### Annual Chapter Report Outline

Please complete your Annual Chapter Report and submit to the National Office by May 15.

**Date of report submission:** 2016-05-14

**Name of School/College:** St. John’s University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

**Chapter Name & region:** Beta Delta Chapter – Northeast Region 1

**Delegate who attended the Rho Chi Annual Meeting:** Michael Bosco and Julia Kamuda

**Date Delegate’s name submitted:** 2016-02-24

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(If not yet elected, please indicate date of anticipated election and report names within one week of election)

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**Introduction**

The Rho Chi Society is an Academic Honor Society in Pharmacy. Pharmacy students in their professional years of study are invited to join based on academic standing. The mission of the Society is to encourage and recognize excellence in intellectual achievement and to foster fellowship amongst its members.

The Beta Delta Chapter at St. John’s University participates in various community service and hosts professional activities, including CV Workshops, Coffeehouse Chats, Becoming a Strong PGY1 Residency Candidate and Writing Workshops. In addition, the members often work closely with other pharmacy organizations on campus to host events that pharmacy students can both benefit from and enjoy. What sets the St. John’s University chapter apart from all other chapters in the nation is the Rho Chi Post. The Rho Chi Post is a monthly, electronic, student-operated, faculty-approved newsletter by the St. John’s University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences Rho Chi Beta Delta Chapter. The Rho Chi Post boasts over 5 volumes, over 40 published issues, and more than 350 unique articles to date, with an editorial team of at least 20 student editors and writers, ranging from second to final-year student pharmacists. The Rho Chi Post is distributed by the St. John’s University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences to more than 1,500 students and faculty members. It is also sent via monthly electronic mailing lists (e.g., Google Groups, PSSNY), as it continues to extend readership far beyond campus.

The Rho Chi Beta Delta Chapter won one national award this year at the Annual Rho Chi Society meeting in Baltimore, MA:  
The “2016 National Faculty Advisor Award” recognizes the unique contributions and accomplishments of outstanding faculty advisors. The award is also intended to serve as a model for other advisors to stimulate chapter activities, diligence, best custom essay writing services and punctuality. One award is presented annually.

For more information about the Beta Delta Chapter, visit our website at [www.rhochistj.org](http://www.rhochistj.org) or email us at [rhochis@gmail.com](mailto:rhochis@gmail.com).  
For more information about the Rho Chi Post, visit our website at [www.rhochistj.org/RhoChiPost/](http://www.rhochistj.org/RhoChiPost/) or email us at [rhochipost@gmail.com](mailto:rhochipost@gmail.com).

**Meetings** Please provide information on meetings held in the following tabular format

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Attendance | Agenda | Action Steps |
| 2015-09-07 | 6 | First Executive Board Meeting Fall 2015 | -For current Eboard members to discuss and plan the events for the upcoming year, our faculty advisor was also present at this meeting. |
| 2015-09-17 | 30 | First General Body Meeting Fall 2015 | –Update members regarding upcoming events and service opportunities (i.e. CV Workshop, Healthy Halloween, etc.) |
| 2016-01-26 | 12 | Second Executive Board Meeting | –For outgoing executive board to detail the responsibilities and recommendations for incoming board members, our faculty advisor was also present at this meeting –Address issues from the past year and implement changes and suggestions for future activities |
| 2016-02-18 | 50 | Second General Body Meeting | –Update members regarding upcoming events and service opportunities (i.e. S4Gift Lectures, Rho Chi Coffeehouse Chats, Dean’s Hour, etc.) –Introduce Annual Sweatshirt Fundraiser and new adjoining sweatshirt design contest –Welcome new and old members to give suggestions for the upcoming semester |

**Strategic Planning:** What goals were set that relate to the Rho Chi mission?

The goals that the Beta Delta chapter set for this year that relate to the Rho Chi mission are the following:

– To facilitate the opportunity for more professors, students and other pharmacy organizations interactions on campus through event collaboration with the unified goal to support our profession

– To empower students to be educators in the pharmacy profession with hosted seminars that teach students advice on how to counsel patients and provide patient–centered care in the community

– To advocate active leadership roles by participating in Rho Chi Beta Delta Chapter events on and off campus through service to others

– To inspire students to be up-to-date with new drugs on the market and innovations in the pharmacy career

– To continue to publish articles in the monthly Rho Chi Post on various issues pertaining to pharmacy (<https://rhochistj.org/RhoChiPost/>)

– To bring awareness to the importance of the intellect and practice pharmacists provide currently and prospectively from the education they receive in pharmacy schools

**Activities**

St. John’s University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences Year in Review:  
Our chapter was interviewed by the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences at St. John’s University for their 2015-2016 Year in Review Publication. This publication highlights the achievements of faculty, alumni, and students throughout the year. This is the first time that the achievements of our chapter has been recognized by the College in such a way.

Fall 2015 Semester

Pharmacy Organization Day  
October 29, 2015 – Ongoing annual event by the school of Pharmacy; Attendees: 5-10 Rho Chi members  
Members signed up to represent the Rho Chi Society during pharmacy organization day, where all organizations discussed with pharmacy students the various options available on campus. Executive board members, Rho Chi members, and editors from the Rho Chi Post were all available for students to talk to.

Healthy Halloween  
October 30, 2015 – Ongoing collaborative event; Attendees: 10-20 Rho Chi members  
Rho Chi collaborated with PLS (Phi Lambda Sigma, pharmacy leadership society) at St. John’s University to help set up for Healthy Halloween, an annual event hosted at the University each year, which focuses on teaching young elementary school children how to have a safe and healthy Halloween.

Midyear of Pharmacy Students and CV Writing/Mock Interview Workshop Series  
November 5 and November 12, 2015 – Ongoing (4 years); Attendees: ~20 pharmacy students  
For this event, we partnered with the Career Center at St. John’s University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences to hold a two day event focusing on both discussing the benefits of pursing a PGY-1 residency and preparing students for Midyear. At the first part of this event, we organized round table sessions, which included both SJU faculty and other clinical pharmacists. Students had the opportunity to ask faculty questions, regarding their experiences at Midyear as well as helpful tips on where to access more information, what the national and regional statistics are. The second part of this event was set up in the CCK building on campus where students had the opportunity to perform mock interviews. Students were also able to bring in the CVs for review by faculty. Both events were open to all pharmacy students at St. John’s University regardless of their year in the program.

Spring 2016 Semester

Induction Ceremony  
January 20, 2016 – Annual event; Attendees: ~100 people, ~50 new Rho Chi members  
On January 20, 2016, the Rho Chi Beta Delta Chapter inducted its new members – 52 fourth and fifth year pharmacy, and Ph.D. students from the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. New inductees along with their family and friends were invited to celebrate their achievement at Verdi’s of Whitestone. The President of the 2015 Beta Delta chapter, Michael Bosco, encouraged the new inductees to see the pins that they would receive as symbols of a renewed commitment to the value of academic excellence celebrated by Rho Chi. He encouraged inductees to strive to be even better, to do even more than they had done before induction, and in doing so, they would continually prove themselves worthy of their membership. Dean DiGate spoke to the inductees and guests next, welcoming them to the evening and reflecting on the importance of recognizing students for their admirable achievements. Current President of the St. Louis College of Pharmacy, Dr. Pieper, provided the Keynote Address, offering words of wisdom to the inductees and encouraging them to remain steadfast and true to the core values and principles that had brought them success thus far.

Second Annual Red Dress Gala  
February 4, 2016 – Ongoing collaborative(2 years); Attendees: ~100+ pharmacy faculty & students  
The Rho Chi Society was thrilled to join several other St. John's College of Pharmacy organizations in hosting the first annual Red Dress Gala – a night of music, food, and fun to support the American Heart Association. Open to all students of the College of Pharmacy, this event featured great food from local establishments, a faculty DJ, live performances by a student jazz group, and a keynote address on cardiovascular health by another respected faculty member. Students paid for tickets to this event, and proceeds went to the AHA. It was an enjoyable and relaxing evening during which students took a break from their studies to reflect on how they could improve their own long-term health, as well as that of their future patients.

Rho Chi Post Informational  
February 5 and April 11, 2016 – Ongoing (4 years) annual event; Attendees: 10+ students  
This event, open to all St. John's College of Pharmacy students, provided information about the Rho Chi Post newsletter and website. Students learned about the mission and vision behind the student-run, award-winning publication, as well as the variety of ways in which they could participate. The different writing and editing roles available with the newsletter were described, and attendees were able to ask questions about the process of submitting an article for publication. In addition, the Rho Chi Post website (<https://rhochistj.org/RhoChiPost>) was showcased as the central hub for articles to be submitted, edited, and published on a monthly basis.

My Vascular Valentine  
February 12, 2016 – Ongoing collaborative event; Attendees: 10 Rho Chi members + ~20 students from other pharmacy organizations  
As in years past, Rho Chi members joined other St. John's students in inviting a group of elementary school children to the campus for the Valentine's Day program. The children were able to visit a variety of stations each run by St. John's students, where they could participate in different activities. At the station run by Rho Chi members, the elementary-schoolers identified a diagram of the heart (anatomically correct, of course) and located its chambers and major vessels. The Rho Chi members engaged the students on the importance of keeping one's heart in good working order. They also discussed fun ways to exercise the heart, and the visiting students were able to see a demonstration of a blood pressure measurement. The event was not complete until the young visitors enjoyed a snack, and were sent home with a better sense of how to develop lifelong healthy habits.

APhA Annual Meeting and Expo & Rho Chi Annual Meeting  
March 3 – March 7, 2016 – Annual event that E-board attends (approx. 5 people)  
This year's Rho Chi meeting was held concurrently with the annual APhA Meeting and Exposition, in Baltimore, Maryland. The March 3-7th gathering was a particularly significant one for the Beta Delta chapter, where the 2015 Executive Board and faculty advisor, Dr. S. William Zito, had the honor of receiving the 2016 National Faculty Advisor Award.

Dean’s Hour Careers in Pharmacy  
April 11, 2016 – New collaborative event; Attendees: 40+ pharmacy students  
During this event, we partnered with Phi Delta Chi and the Career Center at St. John’s University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences to host a roundtable event where we invited professionals from the pharmaceutical industry to come and talk about their experiences. Students had the opportunity to ask them questions regarding a myriad of topics including why they chose their area of work and the benefits of pursuing a fellowship.

Coffeehouse Chats  
April 13, 2016 – Ongoing annual event (4 years); Attendees: 100+ students and faculty from the college of Pharmacy  
The “Coffeehouse Chats” is a unique annual event the Beta Delta chapter hosts. On April 13, 2016, we hosted the event for its 7th consecutive year. The goal of this event has been to foster professional relationships between students, faculty members, and administrators. We aimed to provide an outlet where they could come together to discuss experiences, careers, current events, and other topics pertaining to the field of pharmacy. This year we had a record turnout of attendees (around 100 people including faculty). We organized round tables sessions, with at least one faculty member (clinical faculty and/or PHS department) at each table, and students had the opportunity to ask the professors questions and discuss relevant pharmacy topics. We served dinner, dessert, and coffee, in a comfortable environment for all attendees to enjoy. All faculty members in attendance provided positive feedback after the event.

Relay for Life  
April 15, 2016 – Ongoing campus wide event; Attendees: ~20 Rho Chi members  
Relay for Life is a campus wide activity at St. John’s University in order to raise funds for the American Cancer Society. Various organizations participated in the event as teams, including our Rho Chi members. Our members helped raise money and participated in the fundraising walk in conjunction with other students at St. John’s.

Pharmacy Organizations Recognition Dinner  
April 18, 2016 – New collaborative event; Attendees: 50+ students from various pharmacy organizations  
At this event we collaborated with several other St. John's College of Pharmacy organizations in hosting an awards dinner to recognize the achievements of both faculty and students over the course of the last year. Award recipients were determined by the president of each organization and given out to both students and faculty.

Pharmacy Practice in the Field of Medical Marijuana Lecture  
April 21, 2016 – New event; Attendees: ~20 students  
This is a new event that we held during the spring semester where we partnered with our school’s APhA Chapter and ASCP Chapter. During this event, a group of students from our school’s Pharmacy Leadership class held a lecture about medical marijuana and its implications on the profession. They talked about things such as how does medical marijuana actually work, what’s the difference between different strains and dosage forms, as well as what are the legal requirements for dispensing medical marijuana to patients. This event was open to pharmacy students in all years of the program. The group of students were Jasmine Demiri, Johnathan Pinkhasov, Jessica Langton, Cheng-Hsiao Alex Tai, Hina Ghani, Nicollette Pacheco, and Mo Se Kim and their project mentor was Dr. Joseph M. Brocavich, Associate Dean and Associate Clinical Professor at St. John’s University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences.

S4GIFT Bone Marrow Donation Lecture  
April 25, 2016 – Ongoing (4 years); Attendees: ~20 students  
In the first of a two-part lecture series, Rho Chi was honored to invite Mr. Andrew Barquin to St. John's to teach students about bone marrow donation. Representing the DKMS Delete Blood Cancer organization, Mr. Barquin equipped lecture attendees to answer questions that patients and prospective donors would be most likely to ask regarding the bone marrow donation process. College of Pharmacy students learned the different methods of donation, as well as the odds of finding a close enough match. This series aims to educate our future health professionals, so that they can provide accurate information and resources to those who would like to learn more about bone marrow and organ donations.

Rho Chi & Phi Lambda Sigma Social  
April 28, 2016 – New event; Attendees: 50+ students  
Together with PLS, Rho Chi members gathered to celebrate the end of the semester and reflect on successes of the academic year along with fellow peers of Phi Lambda Sigma, a pharmacy leadership society. This provided a great network opportunity for all members of the pharmacy profession of years 3 through 6. A luncheon was served for all attendees, co-funded by PLS and Rho Chi.

**Financial Budgeting**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ITEM | Amount Debited ($$ spent) | Amount Credited ($$ raised) | Balance | Comment |
| **Budget** |  |  |  |  |
| **Balance forward** |  | **$600** | **$600** | **Balance provided to the Chapter from the University Student Activity Fund based on past Chapter events and involvement** |
| Donation to Red Dress Gala | $100 |  | $500 |  |
| Coffeehouse Chats Food from Miraj Healthy Grill | $500.00 |  | $0 |  |
|  | | | | |
| **Earned Income Account** |  |  |  |  |
| **Balance forward** |  |  | **$3071.13** | **Balance from previous years fundraising** |
| Deposit for Initiation Ceremony | $500.00 |  | $2,571.13 |  |
| Color copies for Fliers | $10.00 |  | $2561.13 |  |
| Club Income From T Shirt Sales-Rho-Chi Post |  | $495 | $3056.13 |  |
| New Member Deposit |  | $9330.00 | $12386.13 |  |
| Verdis of White Stone- Induction Dinner Deposit | $5255.00 |  | $7131.13 |  |
| Rho Chi National Deposit and Induction costs | $3445.00 |  | $3686.13 |  |
| Color Copies of Programs | $75.00 |  | $3611.13 |  |
| Rho Chi Website Service fee | $685.47 |  | $2925.66 |  |
| Additional New Member Payments |  |  | 4095.66 |  |
| Sweatshirts sales |  | $1185.00 | $4,936.07 |  |
| Sweatshirt Cost | $749.19 |  | $3346.47 |  |
| Miraj healthy Grill Food | $200 |  | $3146.47 |  |
| Chartwell Coffee and Cookies for Coffeehouse chats | $156 |  | $2990.47 |  |
| Coffeehouse Supplies | $88.54 |  | $2901.93 |  |
| Supplies for Collab Lunch with PLS | $79.55 |  | $2822.38 |  |
| Additional Expense for Coffeehouse | $150.00 |  | $2672.38 |  |

The budget is ultimately determined and approved by Student Government, Inc. at St. John’s University. This year, the Rho Chi Beta Delta Chapter at St. John’s University held their annual sweatshirt fundraiser. For more information regarding financial budgeting, please refer to the attached budget document.

**Installation Function**

On January 20th 2016, the Beta Delta chapter of Rho Chi Society granted membership to a new class of students; fifty-three students were inducted, including forty-two 4th year students, six 5th year students, one 6th year student, and five Ph.D students. The ceremony took place at Verdi’s in Whitestone, where past year rho chi members and eager new members were joined with esteemed faculty, colleagues and family.

The Rho-Chi induction ceremony began with all the guests being seated, and the address of current president Michael Bosco. He welcomed everyone and commended the current inductees for the Rho Chi Society for the great honor they have received. Michael encouraged us to become leaders and use the knowledge and skills we have gained to inspire others. He emphasized to take the acceptance of the Rho Chi Society along with a commitment to the value of academic excellence and honor.

The following speaker was Dean DiGate of the St. John’s University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. Dr. DiGate reminded us how hard work and determination are key virtues in succeeding in any walk of life, and these are qualities that will help students pursue meaningful and impactful lives with their future professions. Dr. DiGate passed along the keynote address to Dr. John A Pieper, who is the president of St. Louis College of Pharmacy. Dr. Pieper’s speech emphasized the global expansion of the pharmacy profession, he emphasized the advancement that pharmacy has undergone in America and how our vast knowledge can be used to expand and elevate our profession elsewhere. He reminds us that the impact of a pharmacist anywhere can have an exponential difference in many people’s lives.

The new inductees then gathered in the center of the large room and took the pledge to live up to the principles and values of Rho Chi. The 2015-2016 Executive Board of the Beta Delta chapter was then introduced, and they took their own pledge of commitment to their positions.

**Evaluation/Reflection**

The activities and events hosted by the Beta Delta Chapter in the past year have greatly contributed to increasing Rho Chi’s presence on the St. John’s campus and promoting leadership and professionalism among its members. The faculty-student Coffeehouse Chats were a great success this year with an attendance of 90 guests including the Dean of the College of Pharmacy and Health professions, Russell DiGate and Senior Associate Dean for Pharmacy Associate Clinical Professor College of Pharmacy, Joseph Brocavich along with approximately 20 other esteemed faculty members. The previous success of the coffeehouse chats event and the advertisement made by members of the society resulted in the event’s biggest turnout yet. Students enjoyed being able to relate to and converse with their faculty members in a more personal and accessible environment, which is unlikely in a lecture hall. Conversations ranged from discussion of new clinical trials in the works, to the future of the field of pharmacy and even ways to improve the program by possible integrating different things into the curriculum. Professors and administrators enjoyed being able to hear the students’ perspective and spreading some of their new ideas with the rest of the student body. There was a lot of positive feedback from both the faculty and the student body, so much so that we have been inclined to make the event twice a year! In general, the Coffeehouse Chats is the Beta Delta Chapter’s most well-attended and well-received event. Any new changes going forward will be implemented under the continued intent to welcome pharmacy students of all years, and to promote meaningful interactions between students and faculty.

This year’s organ donation lecture by S4Gift: organ donation counseling certification part 1 benefited from the inclusion of non-Rho Chi students, a departure from the format used in past years. By allowing the attendance of the entire student body, we were able to both promote leadership and community among the students as well as establish the Rho Chi Society as an organization that is dedicated to the professional development of all students. The lecture went very well and after hearing feedback from some of the attendees, another workshop was requested for the upcoming Fall 2016 semester.

Collaboration with other St. John’s University pharmacy was very apparent in the Red Dress Gala. Nearly every pharmacy organization student chapter on campus participated in this event, which promoted increased collaboration amongst the different organizations. This year’s Gala had 150 attendees and was widely enjoyed among the student body and faculty members. In an attempt to further promote collaboration, Rho Chi joined together with Phi Lambda Sigma for an end of the semester celebration/social before finals week.. The event hosted several students some of which belonged to both societies and students were able to come together and discuss possible new events and ideas for the upcoming semester.

This year also saw the first Pharmacy Organizations Recognition dinner in which all the pharmacy organizations came together and awarded their most outstanding members. The event was a way to promote outstanding participation in the each pharmacy organization and recognize those who have worked hard to promote their organization's missions and goals throughout the year. Rho Chi awarded two of its members, Julia Kamuda and Sang Hyo Kim, for their outstanding roles in the Beta Delta Chapter. Sang Hyo Kim was awarded as the Most Outstanding Member- Rho Chi Post for her contributions in recruiting more student pharmacists into the Rho Chi Post. Julia Kamuda was awarded the Most Valuable Member of the Beta Delta Chapter for her active commitment to Rho Chi's mission and goals.

Going forward, the Rho Chi Beta Delta chapter hopes to continue its success in integrating different organizations and further promoting increased participation amongst our members. Encouraging community service and career development will be out two goals for the coming year.

**Other Information**

The focus of our report is the activities section.