### Annual Chapter Report Outline

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

**Date of report submission:** 2016-05-12

**Name of School/College:** Howard University College of Pharmacy

**Chapter Name & region:** Beta Sigma - Region II

**Delegate who attended the Rho Chi Annual Meeting:** Rut Beyene

**Date Delegate’s name submitted:** 2016-03-01

Past year's officers and e-mail addresses

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Historian

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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)
2016-04-25

New officers and e-mail addresses

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Chapter advisor’s name and e-mail address

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**Chapter advisor’s name and e-mail address**

[chapter-advisors]

**Introduction**

The Howard University College of Pharmacy chapter of The Rho Chi society, the Beta Sigma chapter, was made up of 42 collegiate members during the 2015-2016 school year. These members sought to participate within the organization to uphold the values of the society and make an impact on their community. Below is the full report of the chapter’s activities over the past year.

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

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Attendance | Agenda | Action Steps |
| 2015-09-17 | 9 members and Advisor | Organization recognition on campus, plans for the year and ideas for outreach events, “Rho Chi Corner” section in the school publication, and volunteers for prospective student interviews. | Submit and comply with campus requirements for organizations, form committees for outreach events, assign a person to submit an article, assign members to interview weeks to assist the College of Pharmacy. |
| 2015-12-04 | Officers and Advisor | College of Pharmacy funding | Fill out financial request form and submit to the Dean’s office |
| 2015-12-11 | 10 members and Advisor | Overview of the past semester, planning for the upcoming semester, planning for the NBC 4 Heath and Fitness Expo | Recruit volunteers for the health expo; assign a member to gather materials for the expo event. |
| 2016-02-11 | 7 members and Advisor | Timeline for new member voting and induction, events for the spring semester, health outreach event for the spring. | Advisor will gather new member information from the Dean’s office; committee will be formed for outreach event; member assigned for article submission for the school publication. |

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

The Beta Sigma chapter’s goal for the 2015-2016 school year was to be involved with and have an impact on both the College of Pharmacy and the community as a whole. We wanted to align our actions with the mission of the Rho Chi Society which includes intellectual achievement, the advancement of pharmacy, and collaboration. In order to achieve these missions and goals we planned and participated in events that included tutoring of Pharm.D. students through the Center of Excellence, collaborating with various other organizations within and around the college of pharmacy, and getting involved in and planning heath outreach events to serve the community. The strategic planning for the year wasn’t just left up to the officers, all members were encouraged to share their ideas on how to improve and achieve our goals. We planned to have members form committees for each event we wanted to hold so that the entire chapter would be involved in what we did throughout the year. We planned to have these committees meet with the advisor routinely so that he would know how plans are progressing and could give input on how to improve things.

**Activities**

Tutoring; all year
Rho Chi members participated in the Center of Excellence’s tutoring programs throughout the 2015-2016 school year. Nine members served as the tutors for various classes ranging from 1st year to 3rd year. They held weekly or bi-weekly sessions where students can come and ask questions or get additional help on specific courses. This event occurs every year through the Center of Excellence.

College of Pharmacy Interview Weekends; all year
Members of The Rho Chi Society volunteered at each prospective students’ interview event throughout the year. Our chapter sent a volunteer to serve as a student ambassador or to sit on the student panel because our members represent the best of what the college of pharmacy has to offer. This is an ongoing event, and the chapter will be participating in future years.

“Rho Chi Corner”; all year
The Rho Chi society was able to get a reoccurring column in the College of Pharmacy’s publication, The Black Apothecary. One member was chosen to submit an article for each issue of the publication with a topic that aligned with the society’s mission. The articles submitted were “Steps for Success”, “Finish the Semester Strong”, and “Residency and Fellowship Application Tips”. This is a new collaboration with The Black Apothecary that we hope to continue for years to come.

Orientation Week/Organization Fair; August 20, 2015
The chapter set up a table to introduce the society to the incoming first year class during the organization fair. We provided information on the organization and on the requirements for induction into the society. We also set up a brand/generic quiz game as an ice breaker where participants can earn candy for correct answers. This event occurs every year, even though the set up varies, during orientation week.

Getting Ahead Seminar; September 10, 2015
The chapter held a seminar in collaboration with Phi Lambda Sigma, Leadership Society for first year students on how to make the most of their resources and get ahead in pharmacy school. Two Rho Chi members covered academics and provided information on effective study skills and tools while PLS covered organizational skills and getting involved in organizations. This is a new event.

NBC Health and Fitness Expo; January 9/10, 2016
Members served as volunteers during the expo working with two separate organizations during the expo. Two volunteers worked alongside The American Diabetes Association to provide diabetes risk assessment screenings and provide diabetes prevention education. Three more members worked with The National Kidney Foundation to administer blood pressure screenings and provide information/education on kidney disease and kidney health.

National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day; February 6, 2016
Three Rho Chi members volunteered at an HIV/AIDS awareness day event at a men’s homeless shelter to provide education on HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment options/management. Volunteers administered questionnaires and provided safe sex kits. One volunteer who was previously trained was able to assist in the administration of Rapid Oral HIV screenings onsite.

Nuclear Industry Summit; April 2, 2016
Two Rho Chi members were able to volunteer at the 2016 Nuclear Industry Summit held at the Washington, DC convention center. The event was attended by world leaders from more than 50 countries, including President Barak Obama. The volunteers worked alongside other response teams to man first aid stations and work with the Department of Health to conduct patient tracking on everyone that was treated at the medical stations.

Wellness Fair; April 23, 1016
Our chapter worked in collaboration with the Capitol City Pharmacy Medical Reserves Corp (CCPMRC) organization to hold the 2016 Wellness Fair. The Rho Chi Society manned and ran the diabetes booth where volunteers administered diabetes risk assessments and spoke with attendees on diabetes prevention and treatment options. Other Rho Chi members volunteered at other stations which were designated for mental health, cholesterol, and drug abuse. Over all twelve members served as volunteers during the event. This is an annual event, and our chapter hopes to participate again next year.

**Financial Budgeting**

Our financial budget is determined mainly by our induction ceremony. We based the expenses on the previous year’s induction and planned for incidentals. We also considered the location of the Rho Chi annual meeting when discussing how much money to request for funding from the Dean’s or the Office of Student Life.

**Installation Function**

The 2016 Initiation Ceremony took place on Thursday, April 14, 2016 on the 4th floor of the Howard University Health Sciences Library. There were approximately 60 people in attendance that evening, including the new inductees, their family and friends, current Rho Chi members, faculty, staff, and our keynote speaker. The new inductee list comprised of 15 collegiate students, 1 graduate student, and 1 associate member. The evening began with an invocation from our treasurer and a welcome from our chapter president and continued with dinner. Light jazz music was played in the background as attendees enjoyed their dinner and congratulated the honorees of the night. Next, the initiation ritual was started by having current third year Rho Chi members read the biographical sketch of each inductee to introduce them. As the inductees were called up they received their certificate and pin, and after the chapter officers and chapter advisor conducted the initiation ritual, all Rho Chi members in the audience were invited to come up and help pin the new members. Following this, our keynote speaker Dr. Barron Harvey, Dean and Frank Ross/KPMG Endowed Professor of the School of Business, was introduced by our advisor Dr. Akala, and gave the keynote address. Then the Dean’s remark was given by the College of Pharmacy’s interim Dean (Dr. Bernard). Plaques and thank you gifts were presented to the keynote speaker by the advisor and the executive board. The evening concluded with acknowledgements from the vice-president and closing remarks from the president.

**Evaluation/Reflection**

This past school year, our chapter came up with many great ideas for events, most of which came to fruition. We participated in many outreach events, tutoring programs, and held events to further academic excellence within the college of pharmacy. As a chapter, we believe we set goals and made strides to align with The Rho Chi Society’s mission statement. What we need to improve on and will advise the incoming executive board to do moving forward is to work with the chapter advisor better to execute more ideas. We planned well and organized committees, but those committees did not follow through with meeting with our advisor routinely. This would have allowed us to get better advice and to utilize our advisor better to have successful events. We also need to improve on getting more involvement out of members. We had volunteers at all the events we wanted to participate in, but it was mostly the same people volunteering for events over and over. Having more participation from members would allow us to have strength in numbers and to be more effective as a group. This is hard to accomplish for the organization since fourth year students are away on rotations, but we will try to stress the importance of member participation to the incoming executive board. Overall the chapter is in good hands with next year’s e-board and advisor, and we look forward to another successful year for the Beta Sigma Chapter of The Rho Chi Society.

**Other Information**