

## **Annual Chapter Report Outline**

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

**Date of report submission:** 2018-05-13

**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:** Alex Chu

**Date Delegate's name submitted:** 2018-03-17

Past year's officers and e-mail addresses

President

First Name

Matthew

Last Name

Kahn

Email

[matthew.kahn13@stjohns.edu](mailto:matthew.kahn13@stjohns.edu)

Vice President

First Name

Megan

Last Name

Thomas

Email

[megan.eng13@stjohns.edu](mailto:megan.eng13@stjohns.edu)

Secretary

First Name

Verona

Last Name

Abdelmeseleh

Email

[verona.abdelmeseh13@stjohns.edu](mailto:verona.abdelmeseh13@stjohns.edu)

Treasurer

First Name

Simranpreet

Last Name

Waraich

Email

[simranpreet.waraich13@stjohns.edu](mailto:simranpreet.waraich13@stjohns.edu)

Historian

First Name

Jiashan

Last Name

Xu

Email

[Jiashan.xu13@stjohns.edu](mailto:Jiashan.xu13@stjohns.edu)

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

President

First Name

Alex

Last Name

Cheung

Email

[alexander.cheung14@stjohns.edu](mailto:alexander.cheung14@stjohns.edu)

Vice President

First Name

Gini

Last Name

Thomas

Email

[gini.thomas14@stjohns.edu](mailto:gini.thomas14@stjohns.edu)

Secretary

First Name

Shirley

Last Name

Chung

Email

[shirley.chung14@stjohns.edu](mailto:shirley.chung14@stjohns.edu)

Treasurer

First Name

Anna

Last Name

Kamuda

Email

[anna.kamuda14@stjohns.edu](mailto:anna.kamuda14@stjohns.edu)

Historian

First Name

Jeffrey

Last Name

Thomas

Email

[jeffrey.thomas14@stjohns.edu](mailto:jeffrey.thomas14@stjohns.edu)

Chapter advisor's name and e-mail address

First Name

William

Last Name

Zito

Email  
[zitos@stjohns.edu](mailto:zitos@stjohns.edu)

### Chapter advisor's name and e-mail address

[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
2017-09-25	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, and Coffeehouse Chats: Alumni Edition, etc.)
2018-02-01	45	First General Body Meeting Spring 2018	-Welcome new members to the organization -Update members on upcoming events and service opportunities (i.e. Red Dress Gala, My Vascular Valentine, Coffeehouse Chats, Relay for Life, etc.) - Inform members of the new Academic Committee, application due dates and opportunities within the

2018-02-15	12	Academic Committee Head Chairs and Executive Board Spring 2018	<p>program -Encouraged members to get involved with the Rho Chi Post, and who to contact if interested - Welcome all members to give suggestions for the upcoming semester</p> <p>-Went through Academic Committee Contract with new selected Academic Committee Head Chairs. - Addressed any questions/comments/concerns of Head Chairs -Discussed possible situations and solutions to those situations if they arose -Set up the google drive for the project and group chats for communication - Stressed the strict academic integrity code to follow - Suggested to do the most that the Head Chairs can with their position – hold review sessions, speak to each professor on their own (introduce themselves as the Head Chair for a particular subject)</p> <p>-Delegated responsibilities for the upcoming Coffeehouse Chats (creating/posting flyer, sending out invitations, ordering food/refreshments, reserving room, offering service opportunities for members, etc.)</p>
2018-03-06	6	Third executive board meeting Spring 2018	<p>-Planned presale fundraiser to raise funds for the Rho Chi Society Relay for Life team, named it “Fondue for Life” for chocolate covered pretzels/oreos. Organized service opportunity hours, reserving area for fundraiser, discussed also hosting a raffle. -Send update email to chapter members to keep them informed</p>

**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 2017 Semester

#### Rho Chi Post Informational

September 21, 2017 – Ongoing (6 years) annual event; Attendees 25 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.

#### Healthy Halloween

October 20th, 2017 – 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, 2017 – 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.

#### Coffeehouse Chats

November 13th, 2017 – Ongoing (6 years) semiannual event ; Attendees: Approximately 100 students and faculty from the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

The coffeehouse chats is one of the main events that the organization is known for on campus. The Rho Chi Coffeehouse chats were originally established to introduce alumni to the students, but since we many of our faculty are rho chi alumni, we decided to have specifically faculty members rather than general alumni. It ran the same way as the events from previous years. 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.

### Spring 2018 Semester:

#### St. John's Activity Fair

January 29th, 2018 – This is an event that St. John's University sets up every semester to give its organizations an opportunity to introduce themselves to interested students. Although Rho Chi Society has prerequisites that must be met in order for one to be initiated, we took this opportunity to strengthen our presence on campus to the first and second years who may not be aware that Rho Chi Society is something to aim for. We presented our poster board with pictures

from past events and talked about our plans for the upcoming semester so that interested pharmacy students of all years may attend and benefit. Executive Board members and other members were always posted at the table to answer any questions/comments that the students had to offer.

#### Fourth Annual Red Dress Gala

February 1st, 2018 – Ongoing (4 years) collaborative event; Attendees: 35 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.

#### Rho Chi Academic Committees:

February 15th, 2018- The goal of the Rho Chi Academic Committee program is to provide consistent, high quality academic support to P2 and P3 students both within and outside of the Rho Chi Society. Each committee, led by a Head Chair, corresponds to one of the courses offered during the St. John's P2 and P3 school years. The committees serve to embrace the university's academic excellence and commitment to promoting scholastic ingenuity by holding review sessions, creating study materials, and tutoring pharmacy students. Students can apply to be a Head Chair of a committee for one or more of the courses offered, where they will lead review sessions, create study materials, and tutor students to enhance the academic excellence of the St. John's pharmacy program. Members of Rho Chi Society are able to apply to be Head Chairs of the Academic Committees. Students that are not currently in Rho Chi can still be on a committee, but they cannot apply to serve as Head Chair.

This idea was inspired by the academic committee construct at Rutgers University (Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy) and was reconstructed to better suit the resources and curriculum of St. John's University. During its "beta testing" this Spring of 2018, seven committees were established, each offering students the opportunity to debate, inquire, and to expand their knowledge of the pharmaceutical sciences.

We have received positive feedback from many students, and the amount of enthusiasm and involvement within this program from the whole pharmacy class (Rho Chi and non-Rho Chi) has been amazing.

The following are dates of the academic committee review sessions for the Spring 2018 semester:

Biopharm review 1: 02/27/18

Drug Literature review: 3/1/18

Neurology review 1: 03/11/18

Biopharm review 1: 03/20/18

Neurology review 2: 04/02/18

Biopharm review 2: 04/11/18

Respiratory review 1: 04/16/18

Respiratory review 2: 04/29/18

### My Vascular Valentine

February 28th, 2018 – Ongoing collaborative event; Attendees: 10 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.

### “Pharmacy Practice in Managed Care by Babette S. Edgar, Pharm. D., MBA, FAMCP

March 20th, 2018- In collaboration with Kappa Psi, Lambda Kappa Sigma, Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy, APhA-ASP, and IPhO, Rho Chi took part in this event where Dr. Edgar presented on her experience in Managed Care and answered questions that anyone had. It was great exposure to students who may not have considered Managed Care as an option or had any other questions about Dr. Edgar's experience in many other areas of pharmacy. Refreshments were served.

### “Fondue for Life” Chocolate-covered Oreo/Pretzel Presale for Relay for Life

March 27th, 2018- To raise money for our Relay for Life team, Rho Chi hosted a presale for chocolate covered Oreos and pretzels. Interested buyers were able to fill out an order sheet online and pick them up at a table on March 27th. We had a variety of designs with different colors and sprinkles. Rho Chi volunteers got together the night before to fill the orders, and it was a great time of bonding with our fellow Rho Chi members. The next morning, more volunteers got together to manage the distribution, as well as a raffle for a \$25 Starbucks Gift Card and a giant teddy bear (which was kindly donated by one of our members). Altogether, we raised \$202 from this presale and raffle! It was great to see the Rho Chi body come together to raise money for a good cause.

### The Third Annual Pharmacy Organizations Recognition Dinner

April 3rd, 2018 – Ongoing annual (3 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.

### National Public Health Week Trivia Lounge Event

April 4th, 2018 – In collaboration with APhA-ASP's Operation Public Health, Rho Chi helped host an event where students competed in three rounds of trivia for the prize of a \$25 Starbucks gift card. There were also three different student-led presentations on a variety of public health



topics such as hearing health, the effects of social media and mood, and the results from a survey done on the antibiotic literacy of St. John's Students. It was a fun night, filled with learning and laughs.

#### **Coffeehouse Chats: Alumni Edition**

April 10th, 2018 – Ongoing semiannual event; Attendees: 60+ 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. 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. 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.

#### **Relay for Life**

April 13th, 2018 – Ongoing annual 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 \$402 dollars as a team. Overall, the event was a huge success, as the school as a whole raised over \$160k, while bringing the campus together as one to fight for a united principle.

#### **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 18th 2018, the Beta Delta chapter of Rho Chi Society granted membership to a new class of students; forty-eight students were inducted, all 4th 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.

Matt Kahn, the president of Rho Chi Society welcomed everyone and spoke of his heart-touching story of how he realized how important pharmacy is to him and how Rho Chi Society has brought him to the person he is today. 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 then passed the microphone to the keynote speaker, Dr. John Spain BS, MA, PHarmD, BCPS. COL(R), USA, who warmly 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. He 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 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 2018-2019 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 2017-2018 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. In addition to the big events that we host every year, mainly Coffeehouse Chats, our big initiative this year was the Academic Committee Project. Inspired by the Academic Committee construct at Rutgers University, academic committees were created to span the entire P2 Spring of 2018 curriculum. Each committee, led by an elected member of Rho Chi, corresponds to a specific course in the pharmacy curriculum, and is responsible for creating study materials, holding review sessions, and tutoring pharmacy students in their coursework. Through their service to the St. John's pharmacy community, Rho Chi further enhanced the academic success of the P2 pharmacy students, and provided students the opportunity to develop lifelong relationships with their fellow peers. Members of the committees, as well as other pharmacy students, developed intraprofessional communication skills during review sessions, and an eye for aesthetics by creating comprehensive study materials, all while honing in on their academic studies. Members of the committees served as liaisons between students and faculty, presenting their concerns or questions and relaying that back to the student body. As a University tied to vincentian values of service to others, Rho Chi sought to utilize the strong academic standing of its' students to enhance the experience of every pharmacy student at St. John's. During the 2018-2019 year, Rho Chi plans to further expand the academic committees to span the P2 and P3 curriculum, and eventually, the entire professional Pharm.D degree.

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.

**Other Information**

Our main improvement from this past year was the Academic Committees, which we have discussed in the above event description and evaluation/reflection. Thank you.