

Annual Chapter Report

May 14, 2015

University of Rhode Island

Beta Pi, Region I

Chapter advisor: Kristina E. Ward (kward@uri.edu)

Delegate: Krystal Memmer inducted into Rho Chi October 23, 2013; submitted March 2014

Officers 2014-2015:

President: Morgan Ratté (morgannxo9@my.uri.edu)

Vice President: Jessica Corio (jessica\_corio@my.uri.edu)

Secretary: Jeffrey Boyle (jeffrey\_boyle@my.uri.edu)

Treasurer: Sarah Zamil (sarah\_zamil@my.uri.edu)

Historian: Liz DeLio (elizabeth\_delio@my.uri.edu)

Fundraisers: Elizabeth Hardy (elizabeth\_hardy@my.uri.edu) and Ian Weininger (weiningerip@my.uri.edu)

New officers 2015-2016:

President: Tamara Bystrak (tamara\_bystrak@my.uri.edu)

Vice President: Elizabeth Kowalik (ekowalik@my.uri.edu)

Secretary: Gina Villano (villanog@my.uri.edu)

Treasurer: Kelsey Vallee (kelsey\_vallee@my.uri.edu)

Historian: Iman Aberra (iaberra@my.uri.edu)

Fundraisers: Zhaomin Cai (zhaomincai@my.uri.edu) and Thomas Szymanski (tszymanski@my.uri.edu)

Rho Chi Student Members

Class of 2015 College of Pharmacy (PharmD): 25

Class of 2016 College of Pharmacy (PharmD): 24

Class of 2017 College of Pharmacy (PharmD): 25

Meetings:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Attendance | Agenda | Action Steps |
| 9/18 | 5 | 1. Executive board meets to discuss the semester  - Induction  - Scholarship essay question decision  - Pricing for dinner  - Overview of responsibilities for the semester | Detailed our responsibilities to make sure everything would be taken care of for the semester |
| 10/2 | 10 | 1. Selection of Scholarship Winner  2. Selection of Professor to induct  3. Planning Induction dinner | Selected Scholarship Winner/Assigned tasks for setup and support for dinner. |
| 10/14 | 12 | 1. Details given to current members regarding the induction dinner | Finalized some details for the dinner and relayed this to the members, invited them and explained how they sign up to come and who they pay |
| 3/26 | 15 | 1. Prepare for elections | After sharing information about the responsibilities of each position, we held open nominations for each position |
| 4/10 | 20 | Elections | Elected officers for the 2015-2016 academic year |

Strategic Planning: Beta Pi Goals

* To promote and advocate Rho Chi to pharmacy students in their professional and pre-professional years
  + Hosted a booth at the College of Pharmacy freshman picnic and passed out informational pamphlets as well as answered questions about Rho Chi
  + Continued a mentorship program linking professional students with pre-professional students
  + Assisted other professional organizations by participating in fundraisers, i.e. pumpkin carving contest, made baskets for raffles, etc.
  + Represented Rho Chi at a variety of college-wide events
* To promote wellness within the community
  + Awarded a P4 student the third annual Rho Chi Service Award in honor of exceptional volunteer work in the community
* To continue the strive for academic excellence in the College of Pharmacy
  + Awarded a scholarship to one new inductee based on GPA, a professor recommendation, and an essay
  + Awarded a P4 student the “Rho Chi Award” for having the highest GPA after six years
  + Hosted a Rotation Showcase to enlighten students on the opportunities available during rotations
  + Restructured the Rho Chi tutoring program to promote academic excellence and assist struggling students through tough academic times

Activities:

Beta Pi Chapter at URI had a busy year of activities in 2014-2015. Our induction dinner was a big part of our fall semester. At Spain in Narragansett we inducted 25 new members into Rho Chi. It was a fun night for all where we praised all of our new inductee’s for their academic accomplishments and prepared them for what would lie ahead for them in Rho Chi. Around Halloween time we participated in a college wide pumpkin carving contest that raised money for local charities around our campus. We also held a Halloween candy fundraiser to help in our efforts to raise funds that will go to next year’s scholarship that will be given to a new inductee. Another fundraiser that we put on was a jewelry sale. Lauren Major, a URI alumnus from the class of 2010, comes back every year to sell jewelry she designs and puts her profits toward our chapter. We use these funds to help pay for our induction dinner as well as our scholarship. In the spring semester we had one more large fundraiser to collect more funds for our new member scholarship. We organized a Valentine’s Day candy-gram scholarship and it was a huge success with our peers throughout the college. Over both the fall and spring semesters, we offered tutoring sessions to all students who needed help with classes in the college. In the fall our tutors would set up a place and time where students needing help could come and receive the tutoring they needed. In the spring we had a more personal approach to tutoring where students would request help from our college’s academic chairs. They would forward the names to us and then our tutors were able to contact the students directly to set up biweekly tutoring sessions. All of the students who received tutoring were very grateful for our help and saw improvements in their academic performance. Our college’s academic chairs also thanked us for the service we are providing to our fellow students and our college as a whole.

Financial/Budgeting:

The Beta Pi chapter of Rho Chi determined the budget in September at the start of the school year based on the status of the chapter’s bank account. The treasurer worked with the executive staff and fundraising to establish the amount of funds needed to meet our chapter’s goals and commitments. The largest expense of the chapter was our induction ceremony and dinner. The induction ceremony on October 23rd was a great success keeping with the traditions of our chapter. Other chapter expenses included the new inductee scholarship, graduate student induction, chapter activities, fourth-year professional student awards and food for meetings. Prior to each purchase, either the treasurer or president reviewed the intended purchase and cost. Chapter members were responsible for saving receipts for Rho Chi purchases, which were further reviewed by the College’s Student Leadership Committee.

The chapter received funds from membership dues and fundraisers. In December, our jewelry sale was held, which raised over $400. In addition, we held small fundraisers such as the Halloween candy sale and Valentines candy sale to cover small costs throughout the year such as food for meetings and P4 student awards; these fundraisers raised approximately $250 together.

The Rho Chi chapter was financially successful through the 2014-2015 school year. The fundraising events allowed the Rho Chi chapter to engage in activities and events, while still maintaining a profit that will carry over to the next school year.

Initiation Function:

This year, the induction function consisted of an induction dinner at a new location, Spain of Narragansett. Nearly 95 guests attended the dinner: 7 current members/officers, 10 faculty, 25 undergraduate inductees and 1 graduate inductee, and over 45 family members and friends. Faculty members included the Dean of the College of Pharmacy, the former Dean of the College of Pharmacy, the pharmacy academic advisor, the Rho Chi advisor, and 6 other professors.

The dinner began with appetizers and drinks and a greeting by the Beta Pi chapter President. Dr. Paul Larrat, Dean of the College of Pharmacy, then spoke to the inductees about their accomplishment. The President followed with the induction of a deserving faculty member, Dr. Erica Estus, for her work in the geriatric field. Next, the official induction ritual began with a “lighting of the candles” ceremony, reception of certificates, jewelry and cords, and picture taking by the chapter’s historian.

Following the ceremony, dinner was served. Once dinner was almost finished, the President returned to the podium to present the Rho Chi scholarship to a new inductee, Karolina Wojiack, for her essay response describing her challenges and journey through pharmacy school. Following the scholarship award and pictures taken by the chapter’s historian, dessert was served.

Evaluation/Reflection:

Overall, the activities held by the Beta Pi chapter this year were a success. All of our events and decisions were decided on during meetings and constant communication was had between all members of the executive board to ensure smooth operations. Meetings during the first semester consisted of mostly third-year professional students because the new members had not been inducted yet. Furthermore, many meetings were held only including the executive board for decisions that included the induction ceremony responsibilities. Attendance was fairly low for chapter meetings, as scheduling was difficult and members were involved in a plethora of other organizations. Executive board meetings usually resulted in 66-83% attendance (4-5 out of 6) and were very productive. There was little involvement of fourth-year professional students due to their rotation schedules. Feedback from the P3 students indicated that after induction, there is little incentive to staying involved. In the future, we’d like to hold more events, expand our tutoring initiative, and perhaps host a P4 dinner to network and assist each other in career initiatives.

Our new initiative included building upon a tutoring program that was set up in previous years. The president met often with the Academic Enhancement Center and the academic chair for the College of Pharmacy to brainstorm ideas of how to make students more successful in the program. We held information sessions on learning the best way to study, how to tackle large amounts of material, and how to manage stress. We identified those students struggling most, and set them up with a personal Rho Chi tutor. In the future, we hope to work more closely with highly trained tutors and academic coaches to enhance the quality of our tutoring sessions. This initiative was very important to us this semester, as our past tutoring sessions did not generate a lot of attendance.

The success of our traditional, annual events is also worthwhile to mention. Fundraising for the annual Rho Chi scholarship and awards was accomplished with our jewelry sale and gift basket raffle. Handing out informational pamphlets at the freshman picnic and continuing the pharmacy mentor program allowed the chapter to spread the Rho Chi name and create interest in the chapter among the younger students. After receiving feedback from participants in the mentor program, the chapter is going to have a “meet and greet” event next year in order to formally introduce each mentor with their mentee for the first time. Finally, the annual induction dinner had a large turnout and received much positive feedback from all guests. The new location was very organized and a great change of pace for the chapter, dinners will continue to be held here in the future.

In conclusion, the new initiatives and traditional events will be continued next year due to the success of the chapter this year. Ways to improve participation among Rho Chi members will be implemented next year. Also, the Beta Pi chapter will sponsor more events that promote advancing knowledge in the pharmacy profession next year.

Other information: N/A



Appendix 1

Chapter Activities Report

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
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| Category of activity | Title of activity | Brief description | How does this activity align with the Rho Chi Mission Statement | Years the activity has been ongoing? | If activity ongoing for >1 year, what evaluations have been done to assess the success? What improvements have been made? | How many members participated? | How many students (non-members) and/or patients were impacted? | Financial information for the activity (budget required, fundraising amount? |
| College of Pharmacy Events | Freshman Picnic | Each fall, the College of Pharmacy organizes a picnic for the freshman with information regarding clubs and organizations they can join. Rho Chi holds an information booth at this picnic | To promote and advocate Rho Chi to pharmacy students in their professional and pre-professional years | Approximately 6 years | The College of Pharmacy academic advisors make changes regarding how material is presented to the freshman and which organizations are to be included | 4 | ~150 | Small budget for candy for the table and a tri-fold poster with information regarding Rho Chi, $18 |
| Fundraising Events | Halloween Fundraiser | A candy bar was set up and students/staff/faculty were able to fill a cup with candy and paid by weight-based pricing | To promote and advocate Rho Chi to pharmacy students in their professional and pre-professional years | 2 years | Quality is determined based on the amount of funds left for the next year’s executive board – adjustments on number of fundraisers are based upon success of each fundraiser | 8 | ~60 | $144.88 fundraised |
| Intellectual Leadership Activities | Academic coaching seminar | We organized a seminar with the URI Academic Enhancement Center and invited any interested student. Students learned their own learning style, how to change their studying habits, and how to become more effective at studying | To continue the strive for academic excellence in the College of Pharmacy | 0 years; New initiative | N/A | 8 | 22 | $0 |
| Intellectual Leadership Activities | P2 Review Session | We set up a multiple choice review session a few nights before a major exam for the P2 students. This was an experiment to see if big review sessions could be a regular event and encourage students to teach other students. Questions and answers were formulated in an online polling system to ease the session along. | To continue the strive for academic excellence in the College of Pharmacy | 0 years; New initiative | N/A | 14 | 43 | $27.98 for two boxes of joe from Dunkin Donuts |
| Fundraising Events | Jewelry Fundraiser | Each year, an alumni of the College of Pharmacy returns to sell homemade jewelry, usually around Christmas time. This is always our biggest fundraiser and is held over a two-day period | To promote and advocate Rho Chi to pharmacy students in their professional and pre-professional years | 7 years | Based on how much jewelry the alumni is able to make, she decides if it’ll be worth the trip to come sell, quality is determined based on how much we raise. This fundraiser has been very successful and has continued to run smoothly. | 3 | ~100 | $471 fundraised |
| Intellectual Leadership Activities | Rotation Showcase | Each year, the president works with the director of the experimental office to host P4 students currently on rotation to speak of their experience and give insight into the process of selecting rotations. Food is provided | To continue the strive for academic excellence in the College of Pharmacy | ~7 years | The experimental office leads this activity mostly, and decides when to make changes | 20 | ~110 | $203.60 for pizza, soda, and water to feed ~130 people for the rotation showcase event |
| Intellectual Leadership Activities | Academic Coaching Meeting with Struggling Students | The president, director of academic affairs, and assistant director of the AEC all met with struggling students to determine how we can help them succeed in the program, what changes we can make to tutoring, and what is holding them back from succeeding | To continue the strive for academic excellence in the College of Pharmacy | 0 years; New initiative | N/A | 2 | 13 | $0 |
| Fundraising Events | Valentines Fundraiser | Creative candy grams were homemade by the fundraising chairs and sold to students/staff/faculty | To promote and advocate Rho Chi to pharmacy students in their professional and pre-professional years | 4 years | Quality is determined based on the amount of funds left for the next year’s executive board – adjustments on number of fundraisers are based upon success of each fundraiser | 4 | 60 | $63 fundraised |

Appendix 2

Rho Chi Chapter Annual Report

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Item | Amount Debited ($) | Amount Credited ($) | Balance ($) | Comment |
| Balance forward |  |  | 921.72 | Balance from last year |
| Check 1095 - 10/2/2014 | 20 |  | 901.72 | CPFI basket donation |
| Check 1096- 10/21/2014 | 300 |  | 601.72 | New Member Scholarship - Karolina Wojciak |
| Dues |  | 5040 | 5641.72 | New member dues |
| Check 1097 - 10/23/2014 | 2180 |  | 3461.72 | Induction dinner at *Spain of Narragansett* |
| Check 1098 - 10/28/2014 | 20 |  | 3441.72 | Morgan Ratte- APhA Pumpkin carving contest participation fee reimbursement |
| Check 1090- 10/28/2014 | 90.93 |  | 3350.79 | Liz Delio – reimbursement for fundraiser supplies |
| Check 1100- 10/29/2014 | 41.02 |  | 3309.77 | Liz Hardy – reimbursement for fundraiser supplies |
| Check 1101- 11/17/2014 | 157.07 |  | 3152.7 | Morgan Ratte- reimbursement for hotel room for jewelry maker (Jewelry Sale Fundraiser) |
| Fundraiser - 11/18/2014 |  | 144.88 | 3297.58 | Halloween fundraiser |
| Jewelry fundraiser donation from seller 1/5/2015 |  | 471 | 3768.58 | Donation from jewelry-maker to Rho Chi |
| Check 1102- 1/21/2015 | 203.6 |  | 3564.98 | Pizza and soda reimbursement for rotation showcase |
| Check 1103- 2/13/2015 | 23.58 |  | 3541.4 | Liz Hardy- reimbursement for fundraiser supplies |
| Check 1104 - 2/13/2015 | 8 |  | 3533.4 | Liz Delio – reimbursement for fundraiser supplies |
| Fundraiser 2/13/2015 |  | 63 | 3596.4 | Valentines fundraiser |
| Check 1105 - 3/2/2015 | 507.5 |  | 3088.9 | Jeff Boyle- reimbursement for chords |
| Check 1106- 3/3/2015 | 50.68 |  | 3038.22 | Liz Delio – reimbursement for fundraiser |
| Check 1107- 3/27/2015 | 1685 |  | 1353.22 | Rho Chi membership fees |
| Check 1108- 4/3/2015 | 50 |  | 1303.22 | PLS for Senior Banquet Ad |
| Check 1109- 4/3/2015 | 64.6 |  | 1238.62 | Replacement materials for Induction dinner next year |
| Check 1110- 4/15/2015 | 95.23 |  | 1143.39 | Morgan Ratte – reimbursement for election breakfast and coffee |
| Reimbursement from URI |  | 203.6 | 1346.99 | Reimbursement for pizza/soda/water for Rotation Showcase |