

## **WHY DO WE RECOGNIZE STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS?**

University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point constantly strives to provide its students with the best possible education. The university recognizes that learning continues outside the classroom, and that involvement in student organizations can also be an important part of education. For this reason, the university encourages students to become involved in student organizations and activities outside the classroom.

Each year, new student organizations are developed, or redeveloped, and apply for formal recognition from the university. The recognition process may seem time-consuming, and students may wonder why it's necessary. Here are several good reasons for becoming a recognized student organization.

1. The process itself is helpful to those forming the organization because it requires them to define the organization's purpose, develop a governing structure, and obtain an advisor/educator who can assist the group in achieving maximum educational benefits from its activities and programs. The process also requires that a minimum number of students be involved in the recognition process to ensure that adequate interest exists.

2. Recognized student organizations serve as information conduits between the university and the students. Organizations can request working space and will be assigned a mailbox in the Student Involvement and Employment Office so they can communicate more effectively with students, their members and the university community. Additionally, recognition allows the university to communicate inexpensively with all organizational officers about leadership programs and other opportunities available.

3. Recognized organizations become eligible for the same privileges extended to other campus departments or agencies. Each organization has access to business office services, duplicating services, university facilities and technical equipment, transportation services, posting privileges, an on-campus mailbox, eligibility to apply for funding from the Student Government Association and official use of the university's name.

The recognition procedure is not meant to act as a barrier of rules, regulations and red tape. Instead, recognition is designed in such a way so as to maximize each organization's potential for fulfilling their stated purpose.