-thinking attitude
- They are smarter and have a heightened awareness of social issues

■ Challenges

- Family involvement
- College as a means to an end; career oriented

Michigan Tech

Identity Development

- Behavior is a function of the person and the environment (Lewin, 1936)
- Readiness, Challenge, and Support
 - R. Nevitt Sanford (1966)
 - Development occurs by finding the optimal balance of challenge and support

Identity Development

- CCTAPS Model of Minority Development
 - Confusion
 - Comparison
 - Tolerance
 - Acceptance
 - Pride
 - Synthesis

Adapted from CASS Model of Coming Out

Michigan Tech

Developmental Conversations with Students

- Cognitive Development (Perry, 1999)
 - Formation of thought – How students make intellectual, moral, and ethical decisions
 - “Black, white, and shades of grey”
- Taking challenge to the extreme
- Helping students work through challenge
- Asking students the right questions

Michigan Tech

Communicating With Students

- **NEW ZIMBRA** Convenient for overall communications
 - Calendar -
 - Invitation to events
 - Students can “propose” meetings
 - Address Book - for group contacts
 - Briefcase – share files & pictures
 - Task List – agenda items
 - Color Tag – organize items for org you advise
 - Event Calendar Feature (**coming soon!**)

MichiganTech

Feedback

What can Student Activities do to serve
you better?

Questions?

Please visit the Student Activities Office
with questions about advising or questions
about student organizations.