Annual Chapter Report

Please complete your Annual Chapter Report, adhering strictly to the format below, and submit it to the National Office via e-mail (RhoChi@unc.edu) by May 15.

Date of report submission: 5/15/15

Name of School/College: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

Chapter name and region: Alpha Eta, Region II

Chapter advisor’s name and e-mail address: Dr. Farooq Bandali farooq.bandali@gmail.com and Dr. Lucio Volino volinol@pharmacy.rutgers.edu

Delegate who attended the Rho Chi Annual Meeting: Dr. Lucio Volino

Date delegate’s name submitted to Rho Chi.: 3/29/15

Past year’s officers and e-mail addresses:

President: Amanda Bright abright@scarletmail.rutgers.edu

Vice President: Geeny Kim geenykim@gmail.com

Secretary: Sheryl Mathew sherylmat@gmail.com

Treasurer: Nirav Haribhakti niravhb@rutgers.edu

Historian: Tulsi Shah tulsishah92@gmail.com

New officers and e-mail addresses for next academic year:

President: Sandya Balachandar [sandhyab18@gmail.com](mailto:sandhyab18@gmail.com)

Vice President: Nova Erica Tan [novaerica.tan@rutgers.edu](mailto:novaerica.tan@rutgers.edu)

Secretary: Nina Chacko [chacko.nina@gmail.com](mailto:chacko.nina@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Michelle Ha. michelle.ha@rutgers.edu

Historian: Cindy Tu. [cindy.tu03@gmail.com](mailto:cindy.tu03@gmail.com)

Number of Rho Chi student members at college or school, listed by class year and program (and by campus if more than one campus):

Class of 2015: 38

Class of 2016: 36

Class of 2017: 36

**Meetings**: Provide information on meetings held in the following tabular format (Limit 1.5 page)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Attendance | Agenda | Action Steps |
| April 18, 2014 | 7 | E-Board Meeting. Topics of discussion: Establish recitation committee chairs, responsibilities of chairs, format of recitations, ideas for new events for 2014-2015 | Create a survey for P1 and P2 students to find out their thoughts on what they found most and least helpful from Rho Chi recitations. Distribute at lectures. |
| September 4, 2014 | 15 | E-Board and Recitation Committee Chairs Meeting.  Topics of Discussion:  Establish committee members for each recitation committee, establish guidelines for creating and posting review materials, assign people to make announcements about “How to Survive Pharmacy School” event. | Committee chairs should arrange dates to meet with their respective committees and discuss recitations.  Reserve a room for “how to survive pharmacy school” event.  Reserve rooms for upcoming recitations.  Make in-class announcements about upcoming event and recitations. |
| January 28, 2015 | 35 | General Body Meeting.  Topics of Discussion:  Dance marathon (date, sign-ups, potential fundraisers), establish recitation chairs and committee members for spring semester, discussion of upcoming blood drive and how members can participate as volunteers. | Committee chairs should arrange dates to meet with their respective committees and discuss recitations.  Reserve rooms for upcoming recitations.  Advertise the spring blood drive. |
| March 9, 2015 | 7 | E-Board Meeting.  Topics of Discussion:  Logistics and planning for upcoming new member induction dinner and ceremony, including centerpieces, programs, seating charts, etc.  Planning for new members’ mixer and E-Board elections. | Keep in contact with the venue regarding all details of the dinner.  Reserve rooms for mixer and elections. |
| April 15, 2015 | 41 | Current and New Members’ Mixer.  Topics of Discussion:  Get to know each other. Discuss roles of E-Board positions. Talk about ideas for next year. | New members should begin thinking about any leadership positions they would like to take up in Rho Chi. |
| April 22, 2015 | 43 | Elections for 2015-2016 E-Board.  Topics of Discussion:  Addition of Fundraising chair as an E-Board position.  Elections for all E-Board Positions. | Fundraising chair added as an E-Board position.  Develop a list of contact information of all current and newly elected e-board members.  Set a date for an E-Board transition dinner. |
| May 4, 2015 | 16 | Eboard Transition Dinner.  Topics of Discussion:  Get to know each other.  Address any questions that the new officers have regarding their roles and responsibilities. | Maintain contact between old and new e-board. |

**Strategic Planning**:

* Expand resources accessible to the P1 and P2 students to aid achieving academic excellence by providing study guides, patient cases, Powerpoint slides, sample questions, etc.
* Collaborate with other organization(s) in the school of pharmacy to increase awareness of the diversity of the field of pharmacy
* Offer an abundance of opportunities for all members of Rho Chi to get involved in accomplishing the goals of this society, not just for the executive board and the committee leaders
* Embody and foster chapter philanthropy participation in Rutgers Dance Marathon to support Embrace Kids Foundation as well as other charitable events to encourage the local community
* Promote critical thinking and in-depth discussions of patient-case scenarios in younger students through regularly scheduled recitation sessions

**Activities**:

Pharmacy Involvement Fair (ongoing)

The pharmacy involvement fair was held by the Rutgers Pharmacy Governing Council at the beginning of the fall and spring semesters for the past four years. The goal of the involvement fairs was to help student pharmacists, especially younger students, to learn more about the various pharmacy organizations in our school and how to become more involved. Our officers constructed an informative poster this year detailing our Blood Drive and RU4Kids events as well as the tutoring and academic review services that we provide. We highly encourage students to come out to our events to bring outreach to the community and to take advantage of the tutoring benefits. We also gave the P1 and P2 students that passed by our table an informative overview of what we do as an organization. We emphasized that there are leadership positions and various ways to get more involved. The involvement fair gave students opportunities to speak with our members and gave us an opportunity to reach out to our peers.

Fall and Spring Blood Drives (ongoing)

September 4, 2014- collected 75 units

February 2, 2015- collected 46 units

The treasurer organizes the drive and members participate as volunteers on an hourly basis.

How to Survive P1/P2 Year (ongoing)

Tuesday - September 16, 2014

P1: 29 students attended

P2: 12 students attended.

The How to Survive Event was held to prepare P1/P2 students for their upcoming coursework and professors. The E-Board members went through each course briefly and also each professor and their teaching styles. We provided students with study tactics and gave helpful hints on how to prepare for exams. Students were given adequate time to ask questions and found the event to be very helpful.

Advocacy Month Kick-Off Event (ongoing)

The Pharmacy Governing Council PGC in collaboration with all of the pharmacy organizations on campus dedicated the month of October to be full of activities and events that pharmacy students can attend to promote awareness, activism and advocacy of the pharmacy profession. Our chapter collaborated with the local Academy of Managed Care Pharmacists (AMCP) student chapter to create a poster on the effect of the Affordable Care Act on managed markets and payers.

Halloween Monster Mash (new activity)

Four members participated in Monster Mash on Friday, October 24th, at the Cook/Douglass Rec Center. It was a fun event spending Halloween-spirited time with children from New Brunswick. Rho Chi’s table was in charge of leaf painting with approximately 150 children ages 4-11.

Rx Rotations Event (new activity)

On Tuesday, November 25th, Rho Chi hosted Rx Rotations in collaboration with Lambda Kappa Sigma. The event took place at 6:40 PM in Center Hall in the Busch Campus Center. It was a great opportunity to hear about rotations from the perspectives of preceptors, sixth year students, and recent alumni. Some of the professors who attended included: Dr. Howlett, Dr. Abazia, Dr. Volino, Dr. Dixit, Dr. Bandali, Dr. Brophy, and Dr. Jan. Approximately 50 students attended the event.

Recitation Committees (ongoing)

Committees are formed for each of the most difficult courses between the first and second professional years. Summary outlines for each lecture were provided and key points of difficult topics were further explained. Practice questions were generated and posted as well with full explanations. All resources were posted at least one week prior to the exam. Each committee held in person or virtual sessions to answer student questions before the exams. Each Alpha Eta member is a member of one or two recitation committees. The committees were chaired by a member and an e-board member.

The Pathophysiology Committee, a first professional year course, held three recitations for three separate exams. The first recitation was held 10/2/2014 and attended by 90 students. The second recitation was held 11/6/14 and attended by 30 students. The third recitation was held on 12/8/2014 and attended by 28 students.

The Cardiopulmonary Therapeutics Committee created practice exams for each of four exams and provided a survey that confirmed students preferred practice questions over recitation sessions.

The Pharmacology Committee was split into two committees for each semester. The first recitation was held 9/25/2014 and attended by 20 students. The second recitation session The second recitation was held 10/29/2014 and attended by 5 students. Following student feedback the remaining recitations were held virtually in an online chat room and attended each by about 5 students with last minute questions. These chat sessions were held on 12/6/2014, 2/18/2015, 3/28/2015, and 5/3/2015.

The Medicinal Chemistry Committee was also divided into two committees for each semester of the course. Practice exams were created as well as answer keys. The first recitation was held on 10/2/2014 and attended by 10 people and a second recitation on 11/5/2014 attended by 3 people. Following the low turnout, the recitation committee made themselves available via email for questions and office hours by arrangement if requested.

The Infectious Diseases Therapeutics Committee held their first recitation on 2/10/2015 and was attended by 25 students. The second recitation was held March 6th and it was a success as well. This session was smaller so it was more of a private tutoring session. Throughout the semester, some individual students also needed some extra help so we provided some tutoring and mentoring. The recitation for the 3rd exam was an online chat session.

The Poisons Committee created study guides for each lecture and held a recitation on 3/2/2014 and was attended by 3 students. Following recitations were held via email and in online chat sessions.

The Pharmaceutical Chemistry Committee held a recitation committee on 2/18/2015 attended by 30 students. The following recitations were held online.

Rutgers University For the Kids (RUFTK) (ongoing)

This past year, Rho Chi participated in the Heal to Heel walk in support of the Embrace Kids Foundation. This walk took place on September 28th, 2014 at Johnson Park in Piscataway, NJ. Six members participated in the walk to support Lanaya’s family.

Following Lanaya’s passing Rho Chi was assigned Brisa. We also visited Brisa, and her mother at Children’s Specialized hospital in New Brunswick, NJ whenever she was admitted as an inpatient. The first time we met Brisa, we played games and watched her dance to her favorite music videos. Three members were able to visit Brisa at that time. The second time Brisa was admitted to Children’s Specialized, we were able to have 1-3 members visit her each day she was in the hospital (total of 3 days).

Rho Chi also participated in Dance Marathon this year in support of the Embrace Kids Foundation. We had four dancers participate and were able to raise a total of $1,470 for the cause. Dance Marathon took place on April 11-12th, and all four members stood on their feet and danced for the full 30 hours.

**Financial/ Budgeting**:

Our chapter started the year with an initial balance of about $2800 and ended the year with approximately $3100. Budget, funding, and reimbursements were approved by the chapter treasurer and the associate dean of student development. Our chapter raised $220 from bake sales, $235 from pharmacy clipboard sales, and $1240 from blood drives to fund our chapter activities and our charitable causes such as the Dance Marathon.

Various fundraising activities have been conducted throughout the year to raise money for the Embrace Kids Foundation (RU4Kids Chapter). The fall semester consisted of seven bake sales, about twice a month. These took place during the days of Physical Assessment lab because P3 students were actively coming through the building. During the spring semester, some students independently raised money for Dance Marathon. Four students represented Rho Chi and participated as “dancers” in the 30-hour marathon.

To wrap up the semester, Rho Chi sold “PocketMD pharmacy white coat clipboards” to the classes of 2016 and 2017. These clipboards will be useful for clinical rotations, as they display pertinent pharmacy information, and can fold-up and fit in a white coat pocket. The clipboards were a big hit, and 56 clipboards total were sold, at a price of $26 each. A profit of about $400 was made from this fundraiser, which will go towards next year’s Dance Marathon. The bake sales and clipboard sales should be continued in the future years to come, as they were both successful ways to raise money.

**Initiation Function**:

The initiation dinner was held on March 23, 2015 from 6:00 – 9:00 pm at Lago in North Brunswick, NJ overlooking an icy lake and accented by the twinkles of lights that adorned the trees just outside the windows. The dinner itself was attended by the new initiates, their family members and supporters, the current e-board, the 2013-2014 e-board, our two faculty advisors, supportive faculty members, and Dean Joseph A. Barone Pharm.D., FCCP. There were 112 attendees in total. Current President, Amanda Bright provided opening remarks, and Vice President Geeny Kim provided the closing remarks. Dr. Barone was the keynote speaker. Dr. Barone is currently on the State of New Jersey Health Planning Board and formerly chaired the Executive Committee of the New Jersey Medical Emergency Disaster Prevention and Response Expert Panel (MEDPREP). Dr. Barone is also the founder of the Rutgers Pharmaceutical Industry Fellowship Program (started in 1984), which has now been operating for over 28 years, graduating over 700 post-doctoral fellows. A Fellow of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy, Dr. Barone recently received the 2012 Educator of the Year Award from the Research and Development Council of New Jersey. The author of numerous publications, his many research, clinical, and continuing education presentations include geriatric pharmacology, drug bioavailability, and disease state outcomes. Dr. Barone currently serves as Co-Chair of the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital. It was a beautiful evening and an excellent way to welcome the new members through the initiation ritual.

**Evaluation/Reflection**:

This year was a successful year for the Alpha Eta chapter. We improved the quality of our study resources, increased our presence via Facebook, and a new website, continued our philanthropic activities through RUFTK, and expanded our volunteerism with new events like Monster Mash. We adhered to the mission statement in collaboration with other organizations to foster a greater sense of community and intellectual achievement among our peers. We also implemented a new Rx Rotations panel event that filled a gap in the transition from didactic student to practical student. The recitation committees did a good job responding to the environment and adapting to the requests from students. This year we initiated statistical tracking of resource downloading via our sakai website (where all the resources are) to determine the download rates for certain resources in order to best focus our efforts. We look forward to the next year and how the incoming class will build on our successes.

**Other information**:

This year we wanted to expand our presence in social media. We created a Facebook group for Rho Chi members and updated it frequently. The group increased the involvement of the members and was a great success. We also created a new website and updated it with events/photos as they occurred throughout the semester. It was a great way for people to keep up with our events and also for alumni to see what activities we were participating in.

**Appendix 1: Chapter Activities Report Template**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| [Chapter Name, School Name] Activity Table | | | | | | | |  |
| Category of Activity1 | Title of Activity | Brief Description2 | How Does This Activity Align With the Rho Chi Mission Statement? | Years the Activity has Been Ongoing? | If Activity has Been Ongoing for >1 Year, What Evaluations Have Been Done to Assess the Success of the Activity and What Improvements Have Been Done Over the Past Year? | How Many Members Participated in the Activity? | How Many Students (non-members) and/or Patients were impacted by the Activity? | Financial Information for the Activity [Budget Required, Fundraising Amount] |
| Intellectual Leadership Activities (i.e., tutoring, sponsored lectures, poster sessions, etc.) | Recitation Committees | Post review resources, post practice exams, host review sessions, provide tutoring upon request, available via email to answer questions | Encourages intellectual achievement, fosters collaboration between peers | At least 3 | Each committee continually evaluates the students needs, as they change year to year. This year we implemented timelines and increased the amount of practice questions and explanations we provided and reduced the number of physical recitation sessions based on student feedback. | Full participation of the 36 Class of 2016 members | Professional year 1 and professional year 2 students have access to the resources- approximately 400 students. | This activity does not require any funding |
| Advocacy Event Kick-off Poster Session | Collaborate with AMCP to create a poster to explain the effect of the ACA on managed markets | Encourages intellectual achievement, fosters collaboration between peers | 2 | Timeliness and communication between the collaborating organizations was improved this year to ensure the poster was completed on time. | 2 | 40 attendees to the poster presentation | $32.00 |
| How To Survive Events | Share quality insights to incoming P1s and rising P2s to better prepare for the semester and answer any questions they might have | Encourages intellectual achievement, fosters collaboration between peers | At least 3 | Revamped the slides and opened the event more to questions. | 10 | 41 | There were no costs associated with this event |
| College of Pharmacy Events [non-academic, non-patient outreach] | Rx Rotations Event | Faculty and other preceptors formed a panel to answer student questions in a forum setting | Encourages intellectual achievement, fosters collaboration | 0 |  | 20 | 50 students | $155.92 |
| Patient Outreach Events/ Community Service | Halloween Monster Mash | Safe alternative to trick-or-treating for local children | Promotes highest ethical standards | 0 |  | 4 | ~150 | $34.95 |
| RUFTK events | Support a child with a blood disorder or cancer through patient support at the bedside and fundraising activities | Promotes highest ethical standards | At least 3 | Due to an untimely death of the child we sponsored the committee was not as active at the bedside. There will be more opportunity to improve this after the assignment of Brisa this past spring. | 12 | Undetermined- patient, her family, and anyone else who benefits from the Embrace Kids Foundation | $615.00 transferred to support dancers |
| Fundraising Events | Bake Sales and White Coat Clipboard Sales  Blood Drives | Fundraising to support philanthropic activities | Contributes to the development of intellectual leaders, promotes the highest ethical standards | Bake sales & blood drives ongoing >3 years  White coat clipboard is a new fundraiser | Addition of new fundraising ideas and reduction of bake sales due to fading interest | Full participation in at least one if not all activities | ~100 | Bake sales:  $220.10  Blood Drives: $1240  White coats: $234.40 |

Appendix 2

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Comment | Amount Debited | Amount Credited | Balance |
| 5/8/15 | Sweatshirt payment for new and old members | $1,049.00 |  | $3,196.46 |
| 5/7/15 | Reimbursement for transition dinner | $217.55 |  | $4,245.46 |
| 4/30/15 | Pizza reimbursement for end of the year social | $98.54 |  | $4,463.01 |
| 4/28/15 | Reimbursement for supplies bought for Rho Chi induction dinner | $75.54 |  | $4,561.55 |
| 4/28/15 | Reimbursement for buying supplies Rho Chi dinner | $71.53 |  | $4,637.09 |
| 4/28/15 | Reimbursement for Rho Chi Induction Decorations | $116.00 |  | $4,708.62 |
| 4/28/15 | Reimbursement for Printing Cards for induction night | $57.83 |  | $4,824.62 |
| 4/15/15 | Rho Chi has ordered 56 Whitecoat clipboard fundraiser | $1,117.60 |  | $4,882.45 |
| 4/15/15 | Rho Chi Membership Fees - Rutgers Chapter | $2,790.00 |  | $6,000.05 |
| 4/7/15 | Induction Ceremony and Membership Dues |  | $100.00 | $8,790.05 |
| 4/7/15 | RhoChi Clipboard Fundraiser payment collection |  | $1,352.00 | $8,690.05 |
| 4/1/15 | Payment for the catering and dinner package for induction dinner | $3,228.00 |  | $7,338.05 |
| 3/12/15 | Blood drive scholarship |  | $500.00 | $10,566.05 |
| 3/12/15 | Membership and induction fees |  | $7,550.00 | $10,066.05 |
| 3/12/15 | Reimbursement for induction night deposit | $300.00 |  | $2,516.05 |
| 3/10/15 | Transfer funds to Dance Marathon | $615.00 |  | $2,816.05 |
| 2/12/15 | Rho Chi Blood Drive | $50.00 |  | $3,431.05 |
| 2/12/15 | Rho Chi Advocacy Poster printing | $32.00 |  | $3,481.05 |
| 2/12/15 | Rx Rotation Night supplies | $30.92 |  | $3,513.05 |
| 2/11/15 | Transfer funds from LKS for the rotation night |  | $75.00 | $3,543.97 |
| 12/15/14 | Payment for Lambda Kappa Sigma-Rho Chi Pizza 11/25 | $200.00 |  | $3,468.97 |
| 12/3/14 | Bake Sale fundraiser |  | $72.50 | $3,668.97 |
| 11/13/14 | Blood drive on 9/4/14 at BCC MPR | $50.00 |  | $3,596.47 |
| 11/13/14 | Reimbursing Tulsi for buying plates/drinks | $15.46 |  | $3,646.47 |
| 11/13/14 | Reimbursement for buying supplies for Monster Mash | $34.95 |  | $3,661.93 |
| 10/23/14 | BAKE SALE 10/10 |  | $86.00 | $3,696.88 |
| 10/23/14 | Scholarship from community blood drive council of NJ |  | $740.00 | $3,610.88 |
| 9/25/14 | RU4 KIDS BAKE SALE ON 9/19/14 AT PHARM BUILDING |  | $61.60 | $2,870.88 |
|  | Initial Balance |  |  | $2,809.28 |