

**Alpha Zeta Chapter – Rho Chi Society Chapter Report 2015**

Chapter Information

Date of report submission: May 15, 2015

Name of School/College: Purdue University College of Pharmacy

Chapter name and region: Alpha Zeta/Mid-east – Region IV-W

Chapter advisor’s name and e-mail address: Dr. Nicole Noel; nlnoel@purdue.edu and Dr. Steven Scott; scottrx@purdue.edu

Delegate who attended the Rho Chi Annual Meeting: Brittany Oliver, member (Alternate delegate: Ben Bredhold, member)

Date delegate’s name submitted to Rho Chi: March 16, 2015

Past Year’s Officers

President: Lindsey Atkinson; latkinso@purdue.edu

Vice President: Andrew Kluemper; akluempe@purdue.edu

Treasurer: Katie Mischler; kmischle@purdue.edu

Secretary: Anne Krasniak; akrasnia@purdue.edu

Historian: Mary Farlow; mfarlow@purdue.edu

ACES Tutor Chair: Lance Kruger; krugerl@purdue.edu

Social: Kayla Thompson; Thomp145@purdue.edu

Student Council Representative: Jialu Deng; Deng7@purdue.edu

New Officers:

President: Michael Peters; Peter100@purdue.edu

Vice President: Lauren Jackson; Jacks168@purdue.edu

Treasurer: Stephanie Pitman; spitman@purdue.edu

Secretary: Rachel Hasty; rhasty@purdue.edu

Historian: Samantha Burton; Burton16@purdue.edu

ACES Tutor Chair (1): Alison Switzer; aswitzer@purdue.edu

ACES Tutor Chair (2): Kiersten Walters; Walter13@purdue.edu

Social: Emily Braun; Braun8@purdue.edu

Student Council Representative: Kayleigh Warner; Warner17@purdue.edu

Number of Rho Chi Student Members

Class of 2016 (PharmD): 28

Class of 2017 (PharmD): 28

Total members: 56

Meetings

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Attendance | Agenda | Action Steps |
| 5/1/14 | Officers and chapter advisors | 1. Introduction of members  2. Goals for the year  3. Silent Auction Planning  4. Club T-Shirt Designs  5. A.C.E.S. Program course discussion  6. 2015 Induction date | 1. Plan events with other organizations in the college  2. Offer A.C.E.S. sessions for the Principles of Pharmacotherapy course for first-year and second-year professional students; Also offer Pharmacokinetic tutoring on requested basis  3. Focusing on the silent auction; divide emails that need to be sent to faculty during the summer |
| 9/2/14 | Officers and chapter advisors | 1. Silent auction  2. A.C.E.S. sign-ups  3. Meeting time for silent auction thank-yous  4. Planning of first social event  5. Ideas for the semester | 1. Advertising plan for silent auction and creation of brochures  2. Sign up to lead an A.C.E.S. review session  3. Will meet Friday, 9/12/14 to write thank you’s to all professors who donated to the silent auction  4. Member bonding event 9/17/14 at trivia night  5. Sell Kenya pins during homecoming events 9/26-27 |
| 10/20/14 | Officers and chapter advisors | 1. Dr. Aziz Outstanding Teacher Award  2. Eli Lilly job shadow  3. Dr. Miller’s interview workshop  4. Kenya pin sales  5. IPA letter  6. Induction ceremony date and location | 1. Discussing and choosing the candidates for the Dr. Aziz Outstanding Teacher Award  2. Discussing possible shadow dates with Eli Lilly  3. Dr. Miller reached out to our group to help with her residency class elective mock interviews held on 11/5/14  4. Sell Kenya pins and ornaments at donor’s brunch on 11/8/14 and outside of class week of 11/17/14-11/21/14  5. Member Michael Muchnik volunteered to write an article about our chapter in Indiana Pharmacist Alliance journal  6. Participate in Purdue’s Winterization program on 11/15/14.  7. Make Thanksgiving Cards with SNP on 11/11/14  8. Induction ceremony will be 4/12/15 at the Purdue Memorial Union |
| 11/19/14 | Officers and chapter advisors | 1. End of the semester wrap-up  2. Fundraising ideas  3. Induction ceremony speaker ideas  4. Christmas tree decorating  5. Eli Lilly job shadow | 1. Discussed job shadows, volunteer events, and collaborations with other organizations for next semester  2. Participate on the Purdue College of Pharmacy team for Purdue University Dance Marathon (PUDM) benefitting Riley Hospital for Children on 11/22/14  3. Discussed the possibility of fundraising for our club in order to hold a health fair  4. Brain-storm speakers for our induction ceremony  5. Member Brittany Oliver will organize the decoration of ASHP Christmas tree auction on 12/1/14  6. Sell Kenya pins and ornaments at the Pharmacy Career Days on 12/2/14  7. Eli Lilly job shadow set for 2/27/15 |
| 2/6/15 | Officers and chapter advisors; Members from the scholarship office | 1. Scholarship office – scholarships available to professional pharmacy students  2. Dean Svensson’s advice for induction ceremony  3. Review of calendar of events  4. A.C.E.S. review session sign-ups | 1. Veronica Schirm from the National and International Scholarships Office came to talk to our group about the scholarships/grants we qualify for  2. Dean Svensson, Rho Chi alumni, shared his advice for our ceremony this year  3. Members were given all dates of events for the semester to write in their agendas so participation could be optimized  4. All members signed up to lead at least one A.C.E.S. review session  5. Submit an event planning form through BOSO for Eli Lilly job shadow on 2/27/15  6. Volunteer event at Bauer Community Center set for 2/21/15  7. New member information was gathered for choosing nominees  8. Nominees were extended an invitation to join Rho Chi  9. Faculty members were notified and invited to the Induction Ceremony |
| 3/6/15 | Officers and chapter advisors | 1. Review of calendar events  2. Suggestions for A.C.E.S. review sessions  3. Rho Chi Annual Meeting  4. Distribution of IPA letter  5. Induction ceremony parent letters | 1. Reviewed any changes made to the events calendar  2. Study guides should be made prior to review sessions  3. Chose delegate and alternate delegate for the Rho Chi Society Annual meeting in San Diego, CA on 3/29/15  4.  All members helped addressing and stuffing envelopes sent to parents of Rho Chi nominees  5. New member information was sent to nationals on 3/11/15  6. Selection of Induction Ceremony speaker, Dr. Christopher Scott |
| 4/3/15 | Officers and chapter advisors; Employees of the Wellington Financial Group | 1. The Wellington Financial Group from Indianapolis, IN spoke on financial planning  2. Review of calendar  3. Induction ceremony details  4. Social | 1. We were offered free financial advice from the Wellington Group.  2. Participate in Operation Heart at Harrison High School in Lafayette, IN with APhA-ASP to educate the public on heart disease.  3. Induction ceremony preparation for 4/12/15  4. Member bonding with new members on 4/16/15 at the Union bowling alley  5. Elections dinner at Bruno’s on 4/30/15 at 6:30 pm  6. Composite photos on 4/30/15 from 11 am – 1 pm  7. Setting date for job shadow at Riley Hospital for Children |

Strategic Planning

As mentioned in our introduction, the Alpha Zeta chapter focused heavily on fulfilling the Rho Chi Society mission in its entirety. At the beginning of the school year, we decided to improve the current activities our chapter executes and collaborate with our fellow pharmacy student organizations to provide service to other Purdue students and our community. In the past, our chapter has done a great job encouraging intellectual achievement in our members, even extending it to other professional pharmacy students as well. We continued our A.C.E.S. review sessions to foster these ideals outside of our organization. Year after year our members show integrity, empathy and promote high ethical standards. As a chapter, we decided to keep these principles in mind but to expand the development of our members into intellectual leaders and foster collaboration with other organizations. We supported these principles by hosting guest speakers at meetings, attending job shadows at Eli Lilly and hopefully Riley Hospital for Children, volunteered our time and skills to our society, and created good relationships with other organizations and among our members. These events will be highlighted in more detail in the activities section of this report.

Activities

**Ongoing Activities:**

*Annual Rho Chi Silent Auction*

Each year Rho Chi hosts the annual Silent Auction at the Pharmacy First Nighter, which occurs during the second week of the fall semester to network and introduce students to clubs within the college. The Rho Chi Silent Auction is unique in that the items that are auctioned off are events or objects donated by the College of Pharmacy faculty. These events allow students and faculty to build more personal relationships in a way not really offered through any other organization or class. All of the money raised goes toward funding student scholarships. We were thrilled to get the most participation to date, acquiring almost fifty items to be auctioned off, including a dinner with the Purdue University President, Mitch Daniels. Despite a terrible thunderstorm, we still had a successful auction. As a result of our efforts, and the enthusiasm of the students and faculty, we were able to raise about $3,000.

*Kenya Partnership – Tumaini Foundation - Pin and Ornament Sales*

In 2012, the members of the Alpha Zeta chapter partnered with the Kenya rotation and residency program to benefit the Tumaini Foundation. This foundation was founded in part by the Department of Pharmacy Practice Faculty at Purdue in order to raise funds to help support street children, who are without food, shelter, or clothing and have been abandoned by their families. The Tumaini Foundation mission is to improve the lives of street children in Eldoret, Kenya by empowering them with hope, knowledge, skills, opportunities and resources necessary for them to find a healthy alternative to street living. Purdue pharmacy rotation students in Kenya developed hand beaded pharmacy pins made by Kenyans with the Purdue mortar and pestle logo. Our partnership translated into us marketing and selling these pins at various pharmacy events. We raised more than $1,000 for the foundation in just eight months. To date, we have raised over $3,000, which equates to providing education for 30 children in Kenya.

*Assisting Classmates to Elevate Success (A.C.E.S.) Tutoring Program*

This has become one of the most well known events Rho Chi provides to the College of Pharmacy. The idea was introduced in 2012 and has now expanded to first and second year professional students in the Principles of Pharmacotherapy courses. This has become a great use of our academic skill set to create study guides, reveal test-taking strategies and hold review sessions before Pharmacotherapy exams. Our members sign up at the beginning of the semester for at least one review session and the topic of their choice. The session is held a few days prior to the exam and gives a great overview of course material and allows students to ask specific questions. We also provide students with study materials that are used during the session. In the spring semester, we held eight sessions, with attendance of about thirty to fifty students at each session. A.C.E.S. increases the academic success of other pharmacy students while giving our members teaching experience. At this year’s officer election, we created another tutor chair position because of how big this program has become.

Our reputation carried through to the School of Nursing at Purdue. One nursing student requested a tutor for his pharmacology course. Member Marbi Presto offered tutoring to this student, study advice and helped him with his studies.

*Member Bonding Activities*

Every year we plan fun, stress-free events to build relationships outside of the classroom. In the fall semester, we participated in Jake’s Trivia Night. Even though we did not win, we still had a great time together! In the spring semester, we held our social after the induction ceremony so both current and new members could participate. We went to Purdue Memorial Union’s bowling alley where we rented out a few lanes, bowled, played billiards and ate some pizza! Not only did we have a great time at these socials, the officers also received great feedback from the members about what they wanted to accomplish throughout the year.

*Job Shadowing Opportunities*

While discussing our goals for the year, we decided to continue events that provide both an opportunity to network with fellow club members and address the professional interests of the students. This led to the discussion of continuing job shadowing opportunities in areas of pharmacy that students often do not get the chance to explore. Therefore, we chose to see the industrial side of pharmacy, visiting Eli Lilly and Company. Dr. Brittany Haller, a current Eli Lilly fellow, set up the shadow for us in February 2015. We were able to tour the main campus and hear from employees and fellows regarding their various roles and responsibilities within the company and were able to see a side of industry we had not previously been exposed to. We are currently planning a shadow at Riley Hospital for Children and hope to visit in April or May 2015. Overall, members were provided with a fresh perspective on different areas of pharmacy, allowing for the building of relationships amongst members and the satisfaction of intellectual curiosity.

*Election Dinner at Bruno’s*

Every year we hold our officer elections at a local Purdue pizzeria, Bruno’s. This was held on Thursday, April 30, 2015. New members are able to ask current officers and members for advice and run for any positions they are interested in. Candidates give a quick speech stating why they are interested, how they are qualified and any ideas they have for the position. Members anonymously vote for their favorite candidate and majority rules. Officer transitions are held the following week, where officers in their respective positions meet privately to thoroughly examine the duties of the position, give advice for the future, and answer any questions the new officer may have.

*Dr. Aziz Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award*

Our group was selected by the Dean of the College of Pharmacy to choose the candidates nominated for the Dr. Aziz Outstanding Teacher Award. The officers review all of the nominations submitted by students and choose three professors for the final ballot.

*Christmas Tree Auction with APhA-ASP*

The Purdue chapter of APhA-ASP, hold a Christmas tree auction every December to raise money for the Arthritis Foundation. We participated in this event again this year and decorated with the Kenya pins and ornaments, therefore, benefitting both organizations. Our tree is one of the top selling trees in the auction each year and we are happy to continue to do this.

**New Initiatives:**

*Dr. Miller’s Residency Elective Mock Interview help*

Dr. Monica Miller is a Purdue clinical faculty member who created an elective course for third-year professional students, which goes in depth about postgraduate education, highlighting residency and fellowship programs. At the end of the course, she organizes mock-interviews and invites Purdue faculty members and preceptors to act as the interviewers for the students in the class. Students who volunteered proctored the exam portion, helped students get to their rooms on time, retrieved beverages for interviewers and kept students on schedule. This was a great opportunity for our group to give back to a professor who has done so much for her students.

*Volunteer Opportunities*

This year, our group set up relationships with Bauer Community Center and Westminster Village located in Lafayette, Indiana. We reached out to Bauer to help them with an organization project of a storage room. We did this in hopes to develop a relationship and continue to volunteer in their community events in the future. Unfortunately, we were snowed in on our volunteer day but we kept in touch to organize an event in the future. Westminster holds many activities for their residents. They provide game nights, entertainment shows and movie nights to name a few. We are currently in contact with the volunteer coordinator to set up either a BINGO night, craft or talent show with the residents.

*Thanksgiving Cards with Society of Nuclear Pharmacy*

The Society of Nuclear Pharmacy is a small organization who was looking for more students to participate in their Thanksgiving Card event in November. We offered to join them in making these cards for veterans and their families living in the Indiana Veterans’ Home. We provided our own supplies and together made enough cards to distribute to all of the residents.

*Purdue Winterization Program*

Purdue University holds a Winterization event every November open to all students and organizations on campus. Winterization is a community service project in which students from Purdue University assist in preparing the yards and homes of the elderly and disabled in Tippecanoe County for winter. Volunteers’ raked leaves, cleaned gutters, washed windows, trimmed shrubs, and completed other winterizing tasks for the residents. Conversation with the residents was also important, as many are unable to leave their homes regularly and have few visitors. Our group created a team and participated in the large event this year.

*Guest Speakers at meetings*

We were lucky to have a couple different speakers at two of our group meetings. First, we had representatives from the Purdue Scholarship Office talk about the scholarships and grants that are available to pharmacy students. This was an informative session that opened our eyes to options we did not know were open to us. At a different meeting in the spring semester, we hosted The Wellington Group, who brought three financial planners to give a brief overview of financial planning. This was targeted to our population as students about to graduate with a large salary, and what to do and what not to do with our money. They gave some great tips for the future and I know our members appreciated it!

*Operation Heart with APhA-ASP*

APhA-ASP also held the first annual Operation Heart in April 2015. This was a large event that was open to the Lafayette community to spread awareness of heart disease. They needed help with maintaining the stations and our chapter members volunteered for two-hour sessions each. The Operation Heart Health Fair provided free health screenings, educational games and information booths on how to prevent or better manage cardiovascular disease.

*IPA Letter*   
Indiana Pharmacists Alliance, IPA, publishes a journal *Indiana Pharmacist* each quarter. The journal serves as a great resource for educational articles pertaining to pharmacy practice and patient safety. Our organization was highlighted in the November issue of the magazine and one of our members, Michael Muchnik, wrote the article.

Financial/Budgeting

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| **Expenses** | |
| 2014-2015 Composite Photo | $915.82 |
| National Dues | $1950.00 |
| Social Expenses | $277.61 |
| Silent Auction/Volunteer/Job Shadow Expenses | $76.61 |
| Club T-Shirts | $287.78 |
| Meeting Materials/Food | $143.78 |
| Initiation Ceremony Expense  (Total cost – guest reimbursement) | $1364.00 |
| Officer Election Dinner (estimate) | $700.00 |
| **Total** | **$5,715.60** |
| I**ncome** | |
| Membership Dues | **$5,250.00** |
| **Total** | **-($465.60)** |

This year, we were slightly over budget. We determined our budget based on last year’s expenses and dues. After the fact, we noticed that they were also slightly over budget last year and we should have adjusted our expenses based on that. In the past, we have never had to fundraise, as we have been able to sustain on member dues alone. We did discuss fundraising this year for job shadows and social events, however, we did not have time with the other activities we had going on. In order to continue spending as we did this year, we have suggested that our chapter begins a fundraising initiative or simply raise the member dues. Fundraising could involve holding a skip-a-meal or selling coffee and donuts to College of Pharmacy students in the mornings. In order to breakeven without fundraising, we would need to raise the dues by about $15 per new member, which may be a reasonable option as dues have not been raised in a few years.

Initiation Function

The Induction Ceremony is one of our largest, most exciting events of the year. We have always aimed to have this event be a meaningful and impactful experience for students, faculty, and the friends and family invited. This year, we were very fortunate to have 30 faculty members attend the ceremony to support first and second year professional students with outstanding academic achievements. Our ceremony was located on Purdue University’s campus at the Purdue Memorial Union and held on Sunday, April 12th, 2015 from 11AM to 1PM. The attendance was approximately 170 people, including 30 faculty members and 65 students, with family and friends making up the remaining 75 attendees.

New this year, we added local chapter awards to recognize one officer and one member who had outstanding involvement and commitment to the chapter. We also gave out two awards to members who were most involved in our tutoring program.

Our guest speaker, Dr. Christopher Scott, who is the current Associate Vice President of Pharmacy, Respiratory Care, and Clinical Nutrition at Eskenazi Health in Indianapolis, Indiana, lead a 30 minute discussion surrounding involvement, inclusion, positivity, and self. Since the students present have succeeded academically, we thought it would be important to remind these students that grades are not the only component that factor into succeeding after graduation. Dr. Scott did a great job of this and stressing the importance of involvement in extracurricular organizations and work-life balance.

After the ceremony, our officers received many praise from faculty and guests that the ceremony was the best they had been to and even personally congratulated us for another year of outstanding contributions to the profession and to society.

Evaluation/Reflection

Overall, the events we participated in this year aligned with the ideals of Rho Chi Society. We continued many of the events previous members implemented but also built relationships with other pharmacy organizations within the College. I believe we were extremely successful in completing the entirety of the Rho Chi mission! We were able to reach out to a greater student base and increase awareness of Rho Chi.

Specifically, the annual Rho Chi Silent Auction had the most donations from professors to date. We expected to raise even more money for pharmacy student scholarships, however due to the severe weather, we did not have as great of a turnout as expected. Still, we were thrilled to create three full $1,000 student scholarships. We continued the expansion of our A.C.E.S. tutoring program to first and second year professional students in pharmacotherapy courses. We had a great turnout at each session and received constructive feedback from students. One improvement we would like to make is creating one more A.C.E.S. tutoring chair position so that two members will be involved in the planning of review sessions and creation of study materials. We found that the expansion was too much for one member to take on.

When looking at the job shadowing opportunities, the information and experience the sites provided us with greatly exceeded our expectations. We also had great member participation for these events. I would only suggest voting on two or three places at the first meeting of the year and communicate with the sites early to set it up. Because we waited a few months into the fall semester to decide on a site, we had trouble finding a mutual date that worked in our schedule and the their schedule, therefore planning far ahead should solve this problem.

After the fall semester, I realized how involved our members were in their academics, but especially in other organizations outside of Rho Chi. I decided it would be best to plan all of our events over winter break and create a calendar for the spring semester to provide to our members at the first meeting in February so they could plan ahead for our events. This was greatly appreciated by members and really improved attendance and motivation. Every member ran at least one A.C.E.S. review session in the spring semester, which was a great improvement as historically these were lead by only a few members. We had at least two-thirds of our members at each volunteer, social, job shadow and all other miscellaneous events. We were thrilled with the dedication and commitment our members had for Rho Chi.

I know our chapter has a great reputation within the Purdue College of Pharmacy and we continue to positively contribute to the pharmacy profession. One suggestion I will make to the upcoming officers is to re-implement professional presentations by outside pharmacists, making them available to all pharmacy students. These presentations provide valuable information regarding pharmacy practice that all students could benefit from. Overall, I am extremely proud of what our chapter has accomplished this year and look forward to what the new members will contribute next year, as I know they will do great things!