

# Student Organization Advisor Roundtable: Organization Sustainability

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April 15, 2021

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THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE



## Today's Norms

Part-updates and part-roundtable – your participation is welcome and encouraged

Audio or Chat are equally valid ways of engaging

You may choose to keep your Video on or off

Happy to connect and consult about topics specific to your org after this session



# Today's Agenda

Three Quick Questions

The Latest Updates

Organization Sustainability

Open Discussion and Sharing Ideas

Resources, Programs, and Deadlines



## Three Quick Questions

**What does “organization sustainability” mean to you?**

- Getting registration requirements done each year
- Being a little bit better this year than last year
- A regular pattern of success and growth
- Something else (please post in the Chat)



## Three Quick Questions

**What are barriers/ threats to your org's sustainability?**

- Well, COVID...
- Leadership transitions, loss of momentum and knowledge
- Failure to innovate and meet members' needs
- Something else (please post in the Chat)



## Three Quick Questions

### Does your organization have a plan for next year yet?

- Yes, they've thought about how to "recover" and move forward after this past year
- Yes, they basically follow the same patterns each year
- Not yet, but they have ideas
- Not even close, we have work to do and we need assistance



## The Latest Updates

[safeandhealthy.osu.edu](https://safeandhealthy.osu.edu) and  
[activities.osu.edu/involvement/student\\_organizations/covid19\\_information/](https://activities.osu.edu/involvement/student_organizations/covid19_information/)

As of February 12, student organizations may host in-person events, gatherings, and tabling activities of 10 or fewer people

Permission applies on- and off-campus

On-campus reservations: risk mitigation plan, advisor approval, no food

University funds cannot be used on travel through at least 6/30/21



## The Latest Updates

[safeandhealthy.osu.edu](https://safeandhealthy.osu.edu) and  
[activities.osu.edu/involvement/student\\_organizations/covid19\\_information/](https://activities.osu.edu/involvement/student_organizations/covid19_information/)

As of May 10, university organizations may host in-person events

Must follow state, local, and university guidelines

Group sizes will be limited based on the capacity of the location

Events must be approved in advance

Need clarity re: how this applies to student organizations





# Success Framework

*Student Organization*  
**SUCCESS FRAMEWORK**

## Member Development

Leadership Capacity and Confidence | Social Perspective Taking | Wellness

## Organization Operations

Purpose and Goals | Membership Recruitment and Retention  
Budgeting and Financial Management | Fundraising and Philanthropy | Programming  
Leadership Transitions | Self-Governance | Operational Efficiency | Collaboration  
Responsiveness and Innovation | Diversity and Inclusion | Risk Reduction  
Advisor Partnerships

## Community Engagement

Connection to Student Organizations | Affinity with the University  
Commitment to Social Change



# What Is Organization Sustainability?



Sustainable student organizations...

- Have a clear focus on their **purpose**
- Bring in at least as many **new members** as they lose
- Have a pipeline of members for **leadership roles**, and effective leadership transitions
- Are **financially self-sustaining**
- **Innovate** and adapt to changing environments
- Foster **inclusion**, equity, and belonging
- Are connected to the student organization and university **community**
- What else?



## Making Sense of the Past Year

Take time to reflect on the year

What will you continue, (re-)start, stop doing?

Acknowledge emotions, motivation, and burnout

Celebrate and recognize individual and collective efforts  
*(positional leaders, graduating students, those who stepped up)*



## Who's With Us?



“Maybe Joiners” are where we typically focus our outreach efforts

“Always Joiners” are the people we probably saw/ who probably joined our organizations this year

What impact does this have on our org culture – now and into next year?



## Making Plans for Next Year

How will you (re-)orient your newest members?

How will you celebrate the members who stuck around, remind them why this organization is meaningful for them?

Set realistic expectations about the time and energy it will take to get back to “normal”



## Open Discussion and Sharing Ideas

What are the most important topics for your organization's sustainability?

What are your biggest challenges?

What questions do you have?

What resources do you need?



# Resources, Programs, and Deadlines

## Advisor Roundtables

- Third Thursdays at Noon
  - 1/21 – Recruitment and Retention
  - 2/18 – Member Engagement
  - 3/18 – Leadership Transitions
  - 4/15 – Organization Sustainability
- Recordings and materials are online at:  
<http://go.osu.edu/StudentOrgProgramming>



# Resources, Programs, and Deadlines

## Member Development Grant

- Up to \$500 for something meaningful to your members
- Rolling application through May 31
- [go.osu.edu/MemberDevelopmentGrant](https://go.osu.edu/MemberDevelopmentGrant)

## Coaching Meetings

- Peer-led, individualized, variety of available topics
- Book appointments directly online
- [go.osu.edu/sosco](https://go.osu.edu/sosco)





# Resources, Programs, and Deadlines

## Spring Registration Window

- February 1-April 15
- [activities.osu.edu/involvement/student\\_organizations/registration](https://activities.osu.edu/involvement/student_organizations/registration)

## Programming Funds Application Deadline

- April 15 for programs June 1-August 15
- [activities.osu.edu/involvement/student\\_organizations/funding](https://activities.osu.edu/involvement/student_organizations/funding)



## Contact Your Student Org Team

### Weekly Office Hours (virtual) through this week

Mondays at 10:30 a.m. – Noon

Thursdays at 1 – 2:30 p.m.

[activities.osu.edu/involvement/student\\_organizations/](https://activities.osu.edu/involvement/student_organizations/)

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