

## **Role Models: Advisors & Leaders Impact on Student Organizations**

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### **Abstract**

For every student member, involvement within an organization increases the chance of remaining in school and being a very successful professional. Student organizations provide outstanding benefits to its members and one of the most important is the development of student leadership skills. A student can gain these skills by taking leadership roles in the organization or by working in teams. Leadership roles, such as president or any other officer, give the student a sense of responsibility and commitment to succeed. The leaders of the organization receive great exposure by speaking in public, organizing activities, or encouraging members to get involved. Students learn first hand how to take control, a skill that is very helpful when they need to face the real world as working professionals. Students that are involved have the opportunity to interact with other members while executing projects. This interaction gives them a great chance to develop their team building skills, which are important when working with other class members or with colleagues in industry.

Equally, the advisors role is also important in nurturing student leadership skills and the participation of organization members. The most effective leaders and active student organizations often have a very active advisor who participates wholeheartedly in activities. The two roles (advisor & leader) are intertwined. Great leaders of student organizations usually make good advisors and mentors. In this workshop, the participant will learn the important roles that advisors and student leaders of organizations play and the impact on its members (without statistics but with great conviction).

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