

Annual Chapter Report Outline

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

Date of report submission: 2018-05-15

Name of School/College: The University of Houston

Chapter Name & region: Beta Omicron chapter, Region VI

Delegate who attended the Rho Chi Annual Meeting: Sheryl Nwankwo

Date Delegate's name submitted: 2018-02-22

Past year's officers and e-mail addresses

President

First Name
Sheryl

Last Name
Nwankwo

Email
sheryl.c.nwankwo@gmail.com

Vice President

First Name
Ngan

Last Name
N/A

Email
ngannguyen116@gmail.com

Secretary

First Name
Erica

Last Name
Morales

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Treasurer

First Name
Johnny

Last Name
Hoang

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Historian

First Name
Maryam

Last Name
Zabeeh

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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)
2018-08-26

New officers and e-mail addresses

President

First Name

Last Name

Email

Vice President

First Name

Last Name
N/A

Email

Secretary

First Name

Last Name

Email

Treasurer

First Name

Last Name

Email

Historian

First Name

Last Name

Email

Chapter advisor's name and e-mail address

First Name

Sujit

Last Name

Sansgiry

Email

ssansgiry@uh.edu

Chapter advisor's name and e-mail address

[chapter-advisors]

Introduction

The Rho Chi Society, Beta Omicron Chapter at The University of Houston College of Pharmacy consists of over 60 PharmD and Graduate students who successfully provide the college with role models of intellectual leadership and encourage academic excellence from all peers. Over

many years, Beta Omicron has hosted a number of service and developmental events that have become traditions at our college. Some examples of our most anticipated events include the Annual Blood Drive and Rho Chi Challenge. Although these traditional events are consistently successful, this year, new officers wished to increase the visibility of Rho Chi Society year-round at our college, namely among potential members in the P1 and P2 classes. By focusing more energy on potential members, a prosperous future is better guaranteed for Beta Omicron by increasing excitement for the society and better preparing them to be the next intellectual leaders on campus. Through inter-organizational collaboration, new social and professional development events, and Chapter T-shirts, Rho Chi Society has not only maintained, but improved its reputation as the home of academic excellence and intellectual leadership.

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

Date	Attendance	Agenda	Action Steps
2018-02-08	14	Officer transition meeting with old officers and newly elected officers Discussed each officer's expected duties Set goals for the upcoming year Brainstormed ideas and discussed plans for the year	Pass along all Rho Chi emails, drives, and documents to new officers Open line of communication between old and new officers and advisors
2018-03-07	9	First chapter meeting in the spring semester Discussed upcoming events such as Rho Chi Annual Meeting, Annual Rho Chi Challenge at Spring Picnic, and Annual Blood Drive Introduced new collaborative game event, Are You Smarter Than A Pharmacist? Provided an open forum for student requests from Rho Chi Introduced new activities, such as collaborative CV workshop with PLS Finalized preparation for Are You Smarter Than A Pharmacist? game with SSHP Prepare for the Rho Chi Challenge by establishing question bank and finalizing rules Voted on a design for Rho Chi t-shirts	Selected delegate to attend Rho Chi Annual Meeting Gathered volunteers for upcoming events Began preparing for the Rho Chi Blood Drive and the Rho Chi Challenge Selected volunteers for the CV workshop Chose Rho Chi members to serve as bonus team members for Are You Smarter Than A Pharmacist? and Rho Chi Challenge Chose a Rho Chi t-shirt for printing so it can be worn at the Spring Picnic

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

After induction, the new officers reflected upon Rho Chi's mission to encourage and recognize excellence in intellectual achievement, foster fellowship among members, encourage high standards of conduct and character, and advocate for critical inquiry in all aspects of pharmacy. To fulfill this mission, the Beta Omicron Chapter sought to continue all successful traditional events Rho Chi had established, increase service events, and create new events targeted at professional development and intellectualism. Events such as the Rho Chi Blood Drive and the Rho Chi Challenge have been hosted for many years and never fail to encourage service and recognize academic excellence. The annual Rho Chi Lecture also encourages intellectual achievement by inviting a guest leader in pharmacy to speak to the entire college and rewarding exceptional faculty with Teaching Excellence Awards. New service events included a Bone Marrow Drive with Phi Lambda Sigma. To further promote professional and academic development, tutoring sessions and a CV workshop were provided to members and non-members. Another goal was to further increase the visibility of Rho Chi Society on campus to not only enhance participation by members, but to attract potential future members and ensure they are both excited and well-equipped to ensure the future success of the chapter. T-shirts were designed for members to establish presence and foster fellowship among members. In addition, increased collaboration with other pharmacy organizations on campus helped to make larger events that attract even more students, such as the new trivia game Are You Smarter Than A Pharmacist? with SSHP. To further foster fellowship among our members, the induction ceremony invited old and new members and their families to celebrate academic success together.

Activities

Gulf Coast Regional Blood Drive: For the past 3 years, we have encouraged our members and the community to participate in this service event that seeks to give back to the community through blood donation. Members and officers encourage students in both the pharmacy school and the rest of the campus to participate in a one-time donation of blood that is hosted by a loyal company renowned in the community for its charitable work.

Phi Lambda Sigma and Rho Chi Bone Marrow Drive: This is a first annual collaborative service event with Phi Lambda Sigma and Be The Match, an organization known for having the world's largest and most diverse bone marrow registry. Students and faculty of UHCOP were encouraged by volunteers to provide a saliva sample to become a part of the bone marrow registry, in case one day they may be a match for a patient in need of a bone marrow transplant.

Rho Chi Challenge: This is a traditional ongoing annual event held at the UH COP Spring Picnic that fulfills the mission of the society to encourage and recognize excellence in intellectual achievement while simultaneously advocating critical inquiry. Trivia-style questions are posed to teams comprised of three students and a faculty member, and the team with the most points at the end of three rounds wins a prize. This year, prizes were \$25 gift cards purchased by UH Rho Chi Society. Certificates of distinction were also distributed to all team winners in the Challenge.

Rho Chi Lecture: The Rho Chi Lecture has been a tradition for many years at UH COP in which Rho Chi invites an intellectual leader in pharmacy to speak to the entire college. Speakers range from active members of various states' pharmacy associations to past executive directors to

attorneys. The lecture also provides a welcome to newly inducted Rho Chi members and a platform to present Teaching Excellence Awards to outstanding faculty members from each department in UH COP.

Rho Chi Teaching Excellence Awards: Another traditional event for many years, the Rho Chi Teaching Excellence Awards aim to celebrate and reward faculty members recognized by students and Beta Omicron as outstanding contributors to pharmacy education. Faculty members are chosen based on schoolwide student votes, classroom evaluation surveys, and involvement in student organizations and activities. Beta Omicron reviews applications from the top 3 professors in each department, as determined by student votes, and ultimately awards one faculty member per department at the Rho Chi Lecture.

Rho Chi Tutoring: As a new initiative, Rho Chi members hosted a review session to help members and non-members of UH COP prepare for upcoming exams. Students presented and reviewed challenging material from classes together and shared study strategies amongst one another.

Rho Chi and SSHP Are You Smarter Than A Pharmacist?: Are You Smarter Than A Pharmacist? is a new trivia-style game started this year in collaboration with UH SSHP. Questions were developed at the P1, P2, P3, P4, and Pharmacist level. Ten teams of 3 students took turns answering questions of various difficulty levels, with limited options to seek help from a panel of pharmacists or a Rho Chi member. Rewards included gift cards purchased by Rho Chi and SSHP.

Rho Chi and Phi Lambda Sigma CV Workshop: In collaboration with Phi Lambda Sigma for the first time, the two pharmacy honor societies teamed up to provide pharmacy students with the perspective of CV reviewers and skills to make their CVs stand out in the crowd. The workshop included a lecture by a pharmacy administration residency director and a Phi Lambda Sigma and Rho Chi student panel.

Law Book Fundraiser: As part of giving back to the chapter and providing service to the rest of the students who aren't in Rho Chi, students are offered a discounted price by purchasing law books for the "Pharmacy Law and Ethics" class taken during the third year. It is also a useful tool in studying for the MPJE exam post-graduation.

H.O.M.E.S. Clinic: The HOMES clinic is a free clinic for homeless patients that is ran by pharmacy and medical students in Houston. There was a specific designated spot for members of Rho Chi to provide service during certain weekends.

Financial Budgeting

Our organization set up a new Bank account this year. This account will be easier to access than our previous account and more convenient for our officers. Fundraisers conducted included the Law Book Fundraiser, which made \$660. Current budgets were determined in conjunction with our Chapter's adviser for each event held. We accessed our budget weekly. Attached is an excel sheet showing our expenses, it pertains to just those concerning our venmo account.

Installation Function

Initiation was held on October 5th, 2017 at 6:30 pm at the Hilton Hotel at the University of Houston. New initiates from the Pharm.D. class of 2019 along with graduate students attended the initiation. Also in attendance were chapter advisers Dr. Jeff Sherer and Dr. Sujit Sansgiry. The speaker from the Fall 2017 Robert L. Boblitt lecture earlier that day, Dr. Ken Baker, was in attendance as well.

Evaluation/Reflection

As an organization we have come a long way in the past year. We began expanding our collaboration efforts and created a brand new event this past March called “Are You Smarter than A Pharmacist”. We ran this event with SSHP and the event was a great success. It involved Pharmacy students of all classes as well as a panel of Pharmacist judges. This event helped increase member participation and also increased awareness of our society on campus. In an effort to further increase the presence of our society on campus we created official Rho Chi Society T-shirts for our chapter this year. Many of our members purchased these T-shirts and some were given free shirts due to their participation in our Annual events. For each event we had this year we made sure to reach out to the members of our organization and give them incentives to get involved. Through these efforts we increased member involvement significantly, but there is certainly still room for improvement. I believe that the future officers will be able to build upon these new changes and continue to stimulate the growth of our chapter.

Ways to increase growth and activity

- Make elections and induction earlier in the fall
- Survey incoming members on what they would like to see Rho Chi achieve that year
- Give incentives for participation whenever possible

These are a few of the methods future officers can use to achieve more chapter growth. The most helpful of these changes would be moving the date of induction. Our previous date of October 5th makes it difficult for the incoming chapter officers to have an effective transition and it also limits time for activity planning. We plan to change this during our term, this way the incoming officers will be able to have a smoother transition.

Other Information

N/A