### Annual Chapter Report Outline

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

**Date of report submission:** 2017-05-10

**Name of School/College:** University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Pharmacy

**Chapter Name & region:** Eta Region IV - W

**Delegate who attended the Rho Chi Annual Meeting:** Olivia Fahey

**Date Delegate’s name submitted:** 2017-03-14

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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)

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[chapter-advisors]

**Introduction**

The past academic year for the Eta Chapter of Rho Chi was busy yet productive that was capped off by inducting our largest new class of initiates yet.

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

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Attendance | Agenda | Action Steps |
| 2016-08-15 | 7 | -Committees: Initiations, Mini-lectures, Kremers, Fundraising/Social -Members will receive a poll for committee choices -Card making party -AHA Heart Walk date -Fundraising – totes -Kremers Lecture date -Student Senate funding -Health talks -Graduation cords -Annual Report | -Committees to be determined prior to first general meeting -Secretary to coordinate with UW hospital for cards -President to compile Kremers candidates -Brainstorm funding ideas—tote bags, pillboxes, massages -Student Senate Representative to submit organization goals to Student Senate -VP to coordinate health talks and e-mail out sign-up |
| 2016-09-22 | 21 | -Selection of Kremers Lecture Speaker with PLS -Health talks and tutoring -Proposed increase in dues by $5 agreed upon by members -Tentative card making party date along with November general meeting -Save the date for initiation ceremony and AHA heart walk -Career fair volunteers -Rho Chi committees meet | -President and secretary to contact selected candidates -Rho Chi members to consider tutoring -Secretary to coordinate card making party -Student Senate Representative to follow up with members to ensure a sufficient number volunteers |
| 2016-11-21 | 12 | -Announce speaker for Kremers lecture and Initiation -Brainstorm social event for new initiates -Initiates assigned current member mentor -Created over 120 cards for UW Hospital | -E-mail new initiate mentee prior to social -Initiation committee to invite current members -Secretary to deliver cards on 11/22/16 |
| 2017-01-26 | 6 | -Events and Meetings -Mentorship program -Initiation Social info -Initiation Ceremony info -Dues, Initiation charges, Fundraising -Webpage updates -Kremers publicity and luncheon -Study halls, review sessions, tutoring, health talks | -President to schedule March meeting with guest speaker; match up mentor-mentees -E-mail new initiates for initiation -Treasurer to check for items needed for ceremony -Secretary to contact Kremers speaker -Send out survey to the school for tutoring -All members: attend initiation to support incoming initiates |

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

As members of the Eta Chapter of Rho Chi, our mission is to foster, enrich and recognize scholarship and leadership in pharmacy. To help develop an environment of academic excellence, we set out to support a wide range of events and promotions that reach not only the pharmacy student body, but the community as well. This was done to both embolden a sense of fellowship in our chapter and to blend leadership and community service with scholarship in academics. In addition to the community service events and academic tutoring events already established at the University of Wisconsin, our chapter further developed and implemented a program developed two years ago called “Half-Hour Health Talks”. This program partners with local senior centers and encourages Rho Chi members to educate the community on pertinent health issues faced by older adults such as falls prevention and disease state management. In addition, we continued our mentoring program which pairs new Rho Chi initiates with current third year Rho Chi members. These mentors will act as resources and help the new Rho Chi initiates make the very best of their last few years in the pharmacy program. They will also be able to speak toward internship opportunities and fourth year rotations, valuable topics of great interest to the newly initiated second year students. With decreasing interest in open study halls, and an increased call for individual tutoring and review sessions, our chapter is working towards adjusting to the academic needs of the student body by no longer offering open study halls and focuses instead of individual and small group tutoring.

**Activities**

Health Talks  
The Half-Hour Health Talks initiative founded by the Eta Chapter of the Rho Chi Pharmacy Honor Society at the University of Wisconsin-Madison is a series of thirty minute presentations delivered by student pharmacists at community senior centers around the Madison, Wisconsin area. Student pharmacists have delivered presentations on the topics of cardiovascular disease, diabetes, heartburn, asthma, sleep changes with age, the aging process, depression and falls prevention, cough and cold treatments, health and disease screenings, and health promoting lifestyle modifications. The Half-Hour Health Talks programming aims to provide older adults with relevant information necessary for appropriate management of their health conditions and the medications used to treat them. The content of the presentations focuses on self-management of the health condition being discussed and strategies for participants to use that can prevent or slow the progression of the condition.

In this program's third year as a Rho Chi chapter and the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Pharmacy initiative, we have been able to provide a valuable service to the community in a short amount of time. Since the program’s creation in September 2014, a total of 74 Rho Chi members have prepared and delivered 53 presentations in which over 200 individuals have been in attendance. Our efforts have also led to a partnership with the Area Agency on Aging of Dane County, an organization dedicated to providing information and assistance in accessing services that help older adults remain independent. The chapter applied for the AACP Student Community Engaged Service Award which would provide the necessary resources to ensure our program’s longevity and allow for the programs expansion.

Study Tips Colloquium to the Student Body:  
To prepare first and second year pharmacy students for the expectations in their new academic classes, Rho Chi officers present course and professor specific study tips in the beginning of the fall semester. During this annual presentation, course study guides, organizational techniques, and general study tips were discussed. Examples of student-made drug tables and organizational summaries were discussed, as well as other study aids that may be useful to students’ learning material in the pharmacy curriculum. After the hour-long presentation, students were given the opportunity to seek advice and ask questions of the Rho Chi presenters. A lot of time was spent discussing personal anecdotes on what has traditionally worked well in classes and how to best position oneself to succeed in pharmacy school.

AHA Heart Walk:  
Each year, the Eta Chapter of Rho Chi creates a Heart Walk team in support of American Heart Month and the American Heart Association’s annual Heart Walk. This year we had two students support this great cause by walking and raising money on a chilly fall morning.

Tutoring Services to the Student Body:  
Peer tutoring services for the student body at the University of Wisconsin School of Pharmacy is a long tradition that was continued for another year by the Eta chapter. Due to the lack of participation in the weekly open study halls, individual tutoring sessions were offered to students that had expressed interest through the Student and Academic Affairs office. A total of 30 students benefited from the individual tutoring service. This service was coordinated by Faculty Advisors and the Rho Chi Vice President and was championed by Rho Chi members to directly help first, second and third year pharmacy students who requested it.

Pharmacotherapy Review Sessions:  
Another service offered by the Eta chapter is a review session before every pharmacotherapy unit exam for second year pharmacy students. In each review session, every lecture in the current pharmacotherapy unit was summarized by Rho Chi members and presented in a PowerPoint format. The purpose of each review session is to instill the most salient and perhaps the most pertinent information in the lectures to help student pharmacists organize and learn the material. There were five review sessions held in the fall and four sessions in the spring, and all received wonderful feedback. In the fall, each review session had between 20 and 30 second year pharmacy students in attendance, and over 100 second year students in the spring, and afforded the opportunity to ask third year students questions about pharmacotherapy in an unstructured environment. New aspects of this program developed this year included having two fourth year Rho Chi members provide a review for the first pharmacotherapy exam of the year for third year students as well as changing the time of the second year review sessions from weekday evenings to during the day in between second year classes, which resulted in a significant increase in attendance. This interactive environment led to quite productive review sessions and will be continued for years to come.

Adopt-a-Family Holiday Cards:  
Continuing a yearly tradition, members of Rho Chi collaborated with University of Wisconsin Hospital to provide home-made holiday cards with their Adopt-a-Family gifts during the winter holiday season. Over 120 personalized cards were made during a ninety-minute event at the School of Pharmacy. Twelve Rho Chi members participated in the event along with our advisors and a local pharmacist and it was deemed a success by everyone in attendance as well as the UW Hospital departments who received the cards.

New initiate social:  
In the spirit of fellowship, the Eta Chapter organized a social event prior to the annual initiation ceremony. This is an annual event, and is arranged in order to let new members meet current members. This year, the event was held at The Great Dane on Thursday, February 16th. About 45 students attended the event, with a great mix of second, third and fourth year pharmacy students. It was a wonderful evening filled with friends, food and laughter.

Mentoring Program:  
To further foster community and mentorship our organization created the Rho Chi mentorship program. This program paired all 29 new Rho Chi initiates with a current Rho Chi mentor. A total of 18 members volunteered to mentor the 29 new initiates. The goal of the program was to support the new initiates and help nurture a greater sense of community. The mentors would act as resources for the new initiates and help them navigate their remaining years in the pharmacy program. We believed this would be especially helpful as internships and fourth year rotations approach for these new initiates. Overall, we simply hoped to support our new initiates in the best way possible.

Kremers Memorial Lecture:  
This is an annual event sponsored by the Rho Chi society in its 67th year. This year we invited Dr. Jean Nappi to be our keynote speaker to lecture on the pharmacy profession titled, "Being a Leader Without Being in Charge." The entire student body was invited, as well as the faculty and staff from the school and local pharmacy leaders. Held at noon on Tuesday, April 4th, we also honored the 2017 Student Senate Teacher of the Year by presenting the teaching excellence award before keynote speech to honor a faculty member that the students felt went above and beyond to assure learning in the lecture halls. After the speech, faculty, staff, and members of the Rho Chi society gathered for lunch and socialization. The event was a success with over 200 members of the school in attendance at the lecture and 150 members at the luncheon. The event will continue strongly into its 68th year.

**Financial Budgeting**

The previous several years’ budgets were examined and the consistent credits and debits were used to establish this year’s operating budget. The officers and committee chairs were asked about any changes in the level of spending that they anticipated in the 2016-2017 year, and these changes were incorporated into the budget. Since increased funds were needed to support additional guests at the Initiation Ceremony and food for social events, dues that support the local chapter were collected. Historically, the Eta Chapter raised funds by selling Drug Card study materials and completing a restaurant fundraiser. Due to diminishing interest in these study cards, high shipping costs of the cards, and minimal return on restaurant fundraisers, the decision to try a different fundraiser was made. The Eta Chapter continued a successful fundraiser from last year by selling embroidered professional business tote bags in addition to new School of Pharmacy branded pill boxes. Another new fundraiser this year was a Rho Chi massage fundraiser. Held during finals week of the Spring Semester, a local licensed masseuse donated fifteen, fifteen-minute massages as well as a coupon for a free 60-minute massage that was raffled off.

**Installation Function**

Each year, the Eta Chapter organizes and executes an intimate initiation ceremony for the new initiates, and this year was no different. On Sunday, February 26th, the UW-Madison School of Pharmacy Rho Chi Honor Society welcomed 29 new doctor of pharmacy candidate initiates and one graduate student initiate into their Eta chapter at Union South on the University of Wisconsin main campus. Preparation took months, but the ceremony went flawlessly due in large part to the grace of Dean Swanson, the acumen of faculty advisors, Professors Warren Rose and Mary Hayney, and the inspirational anecdotes of Associate Professor Arash Bashirullah. Initiation into the society was an event to be remembered. The guest speaker spoke about the importance of being in a profession that you love and are passionate about. He also gave students many wonderful pieces of advice, most notably, to keep your eyes open and take advantage of opportunities as they arise. Dr. Bashirullah’s speech was inspiring and it was wonderful for students to hear his humorous stories and wonderful words of wisdom.

**Evaluation/Reflection**

The success of an organization is not dependent upon the few in a leadership position, but instead through the strength and involvement of its members. The executive leaders effectively created committees to organize and complete projects that would have been too large for individuals to complete on their own. The committees: Kremers Lecture, Initiation, Fundraising and Academic Outreach all were led by a different Rho Chi officer. This allowed for autonomy and leadership styles to develop and emerge throughout the year. The largest committee, academic outreach, focused entirely on providing tutoring and mentoring services to the school as well as the Half-Hour Health Talks Project. Only with effective preparation and buy-in from members allowed this committee to be a huge success. This achievement was evidenced by the quality of review sessions that were created, the feedback from students who participated, and the ability of this committee to continue high quality tutoring sessions that had been developed in previous years. By developing committees with a clear agenda, and tasks that general membership had bought into, the programs and events developed by the Eta Chapter were highly successful for the school and honored the tradition of scholastic excellence and leadership of the Rho Chi Society.

As the leadership roles are passed from one class to the next, we would like to identify areas of improvement to ensure the success of the Eta Chapter. With the decreased interest for weekly study halls by students, evidenced by lower attendance over the past couple of years, our initial board meeting actively planned how to meet the academic needs of the student body. Student advisors had previously been linking individual students with tutors, which we had seen as a perfect opportunity for our chapter to engage as many students as possible. Academic outreach widely distributed survey request links to students to indicate which classes they desired tutoring for. Further expanding upon success of the Pharmacotherapy review sessions, the Eta Chapter sought to involve fourth year students out at clerkship rotations in providing Pharmacotherapy review sessions to third year students. Introducing leadership opportunities is not only important for the development of our members, but also a necessity to uphold our organization's commitment to academic scholarship. Our hope is for the Eta Chapter to continue responding to the academic needs of the student body.

In line with intellectual leadership activities, the Eta Chapter was very successful increasing attendance to the Annual Kremers Memorial Lecture, given by a leader in the field, for the entire School of Pharmacy. The interest generated by motivated committee members marks an important point in future development, and has been passed on to leaders who are passionate about the event's history with the school, and the School of Pharmacy's desire to learn. In addition, we coordinated with the academic advisor of the second year students to increase attendance among that class.

Overall, the year has been highly productive, and the officers of the 2016-2017 Eta chapter welcome the next board of officers to continue to improve upon the foundation of scholarship, fellowship and leadership at the UW School of Pharmacy Eta Chapter of Rho Chi.

**Other Information**

None