

How to ensure success for your Chapter in the first year

As a chapter advisor, you are an essential part of the Net Impact Community. Partnering together, chapter leaders and advisors can increase the likelihood of success and increase their impact on campus and in the community!

A chapter advisor is a college administrator or faculty member who provides guidance, support, and continuity for the Chapter. Listed below are 4 keys to ensure ongoing success for your Chapter:

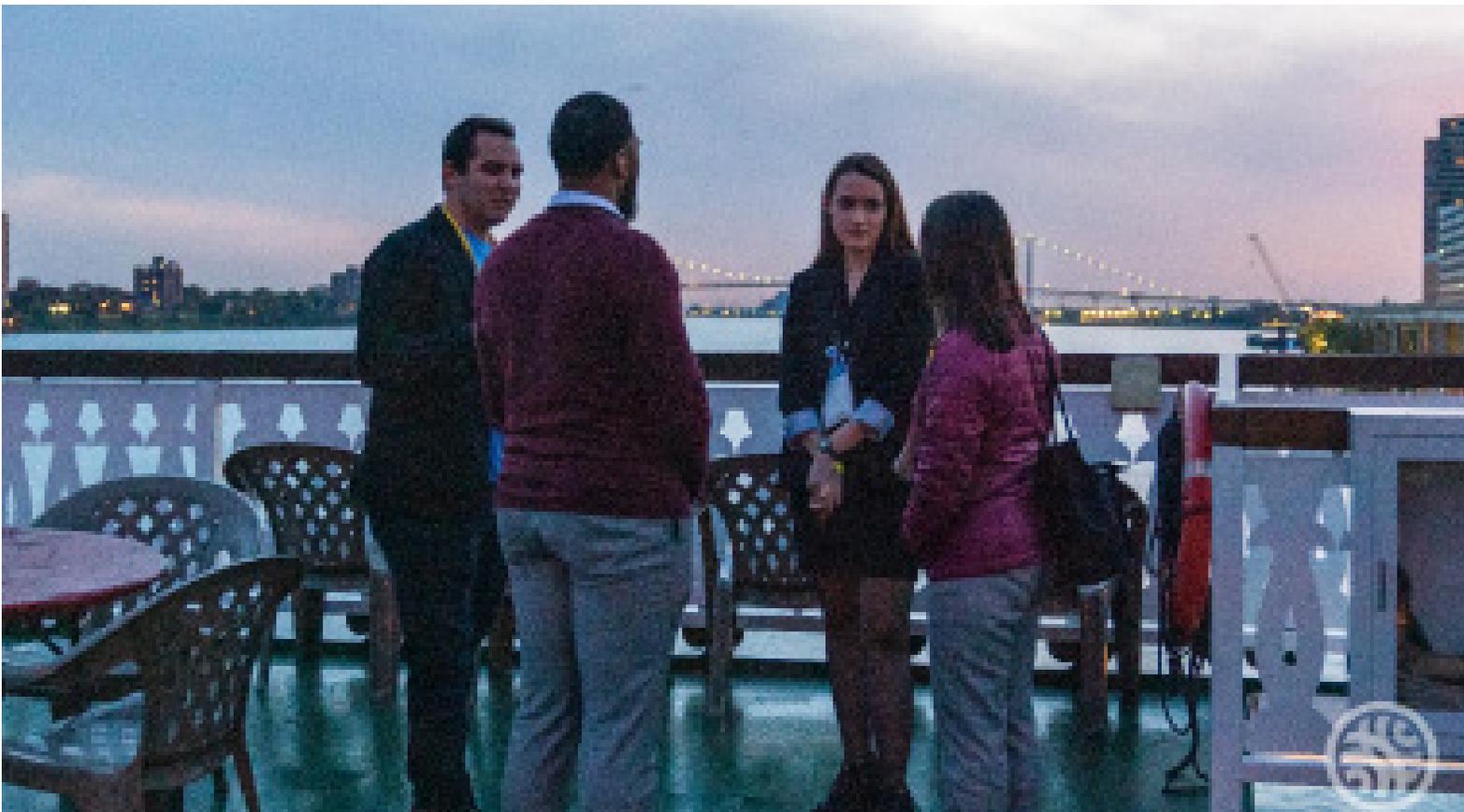
1. Help your Chapter plan their first year and check in on progress

Most likely your Chapter's leaders have connected with you and created accounts at www.netimpact.org. You can assist the Chapter in securing approval as an organization on campus. Likewise, be sure to remind the Chapter to update their profile page with the leadership and advisor contact information.

Chapter advisors can be a sounding board for [S.M.A.R.T. Goals](#) (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and timely). These goals should include establishing a workable budget.

Once these items are complete, encourage the Chapter to plan their first event. They can check out the [exclusive programs](#) offered from Net Impact Central, or they can plan events and activities entirely unique to their Chapter. They can also plan events or projects using ideas from these [toolkits](#). We encourage the Chapter to participate in at least one Net Impact Central Program.

Chapter advisors should stay in touch with NI Central and their Chapter, as well as be briefed on progress towards the Chapter's goals each semester. Net Impact recommends that chapter advisors budget three hours a month to engage with their Chapter. This engagement can be through attending a Chapter meeting or speaking at a Chapter event, advocating for the Net Impact Chapter on campus, or by checking in with chapter leaders.



2. Support attendance at the Net Impact Conference

The **Net Impact Conference** is the Net Impact Community's flagship event occurring each fall. With around 2,000 attendees, all Net Impact Chapter member attendees have the opportunity to connect with like-minded peers and learn about societal, economic, and environmental issues.

As a chapter advisor, **you can help secure funds for your students to attend this life-changing event.** Year after year, the Net Impact Chapters who attend the Conference are seen building stronger Chapters with more active members; likewise, the networking opportunities and inspirational sessions with the world's most prestigious leaders can help guide students toward a career of impact.

Chapter advisors are encouraged to attend the Net Impact Conference to meet with other school officials, student leaders, and global industry experts to discuss the world's toughest challenges and solutions. It's a time when faculty and administrative staff gather to discuss how Net Impact Chapters can help institutions meet the increasing demand to incorporate social, economic, and environmental impact themes into the college experience.

3. Connect and provide input

Chapter advisors often have the opportunity to join webinars or conference calls around important chapter topics. These are aimed to provide chapter leaders and advisors with best practices for Chapter success. We ask that you encourage the chapter leaders to participate in these calls, and we also welcome advisors to join these calls.

4. Ensure thoughtful succession planning for your students' Chapter

As students are only in their programs for a limited time, thoughtful succession planning is critical. Net Impact chapter advisors play a powerful role in **leadership continuity** by helping students elect their new leadership team with succession planning. Encourage the team to compile a transition document to ensure seamless knowledge transfer. We encourage all Net Impact leaders and advisors to read our suggestions around succession planning and leadership transition on the Chapter Leader Hub.

Before the students break for summer, remind the chapter leaders to complete Chapter requirements, such as paying annual dues (often funded by the school) and completing annual reporting.

