

Rho Chi Society

Minutes of the 79th Annual Meeting

Sunday, March 30, 2003

New Orleans, LA

National President, Daniel Robinson, called to order the 79th Annual Meeting of the Rho Chi Society held in New Orleans on March 30, 2003 at 3:00 PM. Dean Wayne Harris and Associate Dean Kathleen Kennedy representing Xavier University (Gamma Epsilon) made welcoming comments. Dean William Bourn from the University of Louisiana at Monroe also made welcoming comments to delegates and guests.

The Seventh Annual Rho Chi Luncheon held at 12:00 P.M preceded the Annual Meeting. Dr. Richard Penna, Executive Vice President Emeritus of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy was the 2003 Rho Chi Lecture Awardee.

The minutes of the 2002 Annual Meeting of the Rho Chi Society, and 2002 Executive Council meetings were distributed to all members present. President Robinson announced that the minutes of the 2002 Annual Meeting of the Rho Chi Society and the minutes of the Executive Council meeting will be published on the National Office website. A motion to dispense with the reading of these minutes and send them to the Executive Council was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

President Robinson welcomed everyone to the Annual Meeting and presented a brief summary of the Report of the President to the assembled delegates. President Robinson called for and received a motion to refer his report to the Rho Chi Executive Council. The motion passed unanimously.

President Robinson called for the Report of the National Office. Executive Vice President A. Wayne Pittman, in summary, reported that the National Office of the Rho Chi Society was financially sound, and briefly summarized the activities of the National Office. Additionally, he included financial statements in the delegate packets for the consideration of the Society. Executive Vice President Pittman called for and received a motion to refer his report to the Rho Chi Executive Council. The motion passed unanimously.

Burde Kamath (Gamma Epsilon) and Deirdra DeFils (Beta Chi), Co-chairs of the Credentials Committee, reported that delegate credentials submitted to the committee were found to be in order and recommended that they be accepted. Of the 79 active chapters, **65** were present. A list of the official delegate(s) from each chapter is on file in the National Office as well as a record of past attendance.

President Robinson called for Committee reports. President Robinson acting on behalf of the Auditing Committee stated that the financial records of the Society were in order. President Robinson called for and received a motion and second to refer the report to the Executive Council. The motion passed unanimously.

Former President Victoria F. Roche, Chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the slate of candidates and notified delegates that their ballot for voting for National Secretary, National Historian and Regional Councilors from the odd numbered regions was contained in their delegate packets. They were asked to mark and submit their ballot, thus electing new officers of the Society for 2003-2004.

President Robinson called for and received the report of the Chapter Awards Committee, which was presented by President-Elect Stoehr, Chair of the Committee. The 2002-2003 **Chapter Achievement Awards** went to the University of Washington (Rho) and to the University of Pittsburgh (Alpha Omicron).

Based on the June 2002 submission date the **Chapter Project Proposal Awards** were given to the University of California, San Francisco (Alpha Lambda) and Northeastern University (Beta Tau). Additionally, it was announced that based on the February 2003 submission date **Chapter Project Proposal Awards** were given to Creighton University (Alpha Alpha) and Duquesne University (Alpha Beta).

Students representing each award-winning chapter provided a brief summary of their projects. President Robinson called for and received a motion, which was seconded to refer the report to the Executive Council. The motion passed unanimously.

President Robinson, Chair of the Rho Chi Scholarship/Fellowship Committee, stated that the 2002 Rho Chi, Schering-Plough, AFPE first-year Graduate Scholarship was awarded by Robert E. Kamm, J.D. General Counsel, AFPE, at the Rho Chi Luncheon, to Lisa Tang who is attending the University of Tennessee. President Robinson called for and received a motion, which was seconded, to refer the report to the Executive Council. The motion passed unanimously.

Wallace J. Murray, will continue to serve as the Chair of the Faculty Advisor Award Committee as there were no nominees for the award. Delegates were urged to nominate their favorite faculty advisor and that eligibility criteria may be found on the Rho Chi web site. Nominations should be made as soon as possible so that the award can be given at the next AACP annual meeting in July. President Robinson called for and received a motion, which was seconded, to refer the report to the Executive Council. The motion passed unanimously.

President Robinson called for comments from the Regional Councilors. There were none.

President Robinson called for any Unfinished Business. There was none.

New Business:

President Robinson announced that Shenandoah University, Winchester, VA and Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences – School of Pharmacy – Worcester, Worcester MA had submitted petitions to establish new Chapters of the Rho Chi Society. All members received a copy of the letter of support from the respective Deans of both Schools. President Robinson called for and received a motion, which was seconded, to accept both Universities as the newest chapters of the Rho Chi Society. The motion passed unanimously.

Election of National Officers and Regional councilors was held. Delegates received a ballot when they registered at the check-in table. All delegates voted for National Officers, but only delegates from the respective odd-numbered regions voted for their regional councilor.

The nominees for National Secretary are Edward Fisher (Midwestern University – Glendale) and Thomas J. Lemke (University of Houston). The nominees for National Historian are Robert A. Buerki (The Ohio State University) and J. Douglas Bricker (Duquesne University). Regional Councilor nominees for the odd numbered regions were: Region I: Martha A. Hass (Albany College of Pharmacy – Union University) and John Reynolds (Northeastern University); Region III: Paul W. Jungnickel (Auburn University) and Earlene E. Lipowski (University of Florida); Region V: Amy H Haddad (Creighton University) and Robert PI Soltis (Drake University); Region VII: Shelly L. Chambers (Washington State University) and Nanci L. Murphy (University of Washington).

Chapter roundtable discussions by regions were then held.

The following four themes that were presented to the assembled delegates were discussed. Highlights of each discussion from each region were presented. President Robinson announced that the ideas presented would be topics for discussions at future Executive Council meetings. The following are some of the salient points discussed:

1) Maintaining continuity of programs from year to year (passing the baton)

- Maintain a local chapter presidents (or officers) book – provide ongoing information to new student officers
- Create a student of the month who is responsible for activities that month

2) Improving regional communication and networking

- Improve and update the web site
- Establish a national listserv
- Create a regional Rho Chi meeting at the regional APHA meeting

3) Sharing of ideas, successful activities (best practices)

- Patient counseling of elderly groups
- Participate in schools white coat ceremony
- Honor students on Deans lists
- Create listserv for local chapter use
- Creation of a local chapter newsletter
- Yearly alumni speaker
- Creation of a first-year pharmacy survival guide
- Rho Chi talent show
- Mandatory inner city high school tutoring 2 hours a month
- Potential fundraisers – lab coat sale, CPR certification

4) Challenges and solutions - open discussion

- Biggest problem getting local chapter members involved
- Too many organizations vying for the few active students
- Combine Rho Chi and PLS student activities

Installation of New Officers:

President Robinson installed the following newly elected National Officers of Rho Chi: National Secretary: Thomas J. Lemke (University of Houston); National Historian: Robert A. Buerki (The Ohio State University); Regional Councilor Region I: John Reynolds (Northeastern University); Regional Councilor Region III: Earlene E. Lipowski (University of Florida); Regional Councilor Region V: Amy H Haddad (Creighton University); and Regional Councilor Region VII: Nanci L. Murphy (University of Washington).

President Robinson announced that the Executive Council members (and if possible, all outgoing Regional Councilors) should be present, to attend the breakfast meeting of the Executive Council on Monday, March 21, 2003, at 8:30 AM in the room 237 of the Morial Convention Center.

President Robinson called for a motion for adjournment.

President Robinson declared the meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward Fisher, Ph.D., R.Ph.
National Secretary