



The Rho Chi Society

Minutes of the 81st Annual Meeting

Sunday, April 3, 2005

Peabody Hotel

Orlando, FL

President Gary P. Stoehr called the National Convention to order and introduced Dean William H. Rifee from the University of Florida who welcomed delegates to Florida and to Orlando.

President Stoehr indicated the importance of the chapter delegate signing in since attendance is required for continued active status of the chapter (three consecutive absences leads to inactivation). Initial report of the Credentials Committee was called for and the President declared that a quorum was present (68 schools had a registered delegate present).

Final report of the Credentials Committee showed that delegates were present from 69 institutions. The Credentials Committee (Earlene E. Lipowski, Chair) reported that all but 14 chapters were registered for the meeting. The Credentials Committee report was accepted (absent were delegates from - South Dakota State University - Tau, Union University - Gamma Gamma, University of Georgia - Alpha Kappa, University of Wyoming - Beta Phi, St. Louis College of Pharmacy - Beta Kappa, Hampton University – Gamma Xi, Long Island University - Beta Theta, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy -Psi, Medical University of South Carolina - Alpha Iota, University of Michigan - Alpha, University of the Pacific - Beta Omega, Wayne State University - Alpha Chi, University of Colorado - Alpha Theta, and Texas Tech University - Gamma Mu). A representative from Hampton University was seated before the final reading.

Delegates were made aware of the minutes of the 2004 Annual Meeting and the 2004 Executive Council Meetings, included in meeting packets. A motion was made to dispense with the reading of the minutes and to accept the minutes of the 2004 Meetings. The motion passed and the minutes were forwarded to the Executive Council.

President Stoehr presented the President's Report and a motion was made to refer the Report to the Executive Committee. The motion was passed.

President Stoehr introduced Executive Vice President A. Wayne Pittman who discussed the Society's financial reserves and pointed out that the Society is financially sound. Although the Society's monetary reserves have not grown as rapidly as in the past, this can be attributed to the U.S. economic slow down and low interest rates. Vice President Pittman walked the delegates through the Treasurer's report. Executive Vice President Pittman reminded the delegates of the importance of communicating with the National Office and especially to inform the Office of changes in chapter officers, chapter advisor, etc. Vice President Pittman indicated that major changes in the Society's Website are planned and he suggested that members view and use the Website. Vice President Pittman introduced those chapters which will celebrate key anniversaries in the year ahead (Diamond Anniversary - University of Maryland; Gold Anniversary: Utah, Toledo, Long Island, Arkansas, St. Louis, Temple, Ferris State; Silver Anniversary: Florida A&M). He also reported that in 2004 1754 new members were initiated into the Rho Chi Society.

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Jack Reynolds, Region I Councilor and Chair of the Auditing Committee reported that the financial records of the Society had been reviewed and found to be in good order. The report of the Auditing Committee was accepted and forwarded to the Executive Council.

The Annual Rho Chi Luncheon preceded the Annual Meeting where Professor Charles D. Hepler was presented the 2005 Rho Chi Lecture Award. President Stoehr thanked the Awards Committee for their selection and presentation of an outstanding recipient.

President-Elect Gary E. DeLander presented the report of the Chapter Awards Committee in which he discussed the selection process for the Chapter Achievement Award and announced that Alpha Omicron (University of Pittsburgh) was the recipient of the 2005 Chapter Achievement Award. Chapter representative, Katie Francis was introduced and briefly shared some of the activities of their chapter. President-Elect DeLander announced that a Chapter Proposal Award will not be awarded in 2005 indicating that no application met the award criteria perhaps due, in part, to insufficient definition of the award requirements. The Executive Committee will work to clarify the requirements.

To date, there have been no nominees for the 2005 Faculty Advisor Award but time remains to do so before the deadline. Delegates were encouraged to submit nominees for this award which is presented during the Faculty Advisors Meeting held during the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy.

Temple University (Region II) student, Phu Dong, gave a short report of what is going on in his Region which has had its second regional meeting. A poster was presented outlining the success of this meeting and other regions were encouraged to have similar meetings. None of the other regions had a report.

President Stoehr indicated that the report of the Nominating Committee was in the delegates' packets. The President opened the floor for nominations for national offices and regional offices. There were no nominations from the floor and a motion as made, seconded and passed to close nominations. Candidates present were asked to stand. Delegates were asked to mark their ballots and those were collected and tabulated by the Credentials Committee.

Delegates were asked to consider petitions to establish new chapters of the Society from Western University (Pamona, CA) and Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM) (Erie, PA). A voice vote was taken for each petition and both were unanimously approved. A motion was made and approved to seat delegates from both schools.

The House was divided into regions for discussion by delegates of a number of issues of concern to the Society. President Stoehr explained each topic and delegates then engaged in discussion. The topics were:

- A point system for Chapters
- Revocation of individual membership
- Encouraging chapter Project Proposals
- Recognition of "Member(s) of Distinction"
- 'Best practices'

A representative from each table was asked to come to the podium to present highlights from each discussion group and to submit written comments to Secretary Lemke. (Attached)

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The results from the election of new officers were announced as follows:

- Secretary – Paul W. Jungnickel (Auburn University)
- Historian - J. Douglas Bricker (Duquesne University)
- Councilor Region I - John (Jack Reynolds – Northeastern University)
- Councilor Region III - MaryAnn Kirkpatrick (Shenandoah University)
- Councilor Region V - Victoria F. Roche (Creighton University)
- Councilor Region VII - Lori J. Morin (University of Montana)

The new officers present were installed into their respective positions.

The President reminded both outgoing and incoming National Officers, Councilors and the Student Representative from Alpha Omicron Chapter (Chapter Achievement Award Recipient) of the Executive Council meeting scheduled for the next day and adjourned the 2005 Annual Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas L. Lemke
National Secretary

Notes from Chapter Round Table Discussions:

1. Point System for Chapters - There appeared to be general support for a "point system" to judge the activities of chapters with a suggestion that points be awarded for the following:
 - Names of officers, advisor(s), and contact person by the start of the fall semester.
 - Annual Report received on time (3 responses)
 - Sending of a delegate to the Annual Meeting (2 responses) - receiving name of delegate and alternate on time
 - Submit name of an alumnus for the Alumni Award (3 responses)
 - Submit a name for Rho Chi Lecturer (2 responses)
 - Hold monthly chapter meetings or the number of meeting held by the chapter
 - Attend a regional Rho Chi meeting (2 responses)
 - Submit new member report four weeks prior to induction
 - Nomination of a faculty advisor for Faculty Advisor Award
 - Submit a chapter proposal
 - Evidence of participation in scholarly activity

2. Revocation of Membership in Rho Chi - There appeared to be support for the idea, but a number of questions were raised.
 - What do other organizations do?
 - Should there be some form of probation for individual members?
 - License revocation by the State Board of Pharmacy should lead to Rho Chi membership revocation (3 responses). Who will monitor this and what about pharmacists who have their license revoked in another state?
 - Student revocation for Honor Code violation (cheating, plagiarism)(2 responses).
 - Conviction by an Honor Board.
 - Some "crimes" are so serious that reinstatement should not be allowed – trafficking, manufacturing, ...
 - Gross unprofessionalism, illegal activity, poor ethical or moral conduct. How will this be defined?
 - Expulsion from school or student drops out of school (2 responses).
 - Student's gpa drops below a certain level. What if poor grades were the result of a family circumstance such as a death in the family?
 - Student/alumni should be allowed to petition for reinstatement after a certain period of time. Who will set criteria for reinstatement?
 - Concerns expressed about confidentiality/legal issues. Who will know what is going on and who will report problems? Is this the role of the chapter advisor or the dean (don't want chapter members to know since this would be bad for moral of the chapter). Should there be a committee to monitor students and the chapter?

3. Encouraging chapter Project Proposals
 - Encouraged by Regional Councilors
 - Set more specific criteria such as:
Education and/or service to healthcare profession, community

- Promotes the Society
 - Fosters fellowship of its members
 - Meets mission of Society
 - Promotes intellectual development
 - Standardized form - everyone must use the same form
 - Criteria Section
 - Purpose Section (How does project meets criteria?)
 - Action Section (With timeline and individual who is responsible)
 - Measurable Outcomes Section
 - Evaluation
 - Continuity
 - State what does NOT constitute a proposal
 - Points toward Chapter points
 - Summary made available to all chapters
 - Poster at Annual Meeting
4. Recognition of "Member(s) of Distinction"
- Survey other honor societies or professional groups to see whether they have such a program of recognition.
 - Such recognition might be valuable for individuals who are members of both Rho Chi and Phi Lambda Sigma, who has evidence of critical inquiry or who holds national leadership positions.
 - Concern was expressed that this might lead to a tiered system.
 - Who will initiate a nomination?
 - Need a definition of what is excellence.
5. "Best Practices" – activities at the chapter level which may be of interest to other chapters
- Develop website and link to regional as well as national website
 - Participate in White Coat Ceremony
 - Tutoring
 - How to navigate courses
 - Testbank
 - Transition to pharmacy school handbook
 - Tips for each class
 - Develop "Fireside Chats" at faculty members home to discuss issues
 - Support/develop College Research Day/poster presentations
 - Clerkship form
 - Faculty/staff appreciation lunch
 - Habitat for Humanity
 - CPR certification class
 - Participate in faculty research
 - Ronald McDonald House; "Angel Tree"
 - Wear Rho Chi T-shirt at service events to promote Society