



WESTERN UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES
COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

RHO CHI SOCIETY

ΓΣ GAMMA SIGMA CHAPTER

Annual Chapter Report 2015-2016

Date of report submission:

Delegate: Preregistered (X) Registered On-Site () No Delegate ()

Name of School/College:

Western University of Health Sciences
College of Pharmacy

Chapter name and region:

Gamma Sigma Chapter
Region VIII – West Coast

Delegate who attended the Rho Chi Annual Meeting:

Shawn Healer

Date Delegate's name was submitted to Rho Chi:

January 15, 2016

Shawn Healer
Gamma Sigma Chapter President

Dr. Emmanuelle Schwartzman
Gamma Sigma Chapter Advisor

Gamma Sigma Chapter Contact Information

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2013-2014 Executive Board

President	Shawn Healer	shealer@westernu.edu
Vice President	Jacklyn Bradley	jlb Bradley@westernu.edu
Secretary	Kjersti Rich	krich@westernu.edu
Treasurer	Jennifer Briggs	jbriggs@westernu.edu
Historian	Eleanor Liu	emliu@westernu.edu
Liaison	Jamie Lu	luj1@westernu.edu

2014-2015 Executive Board

President	Alan Nguyen	agnguyen@westernu.edu
Vice President	Lani Nguyen	nguyen13@westernu.edu
Secretary	Linh Luong	lnluong@westernu.edu
Treasurer	Billy Tjitrajadi	btjitrajadi@westernu.edu
Historian	Hien Cao	caoh@westernu.edu
Liaison	Christopher Beecher	cbeecher@westernu.edu

Gamma Sigma Chapter Advisor

Chapter Advisor	Emmanuelle Schwartzman, Pharm.D., BCACP, CDE eschwartzman@westernu.edu
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Class Year	Program	Number of Students
2005	PharmD	19
2006	PharmD	23
2007 2007	PharmD IPBP	20 3
2008 2008	PharmD IPBP	22 2
2009	PharmD	23
2010 2010	PharmD IPBP	19 1
2011 2011	PharmD IPBP	25 3

2012 2012	PharmD IPBP	24 3
2013 2013	PharmD IPBP	24 4
2014 2014	PharmD IPBP	23 3
2015 2015	PharmD IPBP	22 3
2016 2016	PharmD IPBP	27 3
2017 2017	PharmD IPBP	22 3
2018	PharmD	17

Introduction:

The Gamma Sigma chapter has consistently been, and continues to strive to be, a strong chapter within the Rho Chi Society. The newly elected 2015-2016 Gamma Sigma Executive Board hastened to continue the excellent work that was diligently executed by our predecessors. Moreover, the 2015-2016 Executive Board was excited, motivated, and dedicated to accomplish our major goal of successfully completing more events than any previous Gamma Sigma Executive Board. We sought to establish events that were not only innovative and new to our chapter, but also to initiate those, which centered around a foundation of sustainability and reproducibility. Additionally, we strived to maintain our vision of incorporating events that served not only to further the progression of the Gamma Sigma chapter but also to contribute to the progression of the pharmacy profession as a whole. During the 2015-2016 academic year, we continued our annual events, such as our “Academia Week” Faculty Panel and Faculty Round Table events. In addition to our hallmark annual events, we were also able to successfully create and execute a new large event series entitled “Match Me”, as well as establishing a new sub-committee dedicated to providing outreach services at health fairs and other community service/philanthropic events. In accordance with the Rho Chi Society’s vision to recognize its members as lifelong intellectual leaders in pharmacy, the Gamma Sigma chapter strongly promotes academia. Our goal is to create awareness amongst our fellow students as to what a career in academia entails--ranging from the daily contributions made by professors toward their students’ learning to the faculty’s high-level achievements in research which impact pharmacy practice. We accomplish this goal by bringing students face-to-face with the faculty as they share their experiences. In addition to the promotion of academia, the Gamma Sigma chapter of the Rho Chi Society promotes its students by recognizing excellence in intellectual achievement and fostering fellowship among its members. We seek to “give back” to our membership by hosting “Membership Appreciation” events, which celebrate our members and their accomplishments. The continual devotion and commitment of not only our board, but our chapter, have helped the Gamma Sigma chapter in its ability to accomplish hosting innovative events which not only benefit the Gamma Sigma chapter of the Rho Chi Society but also encourage and motivate all of the Western University of Health Sciences, College of Pharmacy students to further their careers within the pharmacy profession.

Meetings:

Date	Attendance:	DISCUSSION/GOALS	ACTION									
4/20/2015	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Discussion about our goals for community service and Rho Chi Society expectations for community service● Discussion on which events each board member will want to oversee● Discussion on future events and board members that will be coordinating:● Project Proposal Report● Chapter Report● Scheduling for Events● Student Leader Quiz	<table><tr><th>Action</th><th>Deadline</th></tr><tr><td>● Discuss access to Rho Chi website with Dr. Schwartzman</td><td>● Next meeting</td></tr><tr><td>● Talk to Dr. Scott about CE credit for potential lecture series</td><td>● Next meeting</td></tr><tr><td>● Pick a date for fundraiser and reserve a location</td><td>● Next week</td></tr></table>	Action	Deadline	● Discuss access to Rho Chi website with Dr. Schwartzman	● Next meeting	● Talk to Dr. Scott about CE credit for potential lecture series	● Next meeting	● Pick a date for fundraiser and reserve a location	● Next week	
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● Pick a date for fundraiser and reserve a location	● Next week											
5/15/2015	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Mixers with Rho Chi Chapters● Member outing or Appreciation Event● Guest Speaker Ideas● Tutoring● Day with the Faculty● Website● Residency Series● Philanthropy events● Academia Week → Professor invites● Health Fair - Emergency Preparedness or Smoking Cessation● Academia Week (To be worked on by Kjersti and Jennifer)● Charity Walks● Setting up Facebook● Brainstorm a name for the residency series	<table><tr><th>Action</th><th>Deadline</th></tr><tr><td>● Approach Professors for their interest level for Academia Week</td><td>● Next meeting</td></tr><tr><td>● Reach out to University contact about health fairs</td><td>● Next meeting</td></tr><tr><td>● Set up a Rho Chi Facebook page</td><td>● Next meeting</td></tr></table>	Action	Deadline	● Approach Professors for their interest level for Academia Week	● Next meeting	● Reach out to University contact about health fairs	● Next meeting	● Set up a Rho Chi Facebook page	● Next meeting	
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9/8/2015	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Wise Guy got supplies donated for global health● Fundraising for a charity● E-mail the google form to collect information from the new members for the membership list	<table><tr><th>Action</th><th>Deadline</th></tr><tr><td>● Setup upcoming health fairs</td><td>Ongoing</td></tr></table>	Action	Deadline	● Setup upcoming health fairs	Ongoing					
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Tabling for this week’s fundraiser● Budget/Fundraising<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scrubs, Clipboards• Upcoming expenses● Membership Appreciation - will do padfolios● Initiation banquet● Executive board encouraged to sign up for the Wise Guy tutoring website	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Look into getting supplies donated for emergency prep					
			<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Prepare for the upcoming residency series	This week				
			<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Finalize planning for fundraisers	This Week				
10/14/2015	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Habitat for Humanity Collaboration → Will be pursuing this in collaboration w/ the other student organizations● IRB submitted for Residency Series● Positive surveys for the residency events--rating scale adjusted for 2nd survey to better reflect the impact of the event.● Outreach – PHOP Collaboration● Academia Week – Confirm faculty attendance● Budget/Fundraising → Clipboards; Match Me Reimbursement	<table><tr><th>Action</th><th>Deadline</th></tr><tr><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">● Confirm faculty panel & roundtable participants (in coordination w/ Jennifer)● Get Outreach Committee involved for upcoming events.</td><td>End of the month</td></tr></table>	Action	Deadline	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Confirm faculty panel & roundtable participants (in coordination w/ Jennifer)● Get Outreach Committee involved for upcoming events.	End of the month	
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1/6/2016	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Project proposal● End of the year report● Reserved college calendar dates for events	Our deadline for report 5/1/16					
2/15/2016	14	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Finishing plans for initiation banquet	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Everything confirmed by Next week.					

Strategic Planning:

At the beginning of the 2015-2016 year, the new board set out to uphold the organization's mission of encouraging and recognizing excellence in intellectual achievement, advocating critical inquiry, and fostering fellowship among its members. In order to achieve this, the new board evaluated what worked successfully in previous years and brainstormed ideas for establishing new annual events. It was important to our Executive Board to assess the impact of our new events in order to achieve sustainability and measure our chapter's proficiency in upholding the values of Rho Chi Society. As such, at all our events, we delivered surveys to the attendees to assess their overall satisfaction of the event, measure what positive experiences they gained, as well as look for areas to improve in the upcoming year. Each of our student events place a heavy emphasis on professional growth and development; additionally, most events were approved through the College of Pharmacy's Office of Experiential Education to provide professionalism credit, volunteer hours, or educational credit, which encouraged student participation and increased the number of attendees we were able to attain. The single most important focus of each of our events was to harbor and uphold the overall mission of Rho Chi Society.

To encourage and recognize excellence in intellectual achievement, we continued our annual celebration of academia through our "Academia Week". We increased our promotion efforts for this series of events from the previous year by engaging students through flyers, announcements, and social media, which successfully resulted in us obtaining a greater attendance than in previous years. We turned the focus of the week to academia firstly by decorating the hallways of the pharmacy school in a fun theme that incorporated the faculty's professional profiles and personal bios. This year we utilized a travel and passport theme that served to catch the attention of students and draw them to our event. Following this, we hosted our two key events, which are central to Academia Week--the Faculty Panel and the Faculty Roundtable. At the roundtable event, students have the opportunity to sit down with faculty members in small groups and ask them any questions regarding academia and their career path; one professor is seated at each table and the group of students rotates every 10 minutes. The week also included an educator panel that consisted of a panel of 6 professors answering academia-related questions in an auditorium with approximately 100 curious and inquisitive pharmacy students. Students also had a chance to gain additional insight into a career in academia through a "Career Day Table" hosted by members of our Executive Board and several professors.

While these events have been a great success every year, we aimed to create a new event which would not only benefit students in their future endeavors and continue to encourage intellectual achievement but also serve to excel the Rho Chi Gamma Sigma Chapter. In doing so, we turned our attention towards the growing competitiveness of pharmacy residencies and the focus of our discussion centered on this main question: "How we can help our fellow students achieve success in obtaining a coveted residency position?". Our answer for this was a "Residency Series", in which we educated and trained pharmacy students at all stages of considering residency, ranging from 1st year students learning what pharmacy residencies are for the first time to 4th year students preparing to apply. In turn, this series was a great success on campus and, additionally,

had won the Rho Chi National 2015 Fall Project Proposal Award and serves as the basis of a poster presentation currently in the works.

Due to the smaller size of our Executive Board (6 officers), we knew that we would need the support of our members to reach the enormous goals we had set out for ourselves. To foster fellowship among our members, we continued to hold our annual “Membership Appreciation” in which we gifted professional padfolios to all current members. We also held an “Appreciation Luncheon”; during this event, the Executive Board presented our plans for a variety of upcoming events and introduced the committees that members could sign-up to participate in voluntarily. As such, several Rho Chi Gamma Sigma Chapter Committees were formed to serve in the planning and execution of all of our events. These committees afforded members the opportunity to not only to become more actively involved with our chapter but also to strengthen skills in teamwork and establish ongoing relationships with their pharmacy colleagues.

The 2015-2016 board also sought to increase advocacy for our chapter and The Rho Chi Society. To achieve this we set out to increase our service activities from those of previous boards. We broadened our focus from not only assisting our fellow pharmacy students academically and professionally to also serve the needs of our community as a whole. One exceptional event that served to accomplish this mission was our participation in the Western University of Health Sciences’ “Santa’s Workshop”. This annual inter-professional outreach event provided local families and children of Pomona with a cheery and family-friendly environment to celebrate Christmas. The Gamma Sigma chapter represented the College of Pharmacy by hosting a face painting station. Another outstanding event we participated in was in partnership with the Pomona Homeless Outreach Project for their “Pomona Thanksgiving Feast”; at this event, we prepared and delivered free traditional thanksgiving meals to greater than 1000 low-income families in the community on Thanksgiving Day. The board also strived to assist our fellow colleagues by partnering with “Wise Guys”, an online tutor program, which provides pharmacy students with access to a tutor when needed. In addition, the board assisted those students who struggled in the pharmacy calculations portion of the curriculum by creating practice tests with a companion step-by-step solutions manual.

Our Executive Board ventured to enhance the campus presence of our chapter. Improving and expanding our programs and events accomplished this goal. The enthusiasm and ambition of the 2015-2016 board excited and inspired our members to become actively involved in making our events successful. The participation from our members, success of our events, and our enhanced campus presence all contributed to the great achievement of our chapter in upholding the ideals and mission of the Rho Chi Society in the 2015-2016 academic year.

Activities:

Tutoring & Academic Assistance (New Program)

In the Western University of Health Sciences College of Pharmacy curriculum, pharmaceutical calculations exams are built into each end-of-semester review block as a “high stakes” exam which students are required to pass in order to progress with the curriculum. Students must demonstrate their proficiency in pharmaceutical calculations by achieving a score of 80% or higher within two exam attempts. Prior to the implementation of our program, the fall semester results were that 24 students did not pass this exam on attempt #1 and a few students also did not pass on attempt #2. In response to these challenges, the newly elected Gamma Sigma Chapter Executive Board worked diligently on a practice calculations exam accompanied by a detailed step-by-step solutions manual and guide to key concepts in order to assist students struggling with this topic. We received positive feedback from students that our efforts were highly beneficial to them in their preparation for the exam. We also offered private tutoring sessions for students who wanted more individualized attention. In the following spring semester all students passed the calculations exam.

The great success of our pharmaceutical calculations program led us to go further and expand our tutoring services to other subjects beyond calculations. As such, we partnered with the College of Pharmacy and a new web based tutoring system called “Wise Guy” (wiseguy.com) to reach more students in a variety of pharmacy topics. “Wise Guy” allowed us to tutor using an electronic based system so those students that commute and were not able to stay on campus late could still have access to a tutor. These electronic based systems allowed us to draw structures, video skype and highlight sections of electronic resources that are relevant to the tutoring session. All members of the Executive Board signed up to offer their tutoring services. The board tallied a total of 28 hours of tutoring. Through our new partnership with “Wise Guy”, we encourage our successive Gamma Sigma Executive Board for 2016-2017 to continue to offer and advertise their tutoring services. We expect this program to grow as the awareness and popularity of the “Wise Guy” service grows within the College of Pharmacy.

“Match Me” Residency Lecture Series (New)

This year the Gamma Sigma chapter of Rho Chi was able to introduce a new innovative lunchtime lecture series to the students of Western University of Health Sciences, College of Pharmacy to promote the development of intellectual leaders in the field of pharmacy. This series won the Rho Chi National Chapter 2015 Fall Project Proposal. The four-part lecture series was titled “Match Me” and served purpose of educating pharmacy students about the pharmacy residency and fellowship process from application to interviews. The lecture series was open to all pharmacy students. Additionally, the College of Pharmacy’s Class of 2019 was granted academic credits for

attendance to two of the four lectures to meet graduation requirements for their “elective series”.

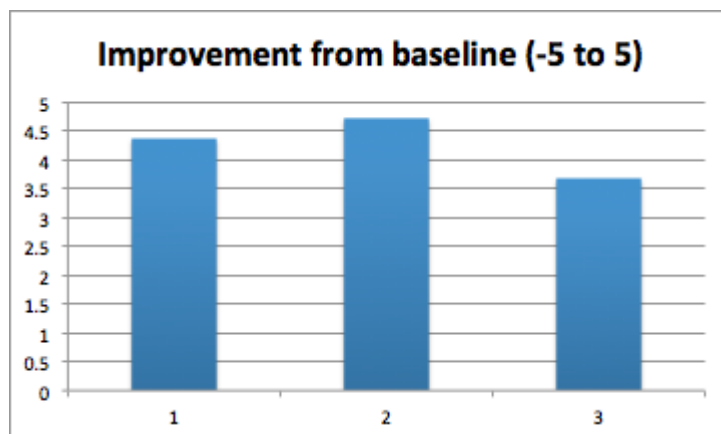
The first lecture of the four-part series was titled “What is Residency/Fellowship?” and was presented by our chapter advisor, Dr. Emmanuelle Schwartzman. This series introduced students to residency, fellowship, and identified the differences between the two. Students were introduced to the varying opportunities that a residency program can offer. In attendance were 8 Rho Chi members as well as 99 non-members, totaling 107 students in attendance.

The second lecture, titled “How to Set Yourself Up to be More Marketable”, was presented by our faculty, and fellow Rho Chi member, Dr. Patrick Chan. The focus of this lecture was to educate pharmacy students on the importance of gaining skills that are useful for post-graduate work earlier on in their pharmacy education, as to allow time to perfect these skills prior to residency applications. As many residency applicants are often students with competitive grade point averages, it was stressed that additional professional experiences are desirable to present yourself as a more marketable candidate. Additional marketable factors discussed included employment as pharmacy interns, community service, research opportunities, and obtaining student club leadership positions. Not only would taking advantage of these opportunities allow you to separate yourself from other applicants, it would also provide career skills and knowledge in a variety of areas in pharmacy practice. In attendance at this second lecture were 8 Rho Chi members as well as 65 non-members, totaling 73 students in attendance.

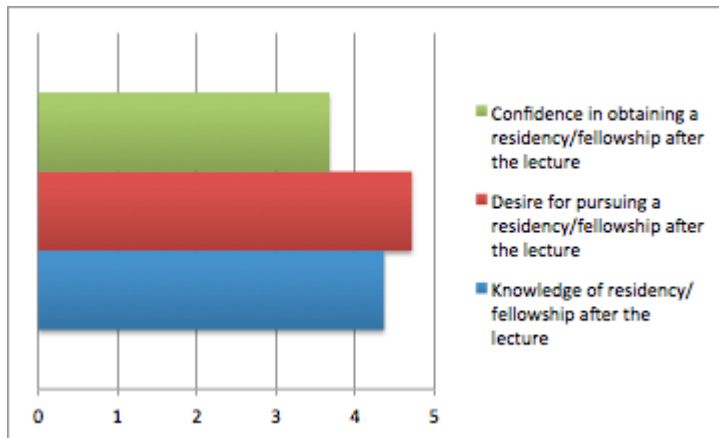
The third lecture of the series, “Navigating Showcase/Site Visits/Preparing for Interviews”, was presented by our chapter advisor Dr. Emmanuelle Schwartzman. The lecture focused on the fundamental role that CSHP/ASHP Showcase can play during the residency application process, as it is the hub of information about individual residency programs. Students were presented with strategies on how to navigate their way through CSHP/ASHP Showcase in order to see the key sites they are interested in the limited time available. Lastly, site visits and preparation for interviews was discussed. It was this portion of the lecture in which students were recommended strategies to achieve a successful first impression, including participating in mock interviews and preparing for common questions that are likely to be asked by interviewers at a majority of residency sites. In attendance at this third lecture of the series were 9 Rho Chi members as well as 96 non-members, totaling 105 in attendance.

The last lecture of the four-part lecture series was titled “Writing a Letter of Intent/Navigating PhORCAS/Matching Process” and was delivered by our chapter advisor Dr. Emmanuelle Schwartzman. She discussed the basic “do’s” and “don’ts” when writing a letter of intent as well as the basics of PhORCAS. Lastly, the match process was discussed as well as the second match process that debuted this year. In attendance at this final lecture were 11 Rho Chi members and 43 non-members, totaling 54 in attendance.

During the four-part “Match Me” lecture series, lunch was provided to all students in attendance while they listened to our esteemed lecturers discuss the wide variety of topics surrounding residency. The lecture series was created and encompassed several goals: to increase pharmacy students’ knowledge of residency/fellowship, increase pharmacy students’ desire for pursuing a residency/fellowship, and increase the confidence of pharmacy students in the ability to obtain a residency/fellowship. This lecture series was successful in reaching all of these goals as well as scoring a 9.1 on a scale of 0 to 10 on overall satisfaction. Gamma Sigma is excited to have started a project such as “Match Me” and hope to continue to provide this lecture series in ongoing years, and, hopefully continue to expand the resources and information we are able to provide. Our data shows that in its first year of inception, the “Match Me” lecture series was able to meet the mission of Rho Chi by encouraging the Western University of Health Sciences, College of Pharmacy students to pursue residency/fellowship. By doing this, we have encouraged our pharmacy colleagues to strive for intellectual achievements in pharmacy and stimulate their interest in advancing the profession of pharmacy. By stimulating this interest, we hope to develop intellectual leaders who will positively impact the field of pharmacy practice.



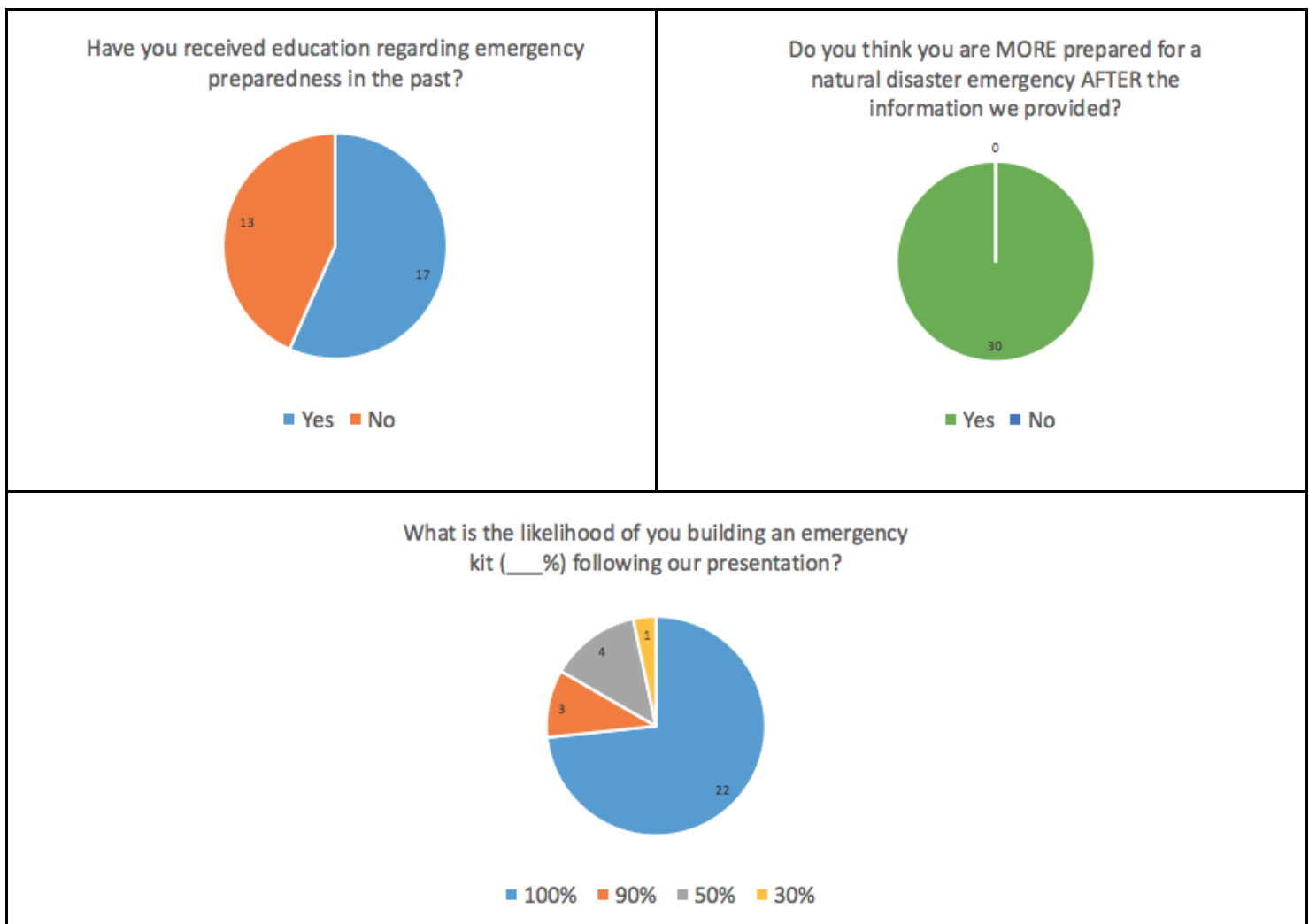
- 1) Knowledge of residency/fellowship
- 2) Desire for pursuing a residency/fellowship
- 3) Confidence in obtaining a residency/fellowship



Overall satisfaction with the lectures ranged from 7-10, with an average of 9.1 in satisfaction.

Emergency Preparedness Outreach Project (New)

On September 26 from 10:30am-3pm, we presented our poster on Emergency Preparedness at the 5th Annual Road to Wellness Health Fair in Pomona. Our goal was to educate the general public on basic necessity preparedness in the event of an emergency such as an earthquake. We provided education on securing the appropriate amount of food, water, and medications prior to an emergency event and, additionally, addressed health condition-specific concerns. In order to facilitate a more interactive learning environment, we provided take-home brochures, a prize raffle, and a brief survey at the end of each presentation. The prizes of the raffle included pre-packaged emergency backpacks and first aid kits. The provided brochures were supplied for free by the US Department of Homeland Security website “ready.gov” and contained the most up-to-date information on emergency preparedness. The backpack prizes for the raffle were obtained from the previous year’s supply with a renewal of any expired items. The first aid kits were donated from a generous donor who took part in the project. Our audience primarily consisted of families in the underprivileged community in Pomona with limited access to information on this topic. We directly educated 30 patients at this health fair. Our post-education survey responses demonstrated that 100% of the audience found the information presented at the health fair to be beneficial and responded “Yes” that the information would help them to become more prepared in the case of an emergency. In addition, nearly 75% of respondents stated that they would definitely (“100%”) take the time to put together an emergency kit for their home. Our survey also highlighted a profound opportunity for us to educate the public on this topic as >40% of survey respondents stated that they have never received any education on emergency preparedness in the past.



Our Emergency Preparedness Outreach project won the Rho Chi National Chapter 2016 Spring Project Proposal and is currently an ongoing project. As all of the feedback we received from the health fair attendees have been positive, we are seeking to expand our program and have the opportunity to reach a broader audience. In doing so, we hope to have a positive impact on our community by minimizing the negative after-effects of natural disasters through preparedness education. The monetary award from our winning Project Proposal will afford us the opportunity to reach these goals.

Academic Week (Ongoing Event):

The goal of Gamma Sigma's annual Academia Week was to expose pharmacy students to the career path of pharmacy academia. Academia Week was held from November 9-13, 2015 and composed of a faculty informational panel as well as a faculty round table. Academia is often viewed as a daunting or confusing career path to students with aspects to consider such as research requirements and tenure vs. non-tenure tracks.

The purpose of academia week was to provide our pharmacy peers with insight regarding how and why our college of pharmacy professors entered the world of academia, as well as to “de-mystify” what is needed to become a pharmacy practice professor.

Academia week was kicked off with decorations honoring our pharmacy practice and pharmaceutical science professors in accordance to our “Destination: Academia Week” theme. A picture of each professor was decorated in a passport style and featured answers to fun questions regarding each professor's travel tip and habits. These decorations were displayed on the pharmacy building main hallway for the duration of academia week and served to draw attention in promotion of our key events.

Our first interactive event of academia week was our faculty panel. The faculty panel presented 6 professors who each took a different road into pharmacy academia. This lunchtime event provided excellent insight on why professors were drawn to academia and the typical day in the work-life of professors. Students were provided with excellent pieces of relatable advice as the conversation was focused on how these professors made the transition from student to professor.

The final event of academia week was our faculty roundtable. The faculty roundtable was composed of 10 professors seated with a small group of 5-6 pharmacy students who rotated from table-to-table each ten minutes. This time was designed to be an open conversation, where questions ranged from professors past experiences to current involvement. Many students provided feedback stating that having this informal face-to-face discussion time with professors was unique and refreshing.

Membership appreciation (Ongoing Event):

Membership appreciation took place in the fall semester of 2015. In previous years, a membership luncheon was held. Following feedback from past Executive Boards stating that there were often scheduling conflicts with a lunch meeting, the 2015-2016 Executive Board choose to express our gratitude by gifting each member a padfolio and thank you card.

Philanthropy Events (New)

Our all-new philanthropy events included: 1) Charity Walk “Walk Now for Autism Speaks”, 2) Habitat for Humanity, 3) PHOP Thanksgiving (“Pomona Thanksgiving Feast”), and 4) Santa’s Workshop. See details below.

Charity Walk (“Walk Now for Autism Speaks”) (New)

“Walk Now for Autism Speaks” was a collaboration between WesternU APhA and Rho Chi Society that took place on December 6, 2015 from 10am-12pm at the Angels Stadium in Anaheim, CA. Both organizations worked closely together to publicize the event throughout the university to encourage participation from all health

care programs. There were 24 student participants who brought along their friends and family to support the cause. Our organizations also held a food fundraiser on December 9 from 12-1pm and raised \$120 to be donated to the Orange County Autism organization. With other donations in our team name “WesternU Walkers” registered under the walk website, we were able to raise a total donation of \$170 to assist in funding for autism advocacy and research. We hope to encourage an increasingly active student participation in our future events. We also wish to expand additional charity events to other local organizations, especially those that are underfunded.

Habitat for Humanity (New)

Our objective for our involvement with Habitat for Humanity was not only to become more active in the community but also to foster collaboration within the College of Pharmacy. For the first time in Western University of Health Sciences College of Pharmacy, every club within the college collaborated on a single event. For three weekends, members from all organizations participated in Habitat for Humanity in the local area (Glendale, CA). A total of 10 Rho Chi Gamma Sigma members contributed 32 hours to digging trenches for plumbing, painting, and constructing homes in underserved areas. In addition, we also successfully coordinated with the student leaders of each of the pharmacy student organizations to promote attendance to the event.

PHOP Thanksgiving (“Pomona Thanksgiving Feast”) (New)

This year we had the opportunity to coordinate with the Western University of Health Sciences’ interdisciplinary Pomona Homeless Outreach Program (PHOP) in assisting with one of their key annual events, the “Pomona Thanksgiving Feast”. Students from all programs worked together in a series of 2-3 hour shifts to cook, prepare, package, and deliver meals to local low-income families in the Pomona area. The event took place at Pomona Valley Christian Center in Pomona on November 25th (12-8pm) and November 26th (6 am-12pm) with over 1000 traditional thanksgiving meals being delivered to needy families on Thanksgiving Day. Our role in this event was to increase promotion and attendance to the event to the College of Pharmacy by serving as the only college-specific liaison to the event. Several Rho Chi Executive Board and Committee members served at the event on Thanksgiving Day.

Santa’s Workshop

Santa’s Workshop is an annual tradition held at Western University of Health Sciences catered to foster children in Pomona. On December 5th of 2015, Rho Chi Society has continued to take a proactive role in coordinating with the Student Government Association in Santa’s Workshop. From 11am-4pm, our club officers were at the face painting booth with the sole mission of bringing joy to these children. Despite challenging face painting requests and our inexperience at face painting, our club officers

were eager to step out of their comfort zones and fulfilled their wishes to the best of our abilities. Many children present at the event came back to the booth after face painting and showed us their new Christmas gifts. The smiles on their faces brought equal joy to the officers at the booth. At the end of the day, we were proud to say that we had painted approximately fifty children's faces or hands with their favorite holiday characters and designs. We hope to be part of the 28th annual Santa's Workshop this upcoming December as well and continue to serve those in our local community.

Financial/ Budgeting:

The budget for the 2015-2016 academic year was determined using the Top Down budget development method. The goal for the 2015-2016 budget was to end the year with a net profit while simultaneously hosting many events for our members and peers. The budget was presented at the first meeting to the board for approval. Approval of the budget was granted with a majority vote, which was defined as 4 board members.

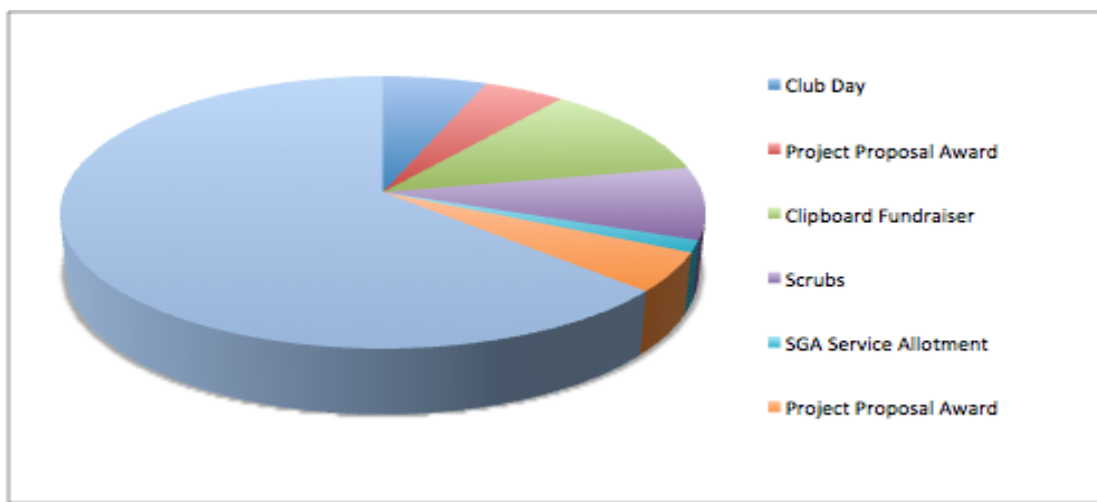
The executive board conducted three primary fundraising events. The Gamma Sigma Chapter strives to focus on academic fundraising opportunities to promote the value of academic excellence within our campus. The first fundraising event of the year took place from 8/14/15-8/19/15; we sold our signature "I <3 (Heart) RX" T-Shirts for a net profit of \$150. For our second fundraiser (10/19/15-10/23/15), we sold "WhiteCoat" brand clipboards for a net profit of \$460. For 2015-2016, our chapter broadened our fundraising scope by extending our clipboard offerings to physical therapy, veterinary, optometry, nursing and medical clipboards in addition to pharmacy clipboards. We felt that including all 9 colleges on campus was an excellent opportunity to promote inter-professional collaboration. The final fundraiser of the 2015-2016 year was a new addition to the Gamma Sigma chapter, offering scrub sets, which featured an embroidered WesternU logo. This fundraiser took place from 12/1/15-12/4/15 with a net profit \$313. Again, we promoted this fundraiser to all 9 colleges on campus, resulting in much excitement and enthusiasm as no other organization on campus has offered WesternU logo embroidered scrubs.

Rho Chi Society Financial Summary 2015-2016

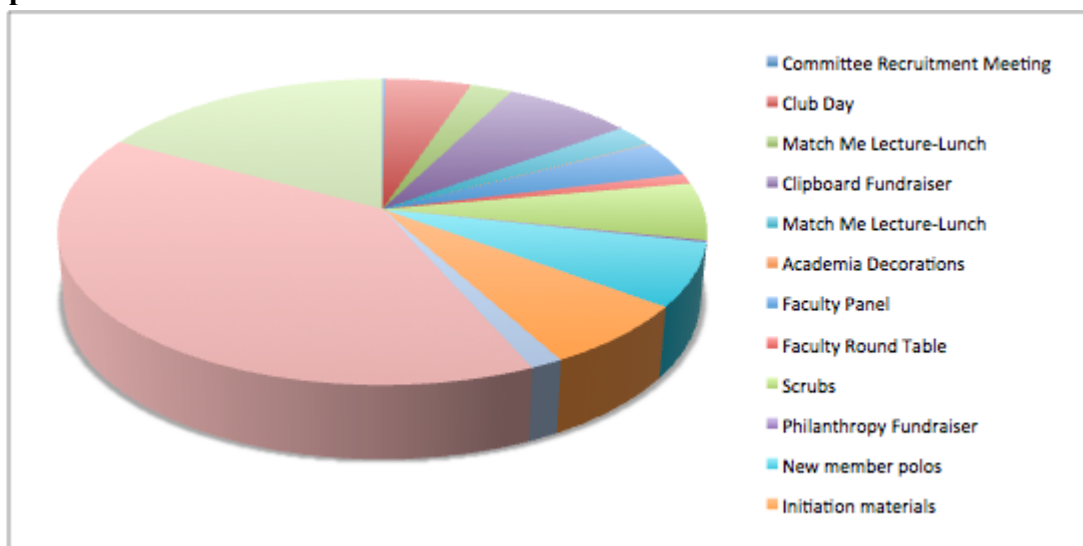
Event	Amount Debited	Amount Credited	Balance	Comment
			1,464.90	Account balance transferred from College of Pharmacy to University Affairs
8/13 Committee Recruitment Meeting	-18.00		1,446.90	Fruit and Cookies
8/19 Club Day	-490.00	+640	1,596.90	T Shirt Fundraiser continued 9/9 **Axon Graphics, unit price \$9**
9/2 Project Proposal Award		+500	2,096.90	Chapter Award
9/22 Match Me Lecture-Lunch	-240.39		1,856.51	Sandwiches and water (Sprouts)
10/20-10/23 Clipboard Fundraiser	-740.00	+1,200	2,316.51	Sold 40 clipboards at \$30 each (MD clipboard.com, unit price \$18.17 per previous Treasurer)
11/4 Match Me Lecture-Lunch	-229.97		2,086.54	Panda Express
11/7 Academia Decorations	-8.16		2,078.38	Passport Theme
11/10 Faculty Panel	-370.81		1,707.57	Gifts for 6 professors
11/12 Faculty Round Table	-103.71		1,603.86	Gifts for 10 professors
12/1 Scrubs	-602.00	+915	1,916	Sold 28 pairs
12/4 Philanthropy Fundraiser	-20.00	+0 (profits donated)	1,896	Chicken and Waffles
2/29 New member	-665.99		1,230.01	26 polos from ATK (23.50 each,

polos				waived artwork fees)
2/29 Initiation materials	-676.00		554.01	Medallions/cords for graduating members
2/29 Academic Achievement books	-140.40		413.61	5 books for 4.0 GPA students
2/29 SGA Service Allotment		+150	563.61	SGA Award
2/29 Project Proposal Award		+500	1,063.61	Chapter Award
2/29 New Member dues and banquet guest fees		+6,740	7,803.61	26 initiates
2/29 Banquet Venue/dinner	-3,926.33		3,878.14	78 people @ Vellano in Chino Hills
3/10 National dues, certificates and pins	-1,690		2,188.14	26 initiates

Income:



Expenses:



Starting balance as of 8/2015: \$1,464.90

Ending Balance as of 4/2016: \$2,188.14

2015-2016 net profit: \$723.24

Initiation Function:

The Rho Chi Initiation Banquet took place on March 31st 2016 at the Vellano Country Club in Chino Hills. This event was attended by all of our newly initiated members, totaling 28 new members from the Classes of 2017 and 2018 accompanied by their friends and family. The event was hosted by our chapter advisor, Dr. Emmanuelle Schwartzman. The audience was addressed and congratulated by our Dean of the College of Pharmacy, Dr. Daniel Robinson. Our keynote speaker of the evening was a fellow Rho Chi alum from the Beta Omega Chapter (University of the Pacific) and Western University of Health Sciences faculty, Dr. Patrick Chan. His comments inspired the new initiates to continue to aspire to greatness within the field of pharmacy. At the event, we recognized those members from the previous year who went above and beyond in serving our chapter by awarding them with medallions, which are to be worn with their graduation regalia. Additionally, we recognized those students who have achieved the highest degree of academic success (4.0 GPA) by awarding them pharmacy therapeutics books to serve as a resource in their careers. The 2016-2017 Executive Board was also installed at this time and presented with the gift of embossed letter openers.

Evaluation/Reflection:

The past 2015-2016 year for the Gamma Sigma Chapter has been extremely successful, fulfilling, exciting, and busy. At the beginning of our term, our chapter's executive board set out with great ambition and dedication. We wanted to continue the annual events and tradition established by our chapter, but also challenge ourselves to create new events that would benefit our colleagues as well as help to advance the field of academia within pharmacy. As the Gamma Sigma Chapter president for 2015-2016, my main goal was to foster a spirit of teamwork within the executive board and to increase activity within our chapter while advocating for the Rho Chi Society's vision and mission.

As the year has passed and the term for our executive board comes to an end, I have been able to reflect on the events we have successfully executed and the goals that we have achieved. At the beginning of the year, I was uncertain if we would be able to accomplish all of the tasks we had planned given that these were not small events. However, to my astonishment and amazement, we were able to accomplish all of this with great success. I believe this success can be attributed to obtaining a 100% on-campus member involvement rate which in itself a huge accomplishment. Some of our members held two committee positions and all of them played an integral role in the success of this past year. Given our small membership numbers and our tremendous desire to hold large and successful events, we decided to partner with the other larger organizations within the College of Pharmacy as well as organizations from other colleges throughout the health science campus. Throughout our partnerships, we were heavily involved in the core leadership and coordination of each event so that we could maintain our focus on bringing the values of Rho Chi to each event. These co-sponsorship efforts afforded us the opportunity to reach more students by receiving promotional assistance from the larger clubs as they have a larger member list and can reach a greater number of potential participants. In addition to finding a way to reach a larger audience base, we aspired to give our members and our colleague's added benefits to participation and membership. To achieve this, we coordinated with the College of Pharmacy that allowed students to gain additional professionalism credit and educational credit at selected events. I believe that these added strategies as well as hosting events that assist, educate, encourage, and instill the values of Rho Chi is what has made the past year so successful and fruitful.

The Gamma Sigma Chapter has had a very successful year, but even amongst my bias, I also find myself reflecting on ways that our chapter could have been stronger or if anything could make the future of the chapter more robust. This year we decided to forego the previously established annual "Wine and Cheese" event. This decision was based on historical low numbers of member involvement. Upon further reflection and growth as president, I realize that this event may have had unsuccessful numbers for

attendance in the past due to the limitation of inviting members only; this event does have the potential for being reinvented instead of eliminated entirely. The “Wine and Cheese” event was implemented for members to be able to mingle with previous Gamma Sigma alumni and served to instill a richer history within the Chapter. Our singular focus on the number of attendees may have been misguided in retrospect as this type of event provides an important social experience and a broader sense of community beyond the limited on-campus membership of our Chapter. This reflection was shared with the incoming president to allow him to decide if this is an event he wishes to continue. However, with the exclusion of this event, we created several new events that I believe are able to give members a different enrichment experience.

Overall, I believe that this year has been one of the most successful years in Gamma Sigma history. By nearly doubling the total number of events held in previous years, instilling the values of Rho Chi, and winning two chapter proposal awards--our Chapter has created a huge presence within the College of Pharmacy. Accomplishing so much and being so active in the community has been an unbelievable experience and growth opportunity for me as well as the entirety of the Gamma Sigma Chapter. I am very thankful and humbled to have had this opportunity to be the president for such a strong chapter and amazing executive board that I believe has helped to thrust the Gamma Sigma Chapter into one of the most successful and active chapters within the Rho Chi Society.