

Dear Chapter Advisors,

Chi Sigma Iota values academic and professional excellence in the counseling profession, and the Counselor Educator Task force is dedicated to harnessing the excellence that Counselor Educators have to offer. In 2008, the majority of CEs who completed the CSI membership survey reported that they desire to feel needed and appreciated by their local CSI chapters. The following five activities are practical ways that your chapter can welcome CEs and connect with the many ways they can contribute to the CSI community!

1. Invite eligible counselor educators to become members of the local CSI chapter (through new initiation of eligible CEs or by transferring existing CE memberships);
2. Promote the idea of colleagues working together around CSI activities to demonstrate support for students;
3. Request input from faculty when planning activities—especially those that have a direct impact on the program;
4. Publish a calendar with local and national CSI events and regularly distribute to counselor education faculty (take into account faculty schedules and availability);
5. Work with the Department Chair to encourage CE participation;
6. Invite CEs to model professional development for their students through CSI activities;
7. To encourage participation, schedule CSI meetings at rotating times that CEs can attend—request that the department chair encourage professors to attend the meetings;
8. Request a short amount of time at counselor education program meetings to update faculty on chapter activities;
9. Discuss CE ideas for chapter involvement and ask how they are willing to support CSI;
10. Invite the Department Chair and Dean to chapter functions and let CE's know they will be attending;
11. Have student members create personalized CE invitations for initiations, meetings, and chapter events;
12. Ask CEs to act as guest speakers for meetings or activities sponsored by the chapter;
13. Individually ask counselor educators to participate in socials, fundraisers, and membership drives;
14. Have chapter officers identify specific tasks that require assistance and invite CEs to help with these tasks;
15. Research individual CE interests and enlist them to lead specific service and research projects related to their expertise;
16. Develop a CE/student leader mentorship program;
17. Solicit postings for the CSI Counselors' Bookshelf -or other online forums- from CEs;

18. Ask CEs who have previous CSI leadership experience for specific and relevant input (e.g., what fundraisers were successful and which social events were well-attended);
19. Feature an active CE in each chapter newsletter;
20. Send “thank you” letters to CSI-active CEs and copy the department chair and dean;
21. Distribute monthly calendars that highlight chapter happenings and CE employment anniversary dates;
22. Distribute cards signed by all chapter members to CEs on their birthdays;
23. Create a “Secret Pal” or mentoring program that lasts one academic year and pairs Counseling Students with CEs;
24. Honor a “CE of the Semester” on your chapter website, newsletter, or message board;
25. Once monthly, send a congratulatory card to a CE who has accomplished some sort of counseling excellence.

We hope these ideas help your Counselor Educators feel needed and appreciated.

Sincerely,

CSI CE Task Force