The Rho Chi Society

Annual Chapter Report- 2017

Alpha Alpha Chapter

Date of report submission: 5/15/17

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](mailto:victoriaroche@creighton.edu)

Delegate who attended the Rho Chi Annual Meeting: Lauren Jacobsmeyer, [LaurenJacobsmeyer@creighton.edu](mailto:LaurenJacobsmeyer@creighton.edu)

Date delegate’s name submitted to Rho Chi: 2/20/2017

Past year’s officers and email addresses:

President: Lauren Jacobsmeyer, [laurenjacobsmeyer@creighton.edu](mailto:laurenjacobsmeyer@creighton.edu)

Vice President: Juan Castro, [juancastro1@creighton.edu](mailto:juancastro1@creighton.edu)

Secretary: Austin Smith, [austinsmith1@creighton.edu](mailto:austinsmith1@creighton.edu)

Treasurer: Ashli Dunham, [ashlidunham@creighton.edu](mailto:ashlidunham@creighton.edu)

Historian: Kelsey Barnier, [kelseybarnier@creighton.edu](mailto:kelseybarnier@creighton.edu)

New officers and email addresses for next academic year:

President: Kayla Haverkamp, [kaylahaverkamp@creighton.edu](mailto:kaylahaverkamp@creighton.edu)

Vice President: Linh Nguyen, [lingnguyen@creighton.edu](mailto:lingnguyen@creighton.edu)

Secretary: Diana Ndunda, [dianandunda@creighton.edu](mailto:dianandunda@creighton.edu)

Treasurer: Claire Willman, [clairewillman@creigthon.edu](mailto:clairewillman@creigthon.edu)

Historian: Mary M. Kasl, [marykasl@creigthon.edu](mailto:marykasl@creigthon.edu)

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

Class of 2017: 37 members

Class of 2018: 34 members

Class of 2019: 26 members

**Meetings**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Attendance | Agenda | Action Steps |
| 8/230/2016 | 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, brainstorm ideas for an initiation speaker, and decide if they would like Rho Chi apparel. We discussed the development of the development of a new reference card fundraiser. |
| 9/25/2016 | 30 | Information was provided on the Mock Residency Interview Night and OSSIE community service engagements which included an Inteprofessional Halloween Open House and the Explorer’s Post Program. 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. | We asked for topics or speaker recommendations for the Spring Lecture Award. Members were asked to sign up for OSSIE service engagements. |
| 10/25/2016 | 30 | There were updates about Mock Residency Interview Night, Clinical Card sales, and Fred LeRoy Health and Wellness Center brochures. The 2017 Distinguished Lecture Award Recipient was announced. The recipient would be giving a talk on lessons learned while being involved in leadership roles. | Member were asked to volunteer for Mock Residency Interview Night and to start promoting the lecture award series. |
| 11/28/2016 | 30 | A recap of Mock Residency Interview Night was given. The PHPSG grant winnings were announced to the chapter. The tutoring committee provided an update. The meeting ended with the chapter viewing the speech via video recording Dr. Pick gave during Mock Residency Interview Night regarding interview skills and residency applications. | Students were asked to sign up as tutoring volunteers next semester. Next semester’s meeting dates were announced. |
| 1/19/2017 | 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. |
| 2/14/2017 | 50 | The new initiates were announced and attended their first meeting. Information about the Annual Meeting was presented and discussed. The Executive Officers then described the duties of their position. | Students were asked to consider applying to serve as the Rho Chi delegate at the National Meeting. Members were also asked to help edit the information in the Fred LeRoy Health and Wellness brochures. Nominations and applications for Executive Officer Positions were requested. Clinical cards were distributed. |
| 3/29/2017 | 50 | Information was discussed with the chapter regarding the Pharmacy Explorer’s Post Program. At the end of the meeting, we ran elections for next year’s executive board. At the end of the meeting we discussed the pros and cons of delayed initiation, which was presented at the annual meeting. | Members voted for new Executive Officers. Students signed up to volunteer at Explorer’s Post. |
| 4/29/2016 | 50 | The meeting was conducted 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 goal of this Alpha Alpha Chapter this year was centered around the goal of contributing to the development of other pharmacy school students and pharmacists. For the past few years, the chapter wanted to edit and sell clinical reference cards that could be used by pharmacists and pharmacy students to reinforce their clinical knowledge. These cards fostered collaboration between pharmacy students and faculty ensuring that the correct information was provided in the clinical reference cards. Another goal was to increase chapter involvement, more importantly, collaboration between distance and campus students. We worked to fulfill this goal by having the distance students introduce themselves to campus members and had campus members introduce themselves to distance members. In addition, we also formulated committees of both campus and distance students.

**Activities:**

*Tutoring Program:* The tutoring program held by the Alpha Alpha Chapter of Rho Chi has been a central part of our organization and is heavily relied upon by the academic office at the school. Rho Chi offers tutoring for all 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 pharmacotherapeutics, medicinal chemistry, and pharmacology. The Tutoring Committee recruits tutors, works with the academic office to train and promote the organization’s tutoring services and to ensure every students who seeks a tutor is assigned to one. 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 event is anticipated by many students in the School of Pharmacy. The goal of the night is to provide students with information about residencies through a speaker and a panel of current residents. Students are also given 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 thirty students that participated in the event. At the beginning of the night, the students were provided dinner and listened to a speaker discuss interview tips. 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. Students were asked to provide feedback after the even so improvement can be made for next year.

*Interprofessional Halloween Open House:* Members of Rho Chi volunteered with physical therapy students and occupational therapy students to sponsor a Halloween Open House at a local physical therapy center for disabled children. The children dressed up and participated in various Halloween themed activities including an obstacle course, yoga, trick or treating and an arts and crafts station. Pharmacy students worked alongside other professionals to lead kids through the activities in the open house.

*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, renal dose adjustment calculations, blood pressure readings, demonstrations of glucometer technique, sterile IV preparations, 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. This year we had a record number of students attend with just over fifty students attending. All of the students this year were very engaged and everyone was eager to show what they learned throughout the day in the competition. Many of the students who attended stated 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 chance to demonstrate the multiple aspects of the profession to the community.

*PHPSG Grant for the Fred LeRoy Health and Wellness Center*: This year our chapter was awarded a $500 grant to use for the printing of the Fred LeRoy Health and Wellness Center brochures. This money allowed us to print a large number of brochures for the center that the doctors could hand out to their patients. Without these brochures, they would not have culturally sensitive health care information to distribute to their patients.

*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. Students enjoy having a hard copy of these notes that they can study from.

*Clinical Reference Card Fundraiser*: This year was the first time these Clinical Reference Cards were sold. A P4 member, who is currently a resident, created these cards for her own study tool and came up with the idea of selling them as a fundraiser. Topics of the cards included fluids, acid base chemistry, heart failure, helpful equations, COPD, hyperlipidemia, hypertension, cardiology, adult IV to oral dosage conversions, stress ulcer prophylaxis, and antibiotics. Faculty verified the information that was presented on each card and copyright status was approved by the copyright librarian. These cards were printed, laminated and bound with a binder ring. These cards are small enough to fit in a white coat pocket and serve as a reference tools for students on rotation and while studying.

*Spring and Summer Lecture Award Recipients*: Every year for initiation we invite a Lecture Award Recipient to present a seminar. An award is given for both Spring and Summer Initiation and all pharmacy students and faculty are invited to attend. Last summer we invited our own Dean, Dr. J. Chris Bradberry to give his lecture on the therapeutic use of fish oil and opportunities in clinical lipidology. In the spring semester, we invited Dr. Bruce Canaday for his seminar “Lessons Learned Leading.”

*Fred LeRoy Health Clinic Brochures*: The Fred LeRoy Health Clinic is a clinic in Omaha that serves the local Native American and Ponca population. The goal is to provide culturally sensitive health care resources. Our organization has a committee dedicated to making and updating brochures on various disease states including high blood pressure, hyperlipidemia, stress management, weight management, diabetes, and contraceptives.

*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 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 represent 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, using past years’ budgets, to determine the amount of funds that will be allocated for routine activities and those that will go towards the development of new activities. This year the starting balance for the organization was approximately $2,282. The activities held that consume the greatest amount of the budget include summer and spring initiation, Mock Residency Interview Night, printing of the Fred LeRoy Health and Wellness Brochures and the food that is provided at general chapter meetings. Committee chairs work with the Treasurer to budget and pay for the events their committee sponsors. We meet our annual budget needs through fundraising events, funding from the school’s student government, and through our membership dues paid by each new member.

**Initiation Function:**

Because our school has both a distance and campus pathway for the pharmacy program, we hold two initiation ceremonies every year. Distance student initiation takes place while distance students are on campus for two weeks in the summer completing their lab activities. This year our Distance Initiation was held on Tuesday, June 21st, 2016, on Creighton’s Campus in the Harper Center. 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. The students received an initiation gift from the initiation committee during the ceremony. All distance students were mailed their pins and certificates at the time of campus initiation in the Spring. All Rho Chi students, faculty, and guests were invited to attend. This event had approximately 50 people in attendance.

Our campus initiation was held in the spring semester. This year’s ceremony was held at Indian Creek Golf Course on March 17th, 2017. This event had 65 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. Robin Teply.

**Evaluation/Reflection:**

This year the Alpha Alpha Chapter has lived out the mission of the Rho Chi Society. Looking back it is impressive to see everything the chapter has worked to accomplish. This year the executive team and all the committees functioned cohesively to lead the chapter through initiation events, general chapter meetings, community services projects and fundraising activities. These activities helped better the members who participated, the community, our school, and our profession. Our distance student members and our campus members were able to grow closer this year, by working on committees together and communicating through WebEx during general chapter meetings. By holding introduction of the distance students and the campus students at one of the first chapter meetings of the year, students were able to meet each other.

A goal of the organization was to help develop pharmacy school students and their intellectual knowledge base. By completing the editing and copy right process for the clinical reference cards and selling these cards to students of our pharmacy school, our organization was able to provide a resource that will help further develop young professionals. These clinical reference cards will serve as a reference tool for pharmacy students through their education, rotations, and profession. These clinical reference cards will also ensure better care of the patients we serve on a daily basis.

This year we were also able to give back to the community. Using the money awarded to our organization in a grant, we were able to print and donate culturally sensitive health care brochures for the Fred LeRoy Health and Wellness Center. These people would not have health care information to utilize without the contribution of these health care brochures, because other health care information does not respect their culture and beliefs.

While the organization has progressed over this school year in terms of member involvement, supporting the clinical development of other students, and supporting people of the community, there is still room to grow. We hope to find events and projects that will further incorporate the distance students, as well as find more ways for our student members to become involved. One way we hope to do this is by expanding our Clinical Reference Card Fundraiser to alumni and other pharmacy schools in our area.

**Other Information:** The Chapter is very appreciative of the leadership and support of our advisor, Dr. Victoria Roche. She is dedicated and passionate about the mission of Rho Chi and ensures out chapter lives out the mission set forth by the organization. She has been vital part in the success of the Alpha Alpha Chapter, and we are grateful to have her as our advisor.