

Interview Activity – Tell me about a time when you were unable to resolve a conflict

Transcript

I just need a moment to think about this. Well, I was the Vice-President of the uWaterloo's Business Club. And after the first meeting of the term, the executive identified that one of the club's goals for the year would be to increase membership and I was assigned this task. They asked me to prepare a proposal to present to the executive. And in this proposal I included: attending Club Days in the winter and fall terms and handing out t-shirts with our club's logos on it to any students that signed up; advertising the Club by distributing posters on campus; and bringing in a local business leader and showcasing that event to members only. When I presented my ideas to the executive, most were in agreement with my ideas; however, several members did not agree with the distribution of shirts at Club Days as they felt this was expensive and not a good use of our limited budget. I argued that if students were taking the time to attend our booth at Club Days and listen to what our club was about and sign up, then they should be given a t-shirt. After much discussion by the executive it was agreed that we would not be able to distribute t-shirts at Club Days. While I was disappointed by this result, I respected the arguments and time that went into the discussion. Ultimately, we did increase our membership by 10% through the other initiatives that I proposed. My ability to handle conflict will help me as an MBA student in your program.