The Rho Chi Society

Annual Chapter Report- 2016

Alpha Alpha Chapter

Date of report submission: 5/15/16

Name of School/College: Creighton University School of Pharmacy and Health Professions

Chapter name and region: Alpha Alpha Chapter, Region V

Chapter advisor’s name and email address: Victoria Roche, victoriaroche@creighton.edu

Delegate who attended the Rho Chi Annual Meeting: Rebecca Hanson, rebeccahanson@creighton.edu

Date delegate’s name submitted to Rho Chi: 2/28/2016

Past year’s officers and email addresses:

 President: Jessica Jones, jessicajones12@creighton.edu

 Vice President: Michael Kaminski, michaelkaminski@creighton.edu

 Secretary: Laken Brock, lakenbrock@creighton.edu

 Treasurer: Hailey Soukup, haileysoukup@creighton.edu

 Historian: Katherine Gizzie, katherinegizzie@creighton.edu

New officers and email addresses for next academic year:

 President: Lauren Jacobsmeyer, laurenjacobsmeyer@creighton.edu

 Vice President: Juan Castro, juancastro1@creighton.edu

 Secretary: Austin Smith, austinsmith1@creighton.edu

 Treasurer: Ashli Dunham, ashlidunham@creighton.edu

 Historian: Kelsey Barnier, kelseybarnier@creighton.edu

Number of Rho Chi student members at college or school, listed by class year and program:

 Class of 2016: 39 members

 Class of 2017: 37 members

 Class of 2018: 34 members

**Meetings**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Attendance | Agenda | Action Steps |
| 9/21/2015 | 30 | We started the meeting by introducing the executive officers and the new committee chairs. There were committee updates by the Fundraising, Tutoring, Mock Residency Interview, and Summer Internship Opportunities Committees. The Treasurer provided an update on the organization’s budget. The meeting ended with introductions of the distance student members.  | Members were asked to sign up to serve as a tutor, come up with an idea for a school speaker, and decide if they would like Rho Chi apparel. We discussed the development of a new reference card fundraiser and asked students to submit designs.  |
| 10/12/2015 | 30 | We discussed an upcoming cosponsored speaker on provider status. Information was provided on the upcoming Spring Initiation and Mock Residency Interview Night. There was an update from the Community Outreach and Fundraising Committees.  | We asked for topics or speaker recommendations for the Spring Lecture Award. Members were asked to submit Rho Chi apparel designs.  |
| 11/16/2016 | 30 | There were updates from the Mock Residency Interview, Community Outreach, and Fred LeRoy Health Clinic Committees. A Fall Lecture Series Speaker on entrepreneurship in pharmacy was announced. The 2016 Distinguished Lecture Award Recipient was announced, who would be giving a talk on trends in community pharmacy. The meeting was ended by a discussion led by Dr. Tolman on changes in accreditation standards in pharmacy schools.  | Member were asked to donate to the Porto Clinic OTC Drive organized by the Community Outreach Committee. |
| 12/4/2015 | 30 | Updates were provided by the Mock Residency Interview, Community Outreach, and Tutoring Committees. The rest of the meeting was spent with a speaker Dr. Tilleman, who went over the mission and services provided by the Fred LeRoy Health and Wellness Center.  | Students were asked to sign up as tutoring volunteers next semester. Next semester’s meeting dates were announced.  |
| 1/18/2016 | 30 | Updates were provided by the Fred LeRoy Health Clinic Committee. Information on the Rho Chi Annual Meeting was provided. Discussion on new initiate voting was held.  | Voting for new initiates was started. Members were asked to submit nominations for the Excellence in Teaching Award.  |
| 2/12/2016 | 50 | The new initiates were announced. There was an update from the Community Outreach Committee. Dr. Begley spoke to us on a new interprofessional case collaboration project.  | Students were asked to consider applying to serve as the Rho Chi delegate at the National Meeting. Members were also asked to sign up for the collaborative cases.  |
| 3/4/2016 | 50 | Dr. Dull spoke with the group about the Pharmacy Explorer’s Post Program. The Executive Officers then described the duties of their position.  | Members were asked to sign up for the collaborative cases. Nominations and applications for Executive Officer Positions was requested.  |
| 4/8/2016 | 50 | There were updates from the Fundraising and Community Outreach Committees. An Update on the National Meeting was given. Elections for new Executive Officers was held.  | Members voted for new Executive Officers. Students were asked to help with the PHPSG Lunch Fundraiser, Sonshine Ministries OTC Drive, and collaborative cases.  |
| 4/29/22016 | 50 | The meeting was ran by the new Executive Officers. Committee duties were described and members were asked to sign up for committee positions.  | Members were asked to sign up for committee positions and to hand out honor cords at the upcoming Hooding Ceremony.  |

**Strategic Planning:** The goals for the Alpha Alpha Chapter were similar this year as in the years before. Member involvement and excitement for the organization was something that we wanted to increase. In doing so, we felt like we would be better able to create and hold events that uphold the ideals of the Rho Chi Society. We were interested in increasing member involvement specifically with our distance members, as it can be more difficult finding ways for them to be as involved as their campus counterparts. In order to create more opportunities for involvement, our group sought to develop new projects or join other organizations/community partners on their projects.

**Activities:**

Tutoring Program: The tutoring program held by the Alpha Alpha Chapter of Rho Chi has been a staple of our organization and one that is heavily relied on by the academic office at the school. Rho Chi offers tutoring for all first and second year pharmacy school classes. Because we also have a distance pharmacy pathway at Creighton, we are able to offer distance student tutoring as well. Tutors were in high demand this year for calculations, pharmacokinetics, medicinal chemistry, and pharmacology. The Tutoring Committee works with the academic office to train and promote the organization’s tutoring services. Tutors are advertised on the school’s website, by email, and by a post on the Rho Chi bulletin board. By offering this service, our goal is to promote academic excellence not only in our members, but in the entire pharmacy program.

Mock Residency Interview Night: This is one of the biggest events that is held by the organization. The goal of the night is to provide students with information about residencies and give them a chance to participate in a mock residency interview and receive feedback. This event is organized by the Mock Residency Interview Committee. They set up the room reservations and schedule a date. They also recruit resident, pharmacist, and faculty volunteers for the event. They then promote the event for pharmacy students. This year we had about twenty students that interviewed. At the event, we had a local pharmacist preceptor discuss the residency process over a dinner hour. The event also had a resident panel to discuss the residency application and interview process and talk about their day-to-day life as a resident. We also had a pharmacist panel to discuss what life is like after a residency.

Pharmacy Explorer’s Post Program: Rho Chi promoted and volunteered for this program, which is an ongoing event that we support. This program offers high school students a chance to visit the Pharmacy Skills Lab, learn about the profession of pharmacy, and engage in different pharmacy-related activities. There were a wide range of activities held, including compounding, counseling, how to calculate a warfarin dose adjustment, how to measure blood pressure, how to use a glucometer, and how to use pharmacy databases. At the end of the day, the students participated in a skills competition, where they had to successfully take a blood pressure measurement, counsel a patient on a prescription, and look up information using a database. The winning students received prizes. All of the students this year were very engaged and everyone did a fantastic job in the competition. All of the students stated that they were interested in pharmacy as a future profession or were interested in working in some aspect of the health care field. This event was a great chance to promote the profession of pharmacy in the community.

Porto Clinic OTC Medication Drive: The Porto Clinic is held at the Heart Ministry Center in Omaha. The Clinic offers treatment for acute needs at no cost to the patient. The clinic relies on donations in order to continue their mission of serving those that are underserved. The OTC medication drive is a continuing event that Rho Chi holds. Students of pharmacy, occupational therapy, and physical therapy programs were encouraged to donate OTC products for the clinic during the fall semester this year. The OTC drive was very successful this year, and we were able to donate multiple boxes of medications for the clinic to use.

Sonshine Ministries OTC Medication Drive: This OTC drive is another continuing project held by Rho Chi. Sonshine Ministries is an orphanage in Arusha, Tanzania that was started a few years ago in support of HIV/AIDS orphans. Their long-term goal is to set up schools and training programs for the people in the area. Because of the scarcity of medications available, they rely on donations. Students in the pharmacy program were encouraged to donate to the OTC drive in the spring semester. The organization was able to send a box of medications to the orphanage.

Interprofessional Case Studies: This was a new project that was started this year and held in collaboration with one of the pharmacy faculty members. These cases were held online and incorporated elements for students of each profession that was involved in the case. In this pilot project, cases were done with Physician’s Assistant students. The cases were comprised of short office visits for the PA students followed by a medication consultation for the pharmacy student. This was a great project that we were happy to be able to be a part of. The goal for the project going forward is to incorporate other health care professional programs and hold more cases for students to participate in.

Medicinal Chemistry Notes Fundraiser: This was a continuation of a fundraiser that has been done in the past. Our organization works with the medicinal chemistry faculty to provide students pre-printed lesson documents to utilize in class and to study. Many students enjoy having a hard copy of the notes to read.

PHPSG Lunch Fundraiser: This fundraiser was held in the spring semester for one of Creighton’s Pharmacy and Health Professions Student Government lunch meetings. Every year, organizations are drawn at random to be able to host a lunch fundraiser. This year, Rho Chi was chosen and decided to host a nacho bar for $5 per plate. The event was a big success and everyone seemed to enjoy their lunch.

Portfolio Fundraiser: This was a continuation of a fundraiser initiated a few years ago. Portfolios with the School of Pharmacy and Health Professions logo on the cover were sold to pharmacy students. These portfolios are a great tool for students going on rotations or that would like to do a residency.

Reference Card Fundraiser: This was a new project that was initiated this year. One of the P4 students on rotation created reference cards on various topics, such as heart failure, COPD, asthma, and hypertension. These cards were then checked by pharmacy faculty and preceptors for accuracy of the information. Our organization has not yet sold these cards to pharmacy students, but we would like to sell them in the upcoming fall semester. The goal of these cards is to serve as a quick reference for students on their rotations or to aid in studying. They will be laminated cards that fit in a white coat pocket.

Spring and Summer Lecture Award Recipients: Every summer and every spring for our student initiations, we invite a Lecture Award Recipient to present a seminar for all pharmacy students to attend. Last summer we invited Dr. Peter for her seminar “Pharmacy Champions in Patient-Centered Care”. For our recent spring semester we invited Dr. Crismon for his seminar “Perspectives on the Future of Pharmacy Practice and Pharmacy Education”.

Fall Lecture Series Speaker: This year we decided to invite a speaker in the fall semester to give a seminar. We decided to invite a local pharmacist, Dr. Feltner, who provided a seminar on “Innovation in Clinical Pharmacy Practice”. This speaker was co-sponsored by the Alpha Mu Chapter of Phi Lambda Sigma.

Fred LeRoy Health Clinic Brochures: The Fred LeRoy Health Clinic is a clinic in Omaha that caters to the local Native American population. The goal is to provide health care and counseling for these patients that is both understandable and culturally appropriate. Our organization has a committee dedicated to making and updating brochures on various topics and disease states that the clinic can use to counsel these patients. Brochures that have been made cover such topics as high blood pressure, healthy pregnancy, hyperlipidemia, and stress management.

Summer Internship Opportunities: This is a continuation of a project that our organization has been doing for the last few years. Our organization has a committee that works to research information on different internship opportunities that are available over the summer, usually catered towards P2 students going into their P3 year. Our group has compiled a document that gives descriptions of the different programs that are available and provides due dates and contact information. This list is then distributed to the P2 pharmacy students to inform them of potential learning opportunities.

Sponsored APhA-ASP Speaker: This year, multiple organizations on campus, including Rho Chi, cosponsored a seminar on provider status. This presentation was provided by Dr. Cover and Senator Sue Crawford. This was a great presentation and most of the students in the pharmacy school were able to attend.

Sponsored Sherman-Steichen Memorial Run: This annual run is dedicated to a pharmacy student and a physical therapy student that passed away during their time at school. The run is held every year in their honor and the funds that are raised go towards scholarships in their names. These students were talented, passionate, and were dedicated to their professions. They greatly represented the ideal goals that members of Rho Chi aspire to. This year, our organization sponsored the event financially and some members participated in the run.

**Financial/Budgeting:**

At the beginning of the school year, the Treasurer creates a projected annual budget report to determine the amount of funds that will be allocated for routine activities and those that will go towards the development of new activities. Generally, this is based off of past budget reports for the chapter. This year the starting balance for the organization was approximately $5,052. Some activities that we routinely perform that have expenses are the Mock Residency Interview Night, printing for the Fred LeRoy Health Clinic Brochures, our distance and campus student initiations, and fundraising. The Treasurer works with the committee chairs in charge of the various projects to estimate and finalize the amount of funding needed for the projects. We meet the majority of our annual budget needs through fundraising events, funding from the school’s student government, and through our membership dues.

**Initiation Function:**

Because our school has both a distance and campus pathway for the pharmacy program, we hold two initiation ceremonies every year. Distance students attend campus for two weeks in the summer for their lab activities. Their initiation is held in the summer while they are in town. This year our Distance Initiation was held on Wednesday, June 24th, 2015 at Bricks and Mortar. The event consisted of speeches from the Chapter’s advisor, our chaplain, the Dean of the School of Pharmacy and Health Professions, and members of our Executive Board. This was then followed by dinner and a traditional initiation ceremony. At this time, the students were able to receive their pins, certificate, and a gift. All Rho Chi students, faculty, and guests were invited to attend. This event had approximately 42 people in attendance.

 Our campus initiation was held in the spring semester. This year’s ceremony was held at the DC Centre on February 26th, 2016. This event had 78 people in attendance. This event also was held with a dinner, speakers, and a traditional initiation ceremony. At this event we also honored P1 students that were in the top 10% of their class, for their academic excellence. The organization also recognized our Excellence in Teaching Award Recipient, who this year was Dr. Amy Pick.

**Evaluation/Reflection:**

On looking back on this past year, it is fantastic to see all of the things that we were able to accomplish. Because of the small size of our organization, it is always important that we have participation from as many members as possible. The members of our organization worked hard on these projects that bettered not only themselves, but our school, community, and profession. One of the goals of our organization this year was to increase the member participation at our events and meetings, especially with our distance student counterparts. Through the creation of the Interprofessional Case Studies project, which is held completely online, our distance students now have a new project that they are able to participate in. Our organization has also tried to include them more these past few years by having an introductory presentation of our distance members at the first meeting of the year to learn more about these students.

 Another big goal of the organization this year was to add new projects to be involved in. Not only did we initiate the Interprofessional Case Studies project, but we began to develop a Reference Card Fundraiser project as well. Besides the two speakers held in the summer and spring semesters, this year our organization decided to add a Fall Lecture Series as well as cosponsor a presentation on provider status. By creating these new projects we have been able to increase our opportunities for student involvement. We have also been able to become more involved with other organizations, such as APhA-ASP, SSHP, and Phi Lambda Sigma.

 While the organization has progressed over the last school year in terms of member involvement and program initiatives, there is still room to go. We hope to further incorporate the distance students in our activities as well as find more ways for our student members to become involved. One way we hope to do this is by expanding the Interprofessional Case Studies program.