**Section Operations**

**5.9** **Student Transition – Lehigh Valley Section**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **1. Section, Branch** | Lehigh Valley Section |  |
| **2. Section/Branch Size** | Large |  |
| **3. Project Contact** |  | |
| Name | Gregory Kuklinski, P.E., M. ASCE | |
| Phone Number | (484) 221-6763 | |
| Email | gkuklinski@benesch.com | |
| **4. Project Category** | Section Operations | |
| **5. Project Description** | Student Transition techniques | |
| **6. The Process**  (What you did, When and How) | See attached PowerPoint and word document description | |
| **7. Those in Charge** (Committee, Task Committee, Etc.) | Practitioner Advisors, Student Relations Committee (Section) | |
| **8. Time Frame**  (When Started, When Completed) | Past 3 years | |
| **9. Success Factors**  (The Parts that Worked Really Well) | *See attached documents* | |
| **10. Setback Factors**  (The Parts that did Not Work Well) | *See attached documents* | |
| **11. Creativity**  (This is something off the wall that we did) | *See attached documents* | |
| **12. Administration**  (What was most Important?) | *See attached documents* | |
| **13. Follow-Up**  (What was most important?) | *See attached documents* | |
| **14. Recommendations**  (What you should ALWAYS do with this project?) | *See attached documents* | |
| **15. Cautions**  (What you should NEVER do with this project?) | *See attached documents* | |
| **16. The Outcome** | *See attached documents* | |
| **17. Ongoing Activity**  (Would you do it again?) | Yes!! It is ongoing every day! In fact, I was talking to the Lafayette students today! | |
| **18. Speaker Contact Information**  (person from your Region who would be willing to speak about the Best Practice) |  | |
| Name | Gregory Kuklinski, P.E., M. ASCE | |
| Address | 250 Cetronia Road, Suite 150, Allentown, PA 18104 | |
| Phone Number | 484-221-6763 | |
| Email | [gkuklinski@benesch.com](mailto:gkuklinski@benesch.com) | |
| **19. Additional Comments** | This Best Practice includes the following attachments:   1. Presentation outline 2. PowerPoint slides | |

**Lehigh Valley Section Best Practice – Student Transitions**

**By: Gregory Kuklinski, P.E., M. ASCE**

At the MRLC in Portland, OR in 2012, Greg Kuklinski, P.E., M. ASCE gave a presentation on what the Lehigh Valley Section has been doing in the past few years to transition students from Student Members to Associate Members. As a summary from his presentation:

**Introduction:**

* + Student Members are the future of ASCE
  + Many students do not know that ASCE exists beyond the college campus
  + Once students know the benefits of ASCE after college, they are more likely to stay involved

**Importance of Practitioner Advisor – Student Chapter Handbook, 2011**

* + A Student Organization usually has a Faculty Advisor and two Practitioner Advisors (PA) appointed by their respective ASCE Section.
  + PA’s, along with Faculty Advisors (FA), serve as the Advisory Personnel for their respective Student Organization.
  + Normally, one of the PA’s is a Younger Member and a recent graduate. PA’s serve as representatives of the local Section/Branch.

**Importance of Practitioner Advisor – Best Practice**

* + Practitioner Advisor for Lehigh University from 2003‐Present.
  + On‐campus presence and face recognition are very important. Students must know who you are. Being a graduate of the University is a plus.
  + The PA should coordinate activities on campus between Section and YM’s.
  + The PA should recommend professionals to talk to students in class about working in the field.

**Importance of Faculty Advisor – Student Chapter Handbook, 2011**

* + The Faculty Advisor (FA), an ASCE member, should be appointed by its ASCE Section.
  + The FA is the mainstay of the Student Organization, representing continuity from year to year as Student Organization members change.
  + The FA works with PA’s to educate students about the CE profession.
  + The FA should be an active member of ASCE and keep abreast of incentives/programs relating to student activities.

**Importance of the Faculty Advisor – Best Practice**

* + At Lehigh U, both FA’s are ASCE members as well as PE’s. They encourage participation with the Steel Bridge and Concrete Canoe Competitions.
  + Students hear about ASCE from their professors and see them help out with ASCE activities which is important.
  + PA’s as well as the Section should have a good working relationship with the FA’s.

**Younger Member Interaction**

* + Younger Members (Age 35 and under) are the closest generation to the Students.
  + Since many YMG’s have social activities, these are good opportunities to interact with Student Chapters.
  + Presentations about resume writing, life after college and panel discussions (ALONG WITH FREE FOOD!) on campus tend to be extremely popular.

**Ideas for Joint Activities with Younger Members**

* + Panel Discussion (with local Civil Engineers and Professors as Panelists
  + Hershey Bears Hockey Game
  + Resume Review (Before the Career Fair)
  + Bowling Night
  + Bridge Tour (with a Faculty Advisor)
  + Minor League Baseball or Hockey Game
  + If possible, try and combine activities
  + with multiple Sections / Branches

**Section / Branch Interaction**

* + Most Sections/Branches have monthly lunch/dinner meetings where students get invited.
  + Section/Branch members are the future employers of the students. Many employers feel that involvement in ASCE is a benefit to the company.
  + A Section/Branch Student Relations Committee is a key link between the PA, FA, and Student Chapter President.
  + Section / Branch mentoring programs

**Section / Branch Interaction Best Practices**

* + Dedicate at least one monthly meeting to students at their campus and have them give the presentation. Encourage reduced rates for students.
  + Start an awards program to deserving students involved in ASCE.
  + A Student Relations Committee has been a good liaison between ASCE Section and students.
  + Students should be encouraged to attend monthly dinner meetings or provide a subsidy. by their FA and PA.

**ASCE Membership Presentation Best Practice**

* + ASCE Membership Presentation to all students at Lehigh U. which included:
    - Facts about the ASCE organization
    - Costs of dues after college
    - ASCE publications
    - How to find a Younger Member Group
  + I offered that I will connect students with the Younger Member Chair in the area that the student finds employment.
  + “Yes, there is an ASCE after college.”

**SUMMARY**

* + Make sure the PA’s are engaged with the students. Having an alumni PA is a plus.
  + Invite FA’s to be on the Section/Branch Board.
  + Have a monthly Section/Branch meeting at your local college.
  + Give a yearly presentation to students about the benefits of ASCE after college. Give them contact information for a YMG in their area of employment.
  + Most importantly, be PROACTIVE!
  + Stay in communication, offer assistance and come to student events on campus.
  + Face recognition is very important!



How to Gain Membership from Student Transitions – College to Professional

Gregory Kuklinski, P.E., M.ASCE

Committee on Geographic Units

Workshop for Section & Branch Leaders Portland, OR

January 13, 2012

Overview

* **Introduction**



* **Importance of the Practitioner Advisor**
* **Importance of the Faculty Advisor**
* **Younger Member Interaction**



* **Section / Branch Interaction**
* **ASCE Membership Presentation**
* **Summary**

Introduction

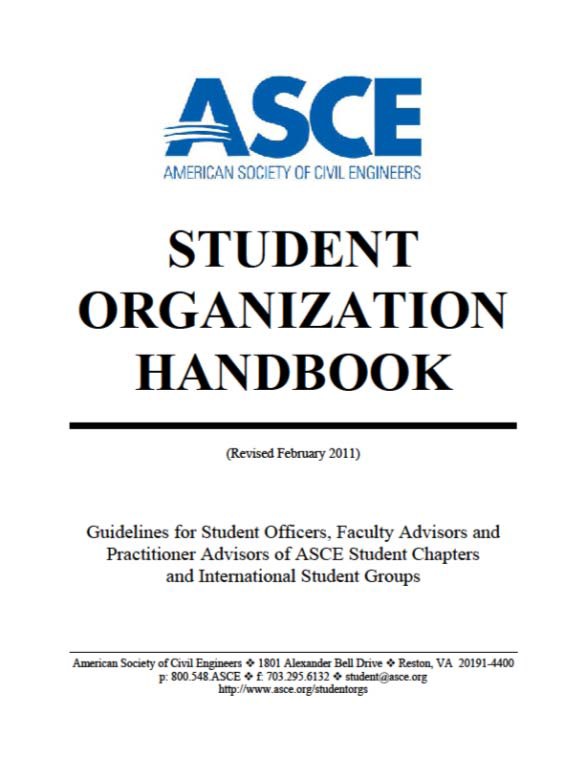


**Lehigh University & Lafayette College Students – 2011 Lehigh Valley Section Annual Bridge Tour**

* **Student Members are the future of ASCE**



* **Many students do not know that ASCE exists beyond the college campus**
* **Once students know the benefits of ASCE after college, they are more likely to stay involved**
* **Goal is to give all of you some Best Practices for your Section / Branch**



Importance of the Practitioner Advisor

**2011 Student Organization Handbook**

* A Student Organization usually has a Faculty Advisor and two Practitioner Advisors (PA) appointed by their respective ASCE Section.
* PA’s, along with Faculty Advisors (FA), serve as the Advisory Personnel for their respective Student Organization.
* Normally, one of the PA’s is a Younger Member and a recent graduate. PA’s serve as representatives of the local Section/Branch.

Importance of the Practitioner Advisor

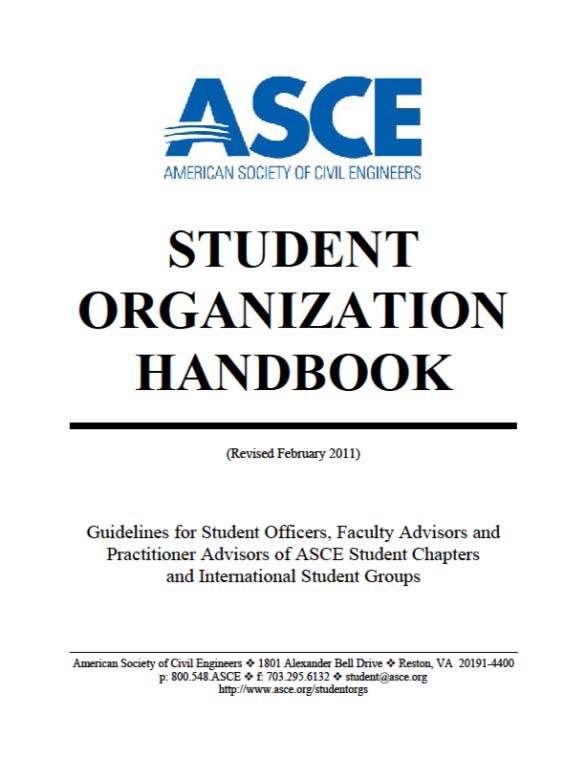
**Personal Experience / Best Practices**



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you are. Being a graduate of the University is a plus.

* The PA should coordinate activities on campus between Section and YM’s.
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**2011 Student Organization Handbook**

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* The FA works with PA’s to educate students about the CE profession.
* The FA should be an active member of ASCE and keep abreast of incentives/programs relating to student activities.

Importance of the Faculty Advisor

**Personal Experience**



* + At Lehigh U, both FA’s are ASCE members as well as PE’s. They encourage participation with the Steel Bridge and Concrete Canoe Competitions.

**Concrete Canoe Competition**

* Students hear about ASCE from their professors and see them help out with ASCE activities which is important.
* PA’s as well as the Section should have a good working relationship with the FA’s.

Younger Member Interaction

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* Since many YMG’s have social activities, these are good opportunities to interact with Student Chapters.
* Presentations about resume writing, life after college and panel discussions (ALONG WITH FREE FOOD!) on campus tend to be extremely popular.



**Panel Discussion at Lehigh U.**

Younger Member Interaction

**Ideas for Joint Activities with Younger Members**



* Panel Discussion (with local Civil Engineers and Professors as Panelists
* Resume Review (Before the Career Fair)
* Bowling Night
* Bridge Tour (with a Faculty Advisor)
* Minor League Baseball or Hockey Game

**If possible, try and combine activities with multiple Sections / Branches**

**Hershey Bears Hockey Game**

Section / Branch Interaction





**Lehigh U. students at Section Dinner Meeting**

* Most Sections/Branches have monthly lunch/dinner meetings where students get invited.
* Section/Branch members are the future employers of the students. Many employers feel that involvement in ASCE is a benefit to the company.
* A Section/Branch Student Relations Committee is a key link between the PA, FA, and Student Chapter President.
* Section / Branch mentoring programs

Section / Branch Interaction

**Personal Experience**



* Dedicate at least one monthly meeting to students at their campus and have them give the presentation. Encourage reduced rates for students or provide a subsidy.



|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Start an | awards | program | to |
| deserving | students | involved | in |
| ASCE. |  |  |  |

A Student Relations Committee has been a good liaison between Section and students.

**2011 Lehigh Valley Section Student Award Winner**

Students should be encouraged to attend monthly dinner meetings by their FA and PA.

ASCE Membership Presentation

**Personal Experience**



* ASCE Membership Presentation to all students at Lehigh U. which included:



Facts about the ASCE organization

Costs of dues after college

ASCE publications

How to find a Younger Member Group

BEST PRACTICE: I offer that I will connect students with the Younger Member Chair in the area that the student finds employment.

* “Yes, there is an ASCE after college.”

Summary

**Best Practices for your Section / Branch**



* Make sure the PA’s are engaged with the students. Having an alumni PA is a plus.
* Invite FA’s to be on the Section/Branch Board.
* Have a monthly Section/Branch meeting at your local college.
* Give a yearly presentation to students about the benefits of ASCE after college. Give them contact information for a YMG in their area of employment.
* Most importantly, be PROACTIVE!

Stay in communication, offer assistance and come to student events on campus.

Face recognition is very important!



Questions??

**Questions??**

Gregory Kuklinski, P.E., M.ASCE Alfred Benesch & Company Allentown, PA [gkuklinski@benesch.com](mailto:gkuklinski@benesch.com)

Lehigh University Practitioner Advisor Committee on Geographic Unit