

ROLES OF ADVISORS

Why do we need advisors?

- Sometimes a situation or a question arises that none of the ASFC members know how to handle/answer. It could be a specific question about parliamentary procedure, it could be a legal question, or it could be a question about how much funds a particular account holds. Whether it's a technical question or a question of "should we...?", we're able to take advantage of the experience and knowledge of our advisors.
- Whenever a motion is being made (usually motions on funds), an advisor is supposed to be in the meeting. This is to ensure that the motion is in line with the law and our codes, as well as to have a "witness" so to speak.

What can't advisors do?

- Advisors are not supposed to give their opinion (ESPECIALLY regarding funds) without being asked by members of ASFC. Of course, if there's a technical/legal problem, then they are supposed to speak up. If an advisor doesn't personally agree with an amount being allocated, then they are not supposed to voice their opinion (so that they don't use their power/position to sway students). As long as what is being voted upon is legal, adheres the ASFC ethics and governing documents, and is in the best interest of the students – then go for it!
- Obviously, both advisors and students are not allowed to break the law or disobey ASFC's governing documents. This means that **no one** is allowed to spend student funds without it being discussed and voted on in the proper channels.

What can you do if an advisor is doing something inappropriate?

- Talk to them and share your concern(s).
- If they shrug it off or outright say that your concerns are unwarranted, then you go to another advisor. This should help validate your concerns.
- If you're not seeing any changes or feel as though you are not being heard, talk with someone with more authority.

Advise from a former ASFC member

I know that an advisor (or any staff/faculty) can seem scary and all-powerful. The truth of the matter is, however, that it is the students who have the true power. Don't be afraid to speak up if you see anything inappropriate happening (be it from an advisor or another student). You can gain and enhance important skills by being in ASFC, including the ability to lead, motivate, and be assertive. The students voted you into your position so that you can be their voice. Do not ever be afraid to voice what you feel is best for ASFC, the student body, and the community. ASFC is a democracy, which means that (theoretically), the best decision will come forth through the combination of student voices and opinions.