### Annual Chapter Report Outline

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

**Date of report submission:** 2017-05-15

**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:** Bianca Chiu and Karen Lin

**Date Delegate’s name submitted:** 2017-02-09

Past year's officers and e-mail addresses

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New officers and e-mail addresses for next academic year  
(If not yet elected, please indicate date of anticipated election and report names within one week of election)

New officers and e-mail addresses

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[chapter-advisors]

**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.

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 |
| 2016-09-08 | 6 | First Executive Board Meeting Fall 2016 | For current Eboard members to discuss and plan the events for the upcoming year |
| 2016-09-15 | 22 | First General Body Meeting Fall 2016 | -Welcome members to another academic year -Update members regarding upcoming events and service opportunities (i.e. Pharmacy Organization Day, Healthy Halloween, Mock Interview Workshop series, and Coffeehouse Chats: Alumni Edition, etc.) |
| 2016-12-19 | 21 | Interviews for New Rho Chi Eboard Members | -Current Eboard members interviewed new candidates for the Rho Chi 2017-2018 Eboard -Emails informing the candidates of their acceptance were sent within two days |
| 2016-12-23 | 9 | First Executive Board Meeting Spring 2017 | -Outgoing Eboard and faculty advisor detailed the responsibilities and recommendations for the incoming Eboard members -Addressed issues that occurred in the previous year and formulated ideas to improve future activities |

**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 communication and networking opportunities between students, faculty members, administrators, and other pharmacy organizations, by increasing collaboration with other pharmacy organizations.  
• To better prepare students to transition to professional roles and apply the knowledge learned in the classroom into a community, clinical, or industrial setting, by hosting workshops and professional events.  
• To empower students to be both educators and leaders in their profession by hosting educational events as well as providing service opportunities.  
• To keep students current with information on new drugs and innovations in the pharmacy sector by supporting Rho Chi Post as it publishes its monthly newsletter on various issues pertaining to pharmacy (<https://rhochistj.org/RhoChiPost/>)  
• To elicit enthusiasm for and interest in the profession of pharmacy in pre-professional pharmacy students by virtue of outreach and publicity  
• To improve our chapter and our university by advancing all our members in their ethical and intellectual development.

**Activities**

Fall 2016 Semester

Healthy Halloween  
October 19th, 2016 – Ongoing collaborative event; Attendees: ~10 Rho Chi members  
Rho Chi collaborated with PLS (Phi Lambda Sigma, pharmacy leadership society) at St. John’s University to help set-up and clean-up for Healthy Halloween. This is an annual event hosted at the University that focuses on teaching young elementary school children how to have a safe and healthy Halloween.

Pharmacy Organization Day  
October 27th, 2016 – Ongoing annual event by the school of Pharmacy; Attendees: ~10 Rho Chi members  
Members signed up to represent Rho Chi during Pharmacy Organization Day. This event presents pharmacy students with various organizations at St. John’s University. Executive board members, Rho Chi members, and editors from Rho Chi Post were all present to answer students’ questions about the organization.

Crash Course: Midyear  
October 20th, 2016 – Ongoing (5 years); Attendees: ~25 pharmacy students  
Crash Course: Midyear consisted of a panel of professors who had experience in either a residency or a fellowship, in collaboration with the University’s career services department. The goal was to give a broad perspective on the main two career paths offered at Midyear, as well as provide tips and advice on how to ‘survive’ during the high-stress moments of Midyear. The panelists first started running through the pros and cons of each respective field before opening the discussion up to a Q&A session.  
Multiple students expressed thanks at the conclusion of the event, as they felt they have received very valuable information which would allow them to approach Midyear with less trepidation.

CV & Resume Workshop Series  
October 24th, 2016 – Ongoing (5 years); Attendees: ~30 pharmacy students  
In this event, Rho Chi collaborated with the University’s career services department, as well as IPhO and AMCP to form an event to assist students in either forming or revising their resumes and/or CV’s. Particular focus was given to 6th-year students who had attended the Crash Course: Midyear program, and were drafting their CV’s into a final form to submit at Midyear, however all years of the pharmacy program were welcome.

Coffeehouse Chats: Alumni Edition  
November 10th, 2016 – Ongoing semiannual event (5 years); Attendees: 100+ students and faculty from the College of Pharmacy and recently graduated alumni that were part of a residency or fellowship.  
The “Coffeehouse Chats” is a unique recently semiannual event the Beta Delta chapter hosts. On November 11th 2016, we hosted the event for its 7th consecutive year. The aim of this event has always been to encourage professional relationships between students, faculty members, administrators, and now alumni. Our goal was to provide a casual environment where they could come together to discuss experiences, careers, current events, and other topics related to the pharmacy field. For this event, we decided to include recently graduated alumni because we hoped that since they recently graduated from the college of pharmacy, they would be able to provide insight into how pharmacy students can make themselves more appealing or qualified as they pursue a career in pharmacy. This year we had a record turnout of attendees (around 100 people including faculty and alumni). We organized round tables sessions, with at least one alumni at each table, and students had the opportunity to ask the alumni questions and discuss relevant pharmacy topics. We served dinner, dessert, and coffee, in a comfortable environment for all attendees to enjoy. All attendees provided positive feedback after the event.

Spring 2017 Semester:

Third Annual Red Dress Gala  
February 3rd, 2017 – Ongoing (3 years) collaborative event; Attendees: 5 students and faculty  
The Rho Chi Society along with the American Pharmacists hosted the Red Dress Gala, an annual event in support of the American Heart Association (AHA). The night was filled with music, food, and fun open to the entire College of Pharmacy. Thanks to the great food provided by Qdoba and special DJ performance from faculty member Dr. Maidhof, the night went off without a hitch. This year’s event highlighted cardiovascular health in women and was capped off with an amazing presentation by a guest speaker. All proceeds went to the AHA. It was a memorable night that allowed students to take a break from their studies, reflect upon their own long-term health, and gain some insight into their future patients and practice as future health professionals.

My Vascular Valentine  
February 8th, 2017 – Ongoing collaborative event; Attendees: 20 Rho Chi members, 40 students from other pharmacy organizations  
Continuing our tradition from years past, members of Rho Chi, as well as students from other organizations within pharmacy came together in an event to interact with a group of elementary school children, who came to the campus for this Valentine's Day-themed program. The children had the opportunity to engage in different arts and crafts activities at different stations throughout the room. Some Rho Chi members helped man craft tables, while others offered tips on how to eat a heart-healthy diet, make smart food choices, and have fun while exercising. One of the pharmacy lab coordinators had donated some stethoscopes to be used at the event, so the children also had the opportunity to listen to their own heart. By the end of the event, the children had plenty of craft souvenirs to take home, as well as a message of how important the heart is.

Rho Chi Post Informational  
February 23rd, 2017 – Ongoing (5 years) annual event; Attendees 15 students  
This event was to support Rho Chi Post by attracting to writers and editors to join the staff. The outgoing Chief Editor gave a short presentation detailing the responsibilities of each role. Food and refreshments were also served.

S4 Gift Lecture Series  
April 20th and 24th, 2017 – Ongoing (5 years) event; Attendees: 60 students  
In the first part of a two-part lecture series on April 20th, Rho Chi was honored to invite Ms. Kelly Taylor, MSW back to St. John's to teach students about bone marrow donation. Representing the DKMS Delete Blood Cancer organization, Ms. Taylor 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 about the various methods of donation, as well as the odds of finding a close enough match. In the second part of the lecture series on April 24th, Rho Chi was honored to have John Organ to St. John’s University to educate students about organ donation. Representing the LiveOnNY organization, Mr. Organ graciously shared his own story of being an organ donor recipient himself and expressed the importance of increasing the number of organ donors.This series aimed 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.

Coffeehouse Chats  
April 20th, 2017 – Ongoing (5 years) semiannual event ; Attendees: Approximately students and faculty from the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences  
This was the second time this event was held in the 2016-2017 academic year. It is one of the main events that the organization is known for on campus. The Rho Chi Coffeehouse chats are organized in the same manner as the event in the fall, but during this spring semester event, we had faculty members rather than alumni. It ran the same way as the previous event. We had a professor at each roundtable, and the students were given the opportunity to ask the professors questions about the profession and their experience in a less formal setting than the classroom. We served our attendees coffee, dinner, and dessert. We made sure to get their feedback about how we could improve this event for the future. The general consensus was a very positive feedback from all of our attendees.

Relay for Life  
April 21th, 2017 – Ongoing campus wide event; Attendees: ~10 Rho Chi Members  
Relay for life is an annual university-wide event during the Spring semester focused on raising awareness and funds for the American Cancer Society. This event is an important component of Rho Chi membership that signifies ideals held high by our organization and members. For an entire night from dusk to dawn, participants continue to walk throughout the night as a tribute to those fighting or who have fought the battle against cancer. Relay for Life affords participants to bond together as an organization and as a university with one common enemy-cancer. The goal is to, as a team, have at least one member walking at all times during the night. We were proudly able to raise $250 dollars as a team. Overall, the event was a huge success, as the school as a whole raised over $1 million, while bringing the campus together as one to fight for a united principle.

The Second Annual Pharmacy Organizations Recognition Dinner  
April 24th, 2017 – Ongoing annual (2 years) collaborative event; Attendees: 250 students from various pharmacy organizations  
At this event we collaborated with 14 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 executive board of each organization and given out to both students and faculty. This was a memorable night that allowed everyone to reflect on their personal successes in the past year and motivated everyone to work harder.

**Financial Budgeting**

Our budget is determined by the University’s Student Government Budget Committee, who provided us with $600 for all our chapter activities. In addition to this amount, our chapter has an earned income  
account in which we have approximately $1800, as of the end of this school year. Most of our earned income comes from our annual sweatshirt sale and Initiation Function, in which we collect an additional $10 per member to add to our earned income fund.

**Installation Function**

On January 19th 2017, the Beta Delta chapter of Rho Chi Society granted membership to a new class of students; fifty-eight students were inducted, including fifty-one 4th year students and seven 5th year 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 President of the 2016 Beta Delta chapter, Ajla Dupljak, warmly welcomed and congratulated the new inductees, inviting them to see the pins that they would receive as symbols of a renewed commitment to the value of academic excellence celebrated by Rho Chi. She encouraged inductees to strive to always to do and be their very best, and in so doing, they would continually prove themselves worthy of their membership. The following speaker was Dean Digate of the St. John’s University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. Dean 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. Dean Digate passed along the keynote address to Dr. Judith Beizer, who is an esteemed faculty member of the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. Dr. Beizer congratulated the inductees, reflecting on the importance of recognizing students for their admirable achievements. Dr. Beizer finished her speech by graciously sharing her experience and journey to get where she is now, 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.  
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 2016-2017 Executive Board of the Beta Delta chapter was then introduced, and they took their own pledge of commitment to their positions.

**Evaluation/Reflection**

The Beta Delta Chapter hosted many activities and events in the 2016-2017 school year that have significantly contributed to Rho Chi’s increasing presence on the St John’s campus, as well as developing professionalism and leadership among its members. The Spring Coffeehouse Chats was a great success this year with an attendance of approximately 42 guests including the Senior Associate Dean for Pharmacy Associate Clinical Professor College of Pharmacy, Joseph Brocavich, along with other esteemed faculty members. Students were able to relate to and converse with their faculty members in a more personal and intimate environment, which is generally impossible in a lecture hall. Conversations ranged from individual prospects and hopes for careers, 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. Faculty and administrators enjoyed being able to connect with students on a personal level as well as hearing the students’ perspective and spreading some of their new ideas with the rest of the student body. In general, the Coffeehouse Chats is the Beta Delta chapter’s most popular and well­-received activity. Any new changes going forward will be implemented under the continued intent to welcome pharmacy students of all majors, and to promote professional, meaningful interactions between students and faculty. This year’s organ donation lecture by S4Gift: organ donation counseling certification series allowed older members who only participated in part 1 in Fall 2016, to also attend part 2 in Spring 2017 and complete the counseling certification requirements. The organ donation lecture series were well received and promoted the professional development of the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences students. This particular series of lectures shed light on an important health subject that often times goes unnoticed. Rho Chi commonly collaborates with other St. John’s University pharmacy organizations; a great example is the collaboration with APhA in the annual 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 many attendees from all grades and was widely enjoyed among the study body and faculty members. Pi Delta Psi performed a cultural lion dance with ritualistic drums and St. John’s Comedy Club performed an improv skit. In an attempt to further promote collaboration, Rho Chi joined together with the rest of the University participated in Relay for Life, to raise money for cancer research. This year was especially successful, as the university as whole passed the million-dollar mark for the first time. This year also carried on the tradition of the Pharmacy Organizations Recognition dinner in which all the pharmacy organizations came together and awarded their most outstanding members. In addition, the event also included PA students for the first time ever in an effort to include more majors from the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. The event was a way to promote participation in the society and recognize those who have worked extensively to improve Rho Chi throughout the year. Rho Chi awarded two of its members, Bianca Chiu and Katie Cimmino. Going forward, the Rho Chi Beta Delta chapter hopes to continue to promote the integration of different organizations and further promote increased participation amongst our members. Encouraging professional development and giving back to the community through community service will be our two goals for the upcoming year.

**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** |
| Fall Coffeehouse chats coffee | $77.50 |  | $522.50 |  |
| Pizza for S4Gift Lecture Series | $141.40 |  | $381.10 |  |
| Spring Coffeehouse chats coffee | 75.53 |  | $305.57 |  |
|  | | | | |
| **Earned Income Account** |  |  |  |  |
| **Balance forward** |  |  | **$2672.38** | **Balance from previous years fundraising** |
| Decorations for Fall events | $200.00 |  | 2472.38 |  |
| Color copies for Fliers | $3.00 |  | $2469.38 |  |
| Deposit for Initiation Ceremony | $500.00 |  | $1969.38 |  |
| Decorations for Spring events | $142.05 |  | $1827.33 |  |
| New Member Deposit |  | $9225.00 | $11052.33 |  |
| Rho Chi National Deposit and Induction costs | $3770.00 |  | $7282.33 |  |
| Verdis of White Stone- Induction Dinner Deposit | $4493.00 |  | $2789.33 |  |
| Extra New Member Deposit |  | $90.00 | $2879.00 |  |
| Verdis of White Stone – Extra Charge | $420.00 |  | $2459.33 |  |
| Rho Chi Website Service fee | $685.47 |  | $1773.86 |  |
| Rho Chi Post Informational Food |  | $65.86 | $1708.00 |  |
| Coffeehouse Chats Supplies |  | $30.24 | $1677.76 |  |
| Coffeehouse Chats  Color Programs |  | $52.50 | $1625.26 |  |
| Sweatshirts sales |  | $1195 | $2820.26 |  |
| Sweatshirt Cost | $986.74 |  | $1833.52 |  |

**Other Information**

There is currently no other information we would like to provide.