

Council Best Practices



53rd College Councils Conference
September 28-30, 2018

Introductions



Avery Murdock

- Charter GK and PGK of Council 16464 at Lamar University
- Current District Deputy for District 122 in the Diocese of Beaumont, TX
- Current Advocate of Lamar Council 16464
- Senior Exercise Science Major (Pre-Physical Therapy)



Ben Litton

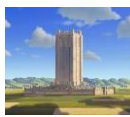
- PGK for Council 8250 at the United States Military Academy in West Point, NY
- Current Trustee
- Business Management Major



Where is Lamar University?



Fun Fact:



Council Vision

- All officers should focus on major goals to accomplish
 - Where is YOUR council lacking? Where can you improve?
 - Star Council, fundraising, building council fraternity, etc.
- Plan events to reflect this vision
 - Proper goal planning (SMART Goals)
 - What's the bigger picture?



SMART Goals

- Specific
- Measurable
- Attainable
- Relevant
- Time-bound



Council Vision Part II

- Council Events Calendar
 - Program Director and DGK
 - Make it visible
 - Easy to keep up with monthly events
 - Reminders for bigger events
- College Council Program Calender (#10768)
 - Fill this out before the semester starts



Officer Meetings

- Council Strategic Development Conference
 - Start of each Fraternal Year or before each semester
 - ALL council officers should attend (make it fun!)
 - In the summer
- Monthly meetings
 - One officer meeting a month (usually at the beginning)
 - Helps maintain communication
 - Keeps all officers involved
 - More relaxed setting
 - All council members welcome



Conducting Council Meetings

- Delegation
 - GK should not be talking the entire time (Officer/Committee Reports)
 - Ask for feedback on previous events, learn from mistakes
- Keep meetings short
 - No longer than an hour (Aim for 30 min)
 - Meet with a purpose and a plan, don't just have meetings to have meetings
- Be consistent
 - Food
 - ONE meeting and THREE events per MONTH



Planning Events

- At least THREE events per month
 - Faith, Fraternal, Service
 - Spread heaviest events out, DON'T burn out your council
 - Makes Columbian and Star Awards easy to win
- Underclassman roles
 - Groom future leaders
 - Faith, Family, Life, and Community Directors
 - Allow them to assist
 - Set them up for success... be a great mentor!



Budgeting

- GK, FS, and Treasurer
 - Budget meeting
 - Review it with the rest of the officers
- Each event needs a budget
 - Communicate with event planner
- Take care of your council
 - Make sure your council is financially stable
- Gives your council structure
 - Compass of Virtue always points to Charity
 - Faith in Action



Council Finances

- Council dues
 - This money helps fund council and pay per capita
 - Send out dues notices every year by mail or email
- Bank account
 - At least two council members should be on account
- Fundraisers
 - Dues money alone is not enough to fully fund your council



Communication

- One of the most important aspects of operating a successful council
- Each council should find what platform is best
 - Facebook, GroupMe, council G-Mail account, etc.
- Don't be afraid to "test the waters"
 - Give different platforms a shot
 - Afterwards get feedback from the council
- The best platform is always personal invitations



Communication Issue: Only the officers know what is going on

- It is easy to get caught up in making sure you are delegating tasks to your officers while leaving your council members in the dark
- Delegating tasks and reaching out to your members will get them more involved and active throughout the year
 - Also plays a part in forming future officers
- Again, ask you members how they think your communication is
 - Especially non-officers



Transitioning Council Leadership

- Meet with the Brother Knight who took your place
 - Give advice, share notes, what did you do right? What did you do wrong?
- Officer binders
 - Good way to smoothly transition to each fraternal year
 - Google Drive works wonders
- Help set the council up for future success
 - Leave it better than you found it



Questions?



Contact information

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