Understanding what motivates your team members is an important skill to acquire. Some members will come with a desire to be involved and make a difference because they believe strongly in the mission and purpose of your organization. Other students may join your group and attend meetings but seem reluctant to take on any additional responsibilities.

Motives are needs, wants, or desires within individuals. Motives can be extrinsic such as desiring recognition, having the opportunity to exercise power, take on a challenge, or reaping a monetary benefit such as having dues to a national organization paid for in exchange participation in your group. Intrinsic motives can include developing new leadership skills, traveling to a conference, increasing visibility on campus, gaining approval from friends, faculty or staff.

Once you have a better understanding of what motivates your members, it’s important to think about how to motivate them. It takes a lot of energy to recruit new members. Get new members involved right away by helping them find a way to contribute their talents and also learn something new in the process. Share with your members the benefits of being involved in your organization. This may help you discover how to motivate them.

Benefits of Involvement:
- Helps you meet people and develop new relationships.
- Allows you to identify new skills, talents and interests.
- Gain transferable skills that you can carry with you into graduate school or your career.
- Receive recognized by faculty, staff, and your peers.
- Identify your leadership style.
- Gain experience in public speaking, facilitation, budgeting, planning and promoting.

Motivation Strategies:
- Get to know you’re members (learn names).
- Make each member feel she or he is essential to your organization.
- Plan organized and efficient meetings.
- Be open to new ideas and encourage feedback.
- Show appreciation and use praise.
- Generate enthusiasm through shared goals.
- Believe that everyone has the potential to succeed.
- Ask members for their feedback.
- Give credit where credit is due.
- Make sure members understand tasks and assignments.

Recognition Strategies
- Write/send a thank-you note or email.
- Attend an event/program coordinated by a member.
- Have an end-of-the-semester dinner or reception.
- Create a member of the month award.
- Give a member a challenging responsibilities or task to show trust.
- Nominate a member for a college sponsored award.
- Develop an incentive program that encourages members to recognize each other.
- Include a special message on your agenda or in a newsletter.
- Share achievements of others with your organizations advisor.

MISSION STATEMENT
To create a vibrant campus environment by educating and empowering student leaders through implementation of campus programs and the celebration of Ursuline Traditions.