

*New York University
Mini No-Frills 2007
Advisor of the Year
Tony Fangel*



TONY

FROM:

MINNESOTA



Arrival: First Class Mail



Tony Fangel comes to New York University directly out of his undergraduate institution, University of St. Thomas, in St. Paul, Minnesota. As a first year advisor of the Inter-Residence Hall Council, Tony has truly set the benchmark for quality in advising for both first-time advisors and veterans. His passion for residence hall associations shines through even in the first time speaking with Tony. We feel like Tony's arrival at NYU helped mold us into an outward-looking institution – focused on working with schools in our city, region, and nation. Tony has love for NACURH and NEACURH, that's a given. We all know that if Tony was not an advisor to the IRHC he would spend all of this free time focused on making NACURH a better place, but he now only uses the free time he has away from guiding the IRHC to do that. His participation on the national level is unparalleled by our region, and he makes for the perfect model for advisor communication in that respect.

Locally, Tony takes advising to a whole new level. We appreciate Tony's ability to make himself available to each of us, as well as being an impressive mentor. Tony has been there and done that. His experiential advice on top of his use of leadership tools makes his advising not only powerful but realistic. While it is only his first year here at NYU, we know that Tony Fangel has taken New York by storm and will hopefully stay with us for a very long time.

Many people describe Tony as being enthusiastic and always willing to help. One example of his selflessness is when Tony offered to help one of the Summer IRHC staffers with proofreading her law school essays. Even though Tony himself was swamped with academics, he spent hours working on her essays just because.

IRHC Advising: Successfully Delivered

One-to-Ones

Ever other week, 6 of the IRHC committee chairs meet with Tony individually in their one-to-one sessions. Tony takes the typical one-to-one session further by sitting and typically having a meal with the student. He gets in the shoes of whomever he is advising, and this technique has proven extremely successful. His one-to-one sessions have brought leaders to discuss revamping our IRHC website, creating a residential town hall, and working on community service initiatives like Relay for Life.

Website & History

Tony took the IRHC website under his wing this past year. He researched possible options for a new web address and advised us on which would be best suited for our goals. He managed the website and worked with our original design vendor to streamline the site. Taking our goals into account, he revamped the lacking parts of the site with the help of the Public Relations Chair and her committee.

A great advisor acknowledges the history of his or her organization and is able to put issues into perspective. Tony realized this fact. He tirelessly researched the history of not only the

development of the Inter-Residence Hall Council, but of the housing situation at New York University. The completed compilation may be found on our website at www.nyuirhc.org.

“The amount of preparation and support that Tony brought to TORCH Day was only surpassed by his enthusiasm.” – Andrew Blumberg, IRHC Residential Advocacy Chair

IRHC Training: Fall & Winter

Part of Tony’s role as advisor to the IRHC is coordinating training for the council both the executive members and hall councils. The executive council was trained the week prior to NYU’s orientation week known as “Welcome Week.” Tony showed us how great of an advisor he was just in those first few days. He transformed from an RHA president to an admirable and enthusiastic advisor who gave us many tools and taught us different ways of recognizing our leadership styles. Tony and Nic together utilized the Social Change Model for our training as well as tying in a book each of us read over the summer titled, The Leadership Challenge. Their use of the book and model made our training experience unique, and this proved that their advising techniques were distinctively highly qualified.

In the winter, Tony lead a large portion of our training sessions. Tony did a great exercise on recognizing each other’s weaknesses and strengths, which still comes up in conversations weeks after. The best session Tony put on was on parliamentary procedure. We, as a council, do not use this procedure for various reasons. However, many members of the E-council recognized the importance of knowing about the rules of parliamentary procedure, so Tony put on an interactive program that made it seem simple and useful! We are still discussing the possibility of utilizing these rules in the future due to Tony’s successful efforts educating the council.

Started Inter-Residence Hall Council Silver Pin

Tony has an immense knowledge of the history of NACURH. His passion for the institution prompted Tony to try and bring as much of the spirit of NACURH to the IRHC. He saw the perfect opportunity to link the two institutions through the recognition of our members. When the IRHC President discussed our recognition ceremonies to Tony, he thought of a new way of recognizing individuals – by bestowing silver IRHC pins. These pins would act as the highest honor a member could receive while serving the NYU residential community. The President, Nic Evans (IRHC Advisor), and Tony decided that the President would give 4 pins a year, and the advisors would also be able to jointly give out 4 pins as well to any residential leader (advisor, student staff, or student).

“Tony’s patience is supernatural, his expertise, supernatural” – Mohammad Rustom, IRHC Community Service Chair

Town Hall

The IRHC had its first ever Town Hall event in November of 2006. The event came from the mind of Andrew Blumberg, Residential Advocacy Chair. He took the idea to Tony who helped Andrew devise a plan for the program. Tony used his experience as a prior RHA President, as well as his research into the administrative workings of NYU, to help Andrew create a very successful program. Tony and Andrew brought more than 8 administrators in all fields relating to residential living. His advice made the IRHC Town Hall a major event at the University putting it on the front page of the Washington Square News and impressing many administrators.

National Involvement: Postmarked

MACURH Silver Pin

Tony Fangel was awarded the coveted MACURH Silver Pin at the NEACURH Regionals 2006 conference in November. This was a shining moment for Tony and NYU as we celebrated Tony's achievement in his former region, his national involvement, and his successful transition into advising at New York University.

Diversity Task Force

After his participation at NACURH 2006 and through many discussions with the National Chair, Tony was appointed facilitator to the National Social and Diversity Task Force. The Task Force is charged with four goals: (1) write monthly newsletters, (2) formulate a periodic case study competition, (3) write articles for the NACURH Link, (4) facilitate a half-day training session at NACURH 2007. Tony designs the newsletter and also is charged with editing it each month. He directs AIM chats with the other members of this task force usually a few times per month for at least an hour. So far, Tony has been able to publish 3 newsletters and one case study competition. He also recruited members of his task force which include 6 members representing 3 regions (other than NEACURH).

NEACURH 2006 Advising & Participation



Conference Participation

As Tony directly advises the NCC, he developed much fervor when it came to gearing up for NEACURH 2006. Much to his dismay and the delegation's dismay as well, the NYU delegation could not accommodate him for many reasons. Tony overcame that obstacle and gained a spot as a volunteer at the conference. Although Tony was not in any way required to go to conference, he made sure that he was there to both support his University and to support his new region, NEACURH. Many people commented on how great Tony was as a volunteer in the boardroom. He brought the joy he brings to the IRHC to the NCCs that weekend. If Tony had been on the roster as a participant from NYU, he would have presented a program which he had created before NEACURH 2006.

Legislation Writing

We sometimes laugh that Tony has the NEACURH policy book (and the NACURH policy book for that matter) memorized. His avid knowledge and passion for knowing rules and regulations was put to good use when Alex Clamor, NCC, discussed with Tony his desire to write legislation for NEACURH. With Tony's knowledge of code and Alex's drive to make NEACURH the best affiliate ever, they collaborated on writing a key piece of legislation relating to email voting. Although NEACURH 2006 did not have enough time to discuss the legislation,

"Tony is always available and willing to help, even if it is editing my photoshop project at 3 o'clock in the morning. He's amazing." – Katie Hughes, IRHC Public Relations Chair

Tony and Alex reworked the legislation with the advice of the Regional Board of Directors of NEACURH. Tony gave Alex experiential advice on some of the

policies of the other regions, and Tony even discussed this legislation with MACURH. Also, MACURH ended up drafting similar legislation to be passed this year.

Bid & Delegation Advising

Tony believed in the NYU delegation. His confidence in us prompted us to write two bids for Regionals 2006. Tony's advisement of the bid teams helped us to reach new levels of achievement at NEACURH. We were able to win regionally for the SALT award, and we were placed as a finalist for POY at NACURH 2007! Without Tony's help, Alex and the bid team would not have been as successful this year.

Communication: Writing the Letter

School

Tony is always in constant communication with the members of the IRHC. He uses email as his primary way of relaying regular messages to the entire E-council or to individual members. However, Tony also utilizes a slew of other mediums for communication. He is well known for constantly using AOL Instant Messenger to keep in touch with his advisees. Tony is always available when we need encouragement, IRHC-related advice, or just life lessons. Additionally, Tony makes sure that we all know he is available on his cell phone. When we call Tony, we receive a jovial response back as he never fails to deliver on his promises.



Regional

One really can't pinpoint a particular part of the day when Tony isn't an advisor. Not only does he make himself easily accessible for the IRHC to talk to at any hour, but he also reaches out to communities beyond NYU well after his 'office hours.' Tony's communication to NEACURH has been outstanding and can easily be portrayed by his active participation on the NEACURH forum. His first post as a transfer into NEACURH was June 7th, 2006. It was clear that he wanted to be involved in NEACURH as he asked questions like, "Where and when is NEACURH 2006," and even "Which RBD positions can I hold as a grad student?" Even after realizing an NYU policy that restrained him from applying on the RBD did he persist in trying to get involved in NEACURH. On September 14th, 2006 Tony took the initiative and started the topic "Alright, time to introduce yourself!," which provided an excellent means for everyone using the forum to get to know each other. The topic has been one of the most popular discussion subjects on the NEACURH forum this year, with over 450 views. Totalling over 53 posts since he joined the forum as an Advisor of NYU in May 2006, he actively replies to individuals from other institutions in NEACURH oftentimes congratulating institutions on their hard work.

Tony also communicates on a more individual level with the members of the regional board of directors via AOL Instant Messenger. Many times I will find him online at 2:30 AM talking to the Associate Director of Administration and Finance, Avi Zacherman. Even at such late hours, he asks the RBD pertinent questions relating to NEACURH/NACURH. Tony's ability to communicate so extensively with the RBD makes him a very important resource to the NYU IRHC, particularly to the NCC. He is able to acquire information he feels will help the NCC obtain all of his ambitions, and pass on advice to the NCC directly from members on the RBD.

National

It may seem to be quite difficult to communicate with individuals/institutions from all over the nation, but a close examination at Tony's national involvement quickly dispels this myth. Again, a mere glance at all his posts on the NACURH forum indicates his passion for NACURH and willingness to be involved. He has contributed to topics on creating a programming manual, accessing affiliate information for institutions in one's respective region, and careers in student affairs. Furthermore, he also regularly contributes to topics in his former region's forum, MACURH.

Aside from utilizing the forum, Tony often communicates with NBD members due to his appointed position as Chair of the Social and Diversity Issues Task Force. He is responsible for compiling a newsletter each month regarding social/diversity issues that many institutions currently face. In the January newsletter, he designed a challenging case study regarding offensive social network groups on Facebook. This was in addition to his lengthy, well researched article entitled "Free Speech On Your Campus."



To top everything off, Tony still maintains relations with RBD member at MACURH. He voluntarily manages their website, and has made it *significantly* more user friendly (not to mention, much more aesthetically appealing). Among the many new features he has added to their website is a list of member schools in their region and a history link detailing ever known award MACURH has ever attained. On average, Tony updates MACURH's website once a week. Due to the limited space of this bid, it is encouraged for the reader to compare MACURH's former website (<http://macurh.nacurh.org/backup/>) to its current website (<http://macurh.nacurh.org/>) and witness the drastic improvements Tony enacted.

Taking it to the Next Level: Extra Postage

Graduate Student



It is also essential to mention that Tony is a full-time graduate student. He is focusing his studies on Higher Education. The fact that he is currently enrolled in these classes actually helps him as an advisor because he is consistently researching how to better accommodate an ever-changing population of students. His affinity for the subject makes him a better advisor as he uses real knowledge from his classes in his discussion with his advisees. His studies also prove how busy Tony is as he is taking 3 courses on top of his job and advising duties.

Community Education Assistant for Leadership Development

Tony's job at the University goes well beyond the IRHC. He works at a bare minimum 25 hours per week in the department of Residential Education, but we all know he spends many more

hours on IRHC business. Part of Tony's job surrounds the Leadership Team in his department. Tony helps to coordinate training for the department as well as coordinating with all 22 halls on campus for their leadership training. Tony is constantly researching how other schools implement leadership through their RHAs, and he works with Nic Evans, the Assistant Director for Leadership, on how to strengthen residential leadership at the University. Currently, Tony and Nic are planning a spring training for many groups on campus.

Torch Chapter of the National Residence Hall Honorary

Even though it seems that many advisors do not take part as members of NRHH, Tony Fangel set out to change that paradigm at NYU. From the start, Tony attended general assembly meetings of the NYU chapter of NRHH, yet he was not even a member. Tony was nominated to become a member in October of 2006. Although there were well over 120 nominations for the chapter, Tony was one of the few people inducted into the Torch Chapter during the fall of 2006. He is a prominent NRHH member as he submits OTM's without fail. He authored a winning Executive Council of the Month OTM which received campus distinction in November of 2006.

Advisor OTM

Tony was the recipient of the Advisor of the Month Award at NYU for the month of October 2006.

Although Tony Fangel is new to NYU, he has already become an influential and guiding advisor to the Inter-Residence Hall Council (IRHC) this year. Tony goes above and beyond his duties as advisor everyday. For example, in the past few weeks, Tony has taken time out of his graduate student schedule (work, class, IRHC advising) to sit down with the Public Relations chair and work through our many website issues. This isn't the only instance of Tony using his personal time to reach out to his leaders. This entire month of October, Tony has worked tirelessly to help the bid team for the IRHC bid for two awards at the NEACURH conference "SALT (Student Award for Leadership Training)" and "POY (Program of the Year)" by utilizing his past expertise relating to conference and bidding as well as reading up on the policies of our particular region. Even though Tony comes from an institution which was in MACURH, he has wasted no time in getting involved in our region. Tony has helped advise and draft a new piece of legislation (which was submitted in early October) to be voted upon during the regional conference in early November. As his role dictates, Tony has reached out to other institutions in other regions which will further continue our goal of putting NYU on the map both regionally and nationally. It is essential for an advisor to continually encourage his or her student leaders every single day; Tony does that. He not only encourages us, but he makes himself available at any time we may need him. He is an AOL Instant Messenger fanatic, and he has applied this passion to his advisor role by lending himself to everyday (yet beneficial) conversations with his leaders. It is great to hear Tony talk about some of the anecdotes he learns from his classes here at NYU as they apply to our leadership development. Tony also relates many of his advice to his own personal experience, which helps greatly because it is tangible and easily identifiable. Tony teaches on a level that applies to the leader he is advising, which is comforting and a gift that not every advisor has. Throughout the month of October, Tony has taken on the role of finding IRHC's history, the history of Residential Education at NYU, as well as the history of NYU. This has given us added benefit as we, the students, now can better grasp where we came from and acknowledge where we are going. He understands this notion, which is very unique to traditional advising as leaders may not necessarily ask for history in every instance. The perspective Tony gives us lets us know that he is invested in positive change and so we can take his advice continuing to invest ourselves in positive change. Tony Fangel may be beginning his career in advising, but he is easily identifiable as a top advisor for student leaders.



"Student Voice in the Residence Halls"
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Dear NEACURH Member Schools,

It is my personal pleasure to endorse **Tony Fangel of New York University** for Advisor Of The Year. Many a blue moon ago, I met Tony when he was still the RHA President for the University of St. Thomas, which is in my subregion of Minnesota. Since that time, Tony grew as a student leader and graduated. He has successfully made the transition from student leader in my region to advisor in your own, and it is for that reason I am writing this letter.

The first point I want to get through to you is Tony's **enthusiasm** for his job at NYU. I have never seen an advisor plunge into his or her job right away like Tony did. During our many phone calls when he first moved to New York and started his advising duties, Tony couldn't stop talking about how cool it was to experience a new school and help student leaders succeed. IRHC became Tony's life. In the span of a few short weeks, Tony had gone from an undergraduate to a graduate, a participant to an advisor. The change was **remarkable**.

Tony's **devotion** to advising is my second point. You would be hard pressed to find an advisor who puts more time into his job. As an advisor living on campus, Tony often stays up late into the night to help those who need him. He pulls **extraordinary** hours in the lead-up to conferences when bids are coming due. Not only does he help advise those who are writing bids and forming delegations, he keeps their spirits up. Recently, when NYU was announced as one of the two finalists for POY, Tony swelled with pride. I can honestly say I have never seen someone as excited and proud of a POY nomination as Tony and I've been around for quite some time.

Lastly, I would like to touch upon Tony's **dedication** to his role as an advisor. A good advisor will tell an advisee the facts and let them make a decision based on those, not on the advisor's own opinion on the matter. Even from afar, I know that Tony is a good advisor. He is not the type of person to tell you what to do- contrariwise, he will give you possible courses of action and explain the possible outcomes. Tony is there for his advisees at any time of the day or night. I know he has spent long hours in his office working on IRHC tasks, often sacrificing a social life in order to see that IRHC will succeed in its endeavors. All of this he takes in stride. Tony will not call something "done" until it meets his satisfaction, and this **drive and determination** rubs off on those who come into contact with him. Look at what NYU has accomplished this year. Now think of how much time an advisor would have to put in for that much to take place. The sheer number of hours needed to produce all of that correlates directly to the number of hours an advisor needs to put in to advise. Tony never shirks from duty and loves to help all those who come to him.

Even though Tony is young, he deserves this award. **He is the epitome of a trustworthy and able advisor and for that he deserves to be recognized.** Thank you for taking time to consider him.

MACURHfully,

Daryl R. Lawrence
Regional Communications Coordinator- Minnesota and SaNDM (South and North Dakota, Manitoba)



NEACURH,

It gives me great pleasure to write a letter of recommendation for Tony Fangel's nomination as NEACURH Advisor of the Year. Simply put, Tony is amazing. Together, Tony and I advise the Inter-Residence Hall Council (IRHC) at NYU. It has been my pleasure sharing this duty with Tony since August 2006.

Both Tony and I were new to our positions this year. As a new Assistant Director for Student Leadership, I was still learning the ins and outs of the position on top of all of the NACURH, NEACURH and IRHC specific information and vocabulary. Tony was a great asset to me during my transition as he had a good knowledge base of policies, procedures and vocabulary of these groups. My transition was made so much easier with Tony as a reference.

Tony came to NYU for graduate studies. He serves as my graduate assistant and a majority of his position is dedicated to advising the IRHC. Before NYU, while Tony was pursuing his undergraduate studies, he was very active in the University of St. Thomas' Residence Hall Association (RHA). He served as president of the group for two consecutive years. He helped to establish many new and unique programs and helped pronounce RHA's presence on campus.

As an advisor, I know the transition that needs to take place from being a "leader of the group" to an "advisor of the group", especially for someone coming fresh out of a leadership role. I thought this transition would take Tony some time. He surprised me by seamlessly transitioned into his advisor role immediately. He joined us in August and from day one personified what an advisor should be. Tony has been a great asset to our group.

It is in the highest regard that I recommend Tony to you for the NEACURH Advisor of the Year Award. Please feel free to contact me should further discussion on Tony's suitability for your award be needed. I can be reached via telephone at 212.998.4211 or by email at nic.evans@nyu.edu.

Best, Nic

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nic', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Nicholas Evans, M.Ed.
Assistant Director of Student Leadership
Department of Residential Education
New York University