

# Working with Faculty Advisors & School Administration

To build a strong Enactus team, you need support from your academic institution. Your team must have at least one Faculty Advisor and the backing from key administrators such as a Deans, department heads or other academic leaders. Their support is crucial for access to institutional resources and opportunities.

## Faculty Advisor

A faculty advisor plays a pivotal role in guiding and mentoring their Enactus team within the academic institution. They ensure the team's success by providing oversight, coaching, and strategic direction. The nature of this relationship can vary widely—some faculty advisors are deeply involved in the day-to-day activities, while others offer their expertise and guidance when needed. We encourage faculty advisors and their teams to collaborate and find the approach that works best for everyone.

For detailed information on faculty advisor responsibilities, review the Faculty Advisor Handbook.

### How to Maximize the Impact of Your Faculty Advisor(s):

- **Expert Guidance:** Faculty advisors bring valuable expertise and experience, helping to steer projects in the right direction and providing strategic insights.
- **Resource Access:** They can connect your team with institutional resources, including funding opportunities, research facilities, and academic networks.
- **Mentorship:** Faculty advisors offer mentorship, helping students develop professional skills and navigate challenges, which can be crucial for personal and team growth.
- **Credibility:** Their involvement adds credibility to your team's initiatives, increasing your project's visibility and fostering trust with stakeholders.
- **Networking Opportunities:** Faculty advisors can introduce your team to industry contacts, potential partners, and other influential figures, expanding your network and enhancing opportunities for collaboration.

## How to Recruit Faculty Advisors?

- **Research Potential Advisors:** Identify faculty with expertise or passion for entrepreneurship, social impact, or community development. Consider diverse perspectives, including those outside the business school.
- **Leverage Personal Connections:** Use your network to find potential candidates and gather recommendations from peers and professors.
- **Engage Professors:** Build relationships by attending their office hours and showing genuine interest in their work. Share your enthusiasm for Enactus.
- **Make the Pitch:** Highlight the benefits of being a faculty advisor, including the impact on students and personal development.
- **Showcase Success Stories:** Share inspiring projects from other teams and illustrate what your team aims to achieve. For more inspiration, check out the top four finalists' success stories on our [YouTube channel](#).
- **Emphasize Flexibility:** Clarify that the role can be tailored to their availability and involvement level.
- **Highlight Networking Opportunities:** Mention opportunities to connect with professionals from other campuses and executives from Enactus sponsors at events.
- **Personalize the Approach:** Tailor your outreach by referencing specific aspects of their work that align with Enactus initiatives and how their expertise can make a difference.
- **Involve Current Faculty Advisors:** Have current or former advisors share their positive experiences with potential recruits.

## School Administration and Executives

Institutional administrators include key figures such as department chairs, deans, provosts, and vice chancellors/presidents. Gaining their support is crucial for the successful implementation of your entrepreneurial projects. Administrators can become your strongest advocates, rallying other faculty to support your initiatives and celebrating your team's achievements.

### **Support Beyond Funding**

Support from your institution and administration extends beyond financial resources. They can also provide:

- **Personal Time:** Volunteer their time to mentor and support your team.
- **Printing and Material Resources:** Access to printing services, software applications, and necessary materials.
- **Post-Secondary Institutions and Community Networks:** Connections to valuable networks within and beyond the post-secondary institution.
- **Funding for Projects and Activities:** Financial support for your projects, travel, and team activities.
- **Collaboration Space:** Space for team meetings and project work.
- **Course Releases for Faculty Advisors:** Release time for faculty to serve as advisors.
- **Course Credit:** Opportunities for students to earn academic credit for their involvement.

### **What Are the Benefits for Your Institution of Having an Enactus Team?**

When engaging with administrators, emphasize the following benefits:

- **Experiential Learning and Fostering Innovation:** Students engage the local community and implement community empowerment projects or social enterprises. Showcasing innovation that can elevate the institution's reputation and attract prospective students and faculty.
- **Positive Community Recognition:** Your institution will gain community recognition through the impactful projects undertaken by the Enactus team, as well as local media coverage.
- **Networking Opportunities:** Gain access to local, national, and corporate business leaders through Enactus events, fostering valuable relationships and connections.
- **Valuable Student Learning Experience:** Enactus provides students with hands-on, practical experience that complements their academic learning and prepares them for future careers.
- **Career and Professional Development:** Enactus helps students develop essential skills and secure employment opportunities, enhancing their career prospects and contributing to their professional growth.