Annual Chapter Report - 2016

**Date of report submission:** 5/15/16

**Name of School/College:** Texas A&M Health Science Center Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy

**Chapter name and region:** Gamma Omega, Region VI - Gulf Coast

**Chapter advisor’s name and e-mail address:** Dr. Mohammad T. Nutan mnutan@pharmacy.tamhsc.edu

**Delegate who attended the Rho Chi Annual Meeting:** Matthew Untermeyer

**Date delegate’s name submitted to Rho Chi:** 3/2/16

**Past year’s officers and e-mail addresses:**

**President:** Monica Pham – mpham1@pharmacy.tamhsc.edu

**Vice President:** Josue Guerra – jguerra2@pharmacy.tamhsc.edu

**Secretary:** Hannah Hodges – hhodges@pharmacy.tamhsc.edu

**Treasurer:** Andy Huynh – ahuynh@ pharmacy.tamhsc.edu

**Historian:** Bryan Kerr – bkerr1@ pharmacy.tamhsc.edu

**New officers and e-mail addresses for next academic year:**

**President:** Niaz Deyhim – ndeyhim@pharmacy.tamhsc.edu

**Vice President:** Cecilia H. Huang – chuang1@pharmacy.tamhsc.edu

**Secretary:** K-N-Ram Reddy – kreddy@pharmacy.tamhsc.edu

**Treasurer:** Michelle Anne Bacon – mbacon@pharmacy.tamhsc.edu

**Historian:** Steve Thien Tri Vuong – svuong@pharmacy.tamhsc.edu

**Number of Rho Chi student members at college or school, listed by class year and program (and by campus if more than one campus):**

College of Pharmacy, Class of 2016: 17 members

College of Pharmacy, Class of 2017: 18 members

College of Pharmacy, Class of 2018: 22 members

* Kingsville campus: 14 students
* College Station campus: 8 students

**Meetings**:

**Note: A** – Kingsville Campus; **B** – College Station Campus

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| **Date** | **Attendance** | **Agenda** | **Action Steps** |
| August 24, 2015 | **A:** Hannah Hodges, Monica Pham, Josue Guerra, Hoa Ngo, Hannah Ehrenfeld, Paul Trevino, Matthew Untermeyer, Benjamin Trinh, Andy Huynh, Troy Agatep, Daniel Hayes, Gerardo Garay, Phuong-Linh Duc | 1. Back to School Supply Drive
2. Fundraising
3. Tutoring
 | * 2,000+ school supplies will be donated to Harrel Elementary School on August 26th.
* Fundraising options: leather padfolios and car decals.
* Tutoring will be offered for basic pharmacokinetics and cardiology.
* A tutoring help sheet will be emailed to tutors.
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| October 12, 2015 | **A:** Hoa Ngo, Josue Guerra, Hannah Ehrenfeld, Matthew Untermeyer, Kathryn Garcia, Monica Pham, Daniel Hayes, Benjamin Trinh, Paul Trevino, Hannah Hodges, Phuong Linh | 1. Kleberg County Health Fair
2. Rho Chi Award Name Change
3. Fundraising
4. Communities in School (CIS) - Community Outreach
5. Tutoring and exam reviews
 | * Kleberg County Health Fair: October 23rd from 12-5 pm.
* A proposal was submitted to change the name to “The Rho Chi Society Excellence Award”.
* Leather padfolios and car decals will be sold this fall.
* Funds from the “Bake Our Way Back to School” bake sale will be donated to CIS of the Coastal Bend.
* Calculations exam reviews will begin this semester.
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| November 18, 2015 | **A:** Monica Pham, Hannah Ehrenfeld, Sasha Cruz, Shannon White, Kathryn Garcia, Hannah Hodges, Gerardo Garay, Hoa Ngo, Daniel Hayes, Bryan Kerr, Josue Guerra, Andy Huynh, Troy Agatep, Phuong Linh | 1. Fundraising updates
2. CIS Bake Our Way Back to School Update
3. Kleberg County Health Fair Update
4. Tutoring program update
5. Member of the Month Award
6. Rho Chi Achievement Award
7. Graduation Stole Proposal
 | * Leftover fundraising items and coffee tumblers will be sold next semester.
* $200 will be donated to CIS.
* The Kleberg County Health Fair serviced 100+ employees.
* New tradition: “Rho Chi Member of the Month”. Hannah Ehrenfeld was the first Member of the Month.
* Matthew Untermeyer volunteered to attend the annual meeting.
* Monica will submit the one-minute video.
* The majority of the members voted that the Chapter will pay for 50% of the stoles cost and graduating members will pay the remainder.
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| February 17, 2016 | **A:** Eric Burdette, Daniel Hayes, Benjamin Trinh, Phuong-Linh Duc, Matthew Untermeyer, Kathryn Garcia, Hoa Ngo, Bryan Kerr, Troy Agatep, Hannah Hodges, Monica Pham, Josue Guerra, Paul Trevino, Hannah Ehrenfeld, Gerardo Garay, Andy Huynh, K-N-Ram Reddy, Rohan Lakhani, David Varghese, Brianne Sorunke, Olivia Collado, Armin Roshan, Mark Huynh, Josue Rodriguez, Michelle Bacon, Tatyana Barichovich, Cyrus Koochekzadeh, Niaz Deyhim, Khloe Tran; **B:** Cecilia Huang, Shahrouz Shoghi, Michael Okieimen, William Richardson, Marisa Rinche, Daniel Trevino, Hang Tuong, Steve Vuong | 1. Chapter Bylaws Revision
2. EC duties
3. Election Process
4. Pre-Election Interviews
5. Induction Banquet
6. Induction Practice
7. Member of the Month
8. Stole Proposal
9. Fundraising
10. Rho Chi Tutoring Program
 | * The majority of members were in favor of two new amendments to our bylaws: 1) If the President comes from College Station, then the VP shall come from Kingsville and vice versa; 2) Whichever position (VP, President) is in College Station will assume the position of Treasurer.
* EC members explained their duties.
* Elections: March 10th
* Pre-election interviews: February 29th
* Induction banquet: April 28th at 6 PM at the Salazar Event Center in Kingsville
* Induction practice: April 26th
* Member of the Month: Matthew Untermeyer.
* Dean Reddy accepted the stole proposal. Rho Chi will order and pay 50% of the stoles for the 2016 graduating class.
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| March 10, 2016 | **A:** Kathryn Garcia, Matthew Untermeyer, Hoa Ngo, Hannah Hodges, Hannah Ehrenfeld, Bryan Kerr, Monica Pham, Josue Guerra, Garay Gerardo, Andy Huynh, Phuong-Linh Duc, K-N-Ram Reddy, Michelle Bacon, Niaz Deyhim, Brianne Sorunke, Kimberly Carson, Olivia Collado, David Varghese, Rohan Lakhani, Cyrus Koochekzadeh, Tatyana Barichovich, Armin Roshan, Mark Huynh, Khloe Tran; **B:** Steve Vuong, Cecilia Huang, Shahrouz Shoghi, Daniel Trevino, Marisa Rinche, William Richardson, Hang Tuong; **Faculty:** Steven Peterson, Mohammad Nutan, Paul Holder, Debra Woods, Elaine Demps | 1. Elections
 | * The Chapter voted on the 2016-2017 EC:

President – Niaz DeyhimVice- President – Cecilia H. HuangSecretary – K-N-Ram ReddyTreasurer – Michelle Anne BaconHistorian – Steve Thien Tri Vuong |

**Strategic Planning**:

Our Chapter entered into the 2015-2016 academic year with several core goals. Logistical goals included further increasing the Chapter’s financial stability and smoothening the transition between academic years to include members from College Station. The EC officers followed in the footsteps of the 2014-2015 EC and conducted several new fundraising activities. Additionally, the comprehensive officer handbook was revised to reflect new Chapter activities and contacts. The EC officers utilized the standardized Chapter Activity form to report the process and completion of new activities. These two tools will continue to allow future members to reference past activities and minimize the confusion that complicates the transition between years. Our ideological goals were centered on increasing our community involvement, promoting academic excellence within the Texas A&M College of Pharmacy (COP), and further recognizing our hard-working and dedicated members. Our Chapter had previously engaged in small-scale community activities that promoted the field of pharmacy. This year, we focused our efforts on enhancing education through reducing attrition rates and barriers to success as well as providing health education and services to our community. We chose to include a number of new courses for which we offered pre-exam reviews and to continue the longitudinal general tutoring program. The vast amount of information presented in a rigorous pharmacy program can impair students’ retention. Therefore, our tutoring sessions were designed to compartmentalize and streamline core material to maximize comprehension and retention. Furthermore, we monitored educational outcomes and tailored our sessions through periodic anonymous surveys, which were distributed to tutoring attendees throughout the year. To enhance the professionalism of our colleagues, we chose to revise the Chapter’s previous mock interview activity and supplement it with a curriculum vitae review. Our Chapter began two new traditions to recognize our members. During monthly general meetings, the EC recognizes a “Rho Chi Member of the Month” and graduation stoles were purchased for the Class of 2016 and 2017. These core goals resulted in a successful year of activities directly related to the Rho Chi mission as we effectively increased our financial assets, participated in three community activities, and tutored over 100 students throughout the course of the academic year.

**Activities**: Please see next page.

**Chapter Activities Report**

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| [Gamma Omega, Texas A&M Health Science Center Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy] Activity Table |
| **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 has Been Ongoing for >1 Year, What Evaluations Have Been Done to Assess the Success of the Activity and What Improvements Have Been Done Over the Past Year?** | **How Many Members Participated in the Activity?** | **How Many Students (non-members) and/or Patients were impacted by the Activity?** | **Financial Information for the Activity [Budget Required, Fundraising Amount]** |
| Intellectual Leadership Activities  | The Rho Chi Tutoring Program | Rho Chi tutors participated in general tutoring every Tuesday. Students requested additional tutoring on an “as needed” basis. Pre-exam reviews were offered for Cardiology, Basic Pharmacokinetics, Pharmaceutical Calculations, Drug Action II, Self Care, Endocrinology, and Immunology. | This program promoted academic excellence and encouraged intellectual achievement within the COP. | 9th year for the Kingsville campus; 2nd year for the College Station campus | Feedback from anonymous surveys tailored the sessions to better suit the students’ needs. Incoming Rho Chi members from the Class of 2018 were involved in tutoring to ensure the continuity of the program. | 12 Rho Chi tutors  | A total of 108 students attended 75 hours of tutoring. | N/A |
| Tackling P1 Year with Rho Chi | Study tips regarding difficult subjects and time management skills were shared during an informational session to ease first year students’ transition into the pharmacy program. | This activity encouraged intellectual achievement within the COP. | One year | N/A | Five EC members  | 40 students  | N/A |
| Curriculum Vitae Review and Mock Interviews | The Chapter conducted a curriculum vitae (CV) review in conjunction with mock interviews to prepare students for summer internship applications and interviews. | This activity fostered collaboration with the Phi Lambda Sigma (PLS) Chapter and contributed to the development of intellectual leaders. | Two years | The EC spoke with second year students who attended the activity last year and were advised to provide a CV review instead of an internship informational. | Eight Rho Chi members; Five PLS members | 27 students  | N/A |
| College of Pharmacy Events [non-academic, non-patient outreach] | Rho Chi Graduation Stoles | Graduation stoles were purchased to recognize hardworking and dedicated members. This new tradition will be continued in the future. | This activity recognizes intellectual achievement among our members. | One year | N/A | Two EC members  | 34 members  | Our Chapter paid 50% of the cost ($595). Members paid the remaining half. |
| Faculty and Staff Appreciation Luncheon | Our Chapter’s members donated homemade food to recognize the faculty and staff at the College of Pharmacy. | This event promoted collaboration with other student organizations. | Three years | N/A | Six members | This luncheon served the faculty and staff on the Kingsville and College Station campuses. | N/A |
| Patient Outreach Events/ Community Service | Rho Chi Back-to-School Supply Drive | The supply drive raised over 2,000 donations for Harrel Elementary School. | This community service project reduced barriers to academic success and encouraged intellectual achievement. | Two years | This year’s supply drive incorporated donations from the College Station campus. | Five EC members presented the items at the school’s Open House. | Our donation made a lasting impact on the students and teachers. | N/A |
| Kleberg County Health Fair | Employees from the City of Kingsville and Kleberg County received free health care screenings, influenza vaccinations, and education regarding the importance of a healthy diet, exercise, diabetes, prescription drug abuse, and vaccinations.. Health care services included blood pressure, blood glucose, A1c, and cholesterol screenings. Four educational posters were created for the following vaccinations: pneumococcal, influenza, TDaP, and meningitis. | This patient outreach event fostered collaboration with the City of Kingsville and Kleberg County to help deliver health care services to their employees. | One year | N/A | Ten Rho Chi members  | Over 100 employees  | N/A |
| Bake Our Way Back to School Bake Sale | We raised $196.86 for the nonprofit dropout reduction agency, Communities in Schools (CIS) of the Coastal Bend. | This event promoted academic excellence within the community and raised awareness of the need for reduced attrition rates. | 2nd year donating to CIS; 1st year hosting a bake sale | N/A | 18 members from the Class of 2017  | These funds will be allocated by CIS to benefit students from 38 schools served by the Coastal Bend Branch. | N/A |
| Fundraising Events | Leather Padfolio and Car Decal Fundraiser | These items featured the Texas A&M COP logo. | These two events contributed to the development of intellectual leaders by offsetting the high cost of the Installation Banquet and half the cost of graduation stoles. | One year | N/A | Two EC members  | The funds helped fund graduation stoles for 34 Rho Chi members and the induction of 22 new members. | Our Chapter raised $759.95 in profit. |
| Coffee Tumbler Fundraiser | The coffee tumblers also featured the Texas A&M COP logo and were recognized by the Texas A&M Kingsville food services to receive a 10% discount on all drip coffee purchases. | Two years | An anonymous survey was sent to the Kingsville and College Station campuses prior to pre-sales to gauge how many items to purchase. | Our Chapter sold 91 tumblers and raised $361.39 in profit. |

**Financial/ Budgeting**:

**Rho Chi Financial Report 2015-2016**

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| **TAMUK Account** |
| **Item** | **Amount Debited** | **Amount Credited** | **Balance** | **Comment** |
| Incoming Balance from 2014-2015 |  |  | $0.00 |  |
| TAMUK Funding |  | $1250.00 | $1250.00 |  |
| Banquet Catering | $1250.00 |  | $0.00 | Closing TAMUK account |

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| **TAMHSC COP Account** |
| **Item** | **Amount Debited** | **Amount Credited** | **Balance** | **Comment** |
| Incoming Balance from 2014-2015 |  |  | $5093.07 |  |
| Floral Arrangements for Banquet | $340.00 |  | $4753.07 | 17 arrangements x $20  |
| New Member Dues |  | $3300.00 | $8053.07 | 22 new members x $150  |
| New Initiate Membership Fees, Cords, Medallion | $1730.00 |  | $6323.07 | * Initiate fees: 22 x $65 = $1430
* Rho Chi medallion: 1 x $25
* Honor cords: 22 x $12.50 = $725
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| The Salazar Building Reservation | $550.00 |  | $5773.07 |  |
| Transfer from Kleberg Account | $819.45 |  | $6592.52 | Closing TAMHSC account |

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| **Kleberg Account** |
| **Item** | **Amount Debited** | **Amount Credited** | **Balance** | **Comment** |
| Leather Padfolio and Car Decal Fundraiser |  | $2038.26 | $2038.26 |  |
| Start Up Money + 2 Square Readers + Money Bag | $51.29 |  | $1986.97 |  |
| Leather Padfolio and Car Decal Bulk Purchase | $1478.31 |  | $508.66 |  |
| Communities in Schools (CIS) of the Coastal Bend Bake Sale Donations (Credit) |  | $74.86 | $583.52 |  |
| CIS of the Coastal Bend Bake Sale Donations (Cash) |  | $122.00 | $705.52 |  |
| Rho Chi Donation for CIS Bake Sale | $27.02 |  | $678.50 | Funds used to purchase baked goods  |
| Rho Chi Donation to CIS of the Coastal Bend | $196.86 |  | $481.64 | Donated funds raised from bake sale |
| Leather Padfolio Re-Sale Fundraiser |  | $200.00 | $681.64 | Profit: $759.95 |
| Coffee Tumbler Fundraiser |  | $850.00 | $1531.64 |  |
| Coffee Tumbler Bulk Purchase | $488.61 |  | $1043.03 | Profit: $361.39 |
| Initiation Banquet Guest Fee |  | $760.00 | $1803.03 | 38 guests x $20/ticket |
| Banquet Catering Deposit | $300.00 |  | $1503.03 |  |
| College of Pharmacy Yearbook Page | $25.00 |  | $1478.03 |  |
| Banquet Supplies | $63.58 |  | $1414.45 | * 2 tablecloths x $11.21 = $22.42
* 18 (5 piece x chair sash organza) x $2.25 = $40.50
* 10% discount = $6.29
* Shipping and handling = $6.95
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| P3 and P4 Graduation Stoles  |  | $595.00 | $2009.45 | 34 members x $17.50/stole |
| Graduation Stoles Purchase | $1190.00 |  | $819.45 | Chapter paid remaining $595.00 |
| Transfer to TAMHSC COP Account |  |  | $0.00 | Closing Kleberg account |

**Initiation Function**:

This year’s Rho Chi Installation Banquet was an evening to remember. Our 22 inductees enjoyed a night of celebration for their success in academics. The banquet was held at The Salazar Event Center in Kingsville on April 28th, 2016. The Dean of the College of Pharmacy, the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, the Assistant Dean of Student Affairs, and numerous faculty and staff attended this wonderful event. We were extremely honored to have our distinguished guest speaker, Dr. J Douglas Bricker. Dr. Bricker is the current Dean of the Mylan School of Pharmacy and Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He has been active within the academic pharmacy field for the last three decades. Dr. Bricker is a Diplomat of the American Board of Toxicology and a member of the American Academy of Clinical Toxicology. Since his induction into Rho Chi in 1978, he has held many offices in the Rho Chi Society, serving as National Secretary, National Historian and National President from 1999-2001 and as the Faculty Advisor of the Rho Chi Alpha Beta Chapter. Students and peers have recognized him as an excellent teacher with ten “Teacher of the Year” awards and “Teaching Excellence” awards. Following dinner, the presentation of new members for pinning and the candlelight ceremony were completed. Soon after, the installation of the new officers was performed. In closing, the Dean of the College of Pharmacy gave closing remarks and congratulations to the students and their attending family and friends.

**Evaluation/Reflection**:

During this academic year, our Chapter continued the various programs set by our predecessors and initiated new community activities, fundraising opportunities, and traditions to recognize members. These events allowed our Chapter to increase our presence in the College of Pharmacy and community as leaders striving for academic excellence. Funds from our three fundraisers allowed our Chapter to pay for banquet costs, including catering and floral arrangements, and half of the cost of purchasing graduation stoles for the Class of 2016 and 2017 members. Although our funding from TAMUK decreased by 50% over the past two years, we were able to remain active and host an elegant Installation Banquet. Our community presence increased through various activities that included the 2nd Annual Back-to-School Supply Drive, Bake Our Way Back to School Sale, and the Kleberg County Health Fair, which served over 100 employees of the City of Kingsville and Kleberg County. Our Chapter continued previous activities by expanding the tutoring program and adding new projects to improve academic performance. For example, weekly general tutoring and one-on-one tutoring were offered to both campuses. Additionally, the EC hosted a “Tackling P1 Year with Rho Chi” informational session for first year students wherein advice regarding difficult subjects and time management were shared to ease their transition into the pharmacy program. Our Chapter provided pre-exam reviews for new subjects such as, Pharmaceutical Calculations and Immunology. The majority of students who utilized these tutoring opportunities reported better understanding of course material and improved grades. Incoming members were encouraged to participate in the tutoring program for a smoother transition between years. Our CV review and mock interviews served as a guide for students preparing for internship interviews and P4 rotations. Our officer transition process was further improved following revision of the comprehensive officer handbook and Chapter Activity forms. These two items continue to serve as a guide for the new officers with various timelines, projects, and contact information. Our Chapter collaborated with various student organizations to coordinate and execute the Kleberg County Health Fair, CV review, and mock interviews such as, Phi Lambda Sigma, Phi Delta Chi, Kappa Psi, APhA, SSHP, and NCPA. In addition to expanding our role in the community, our Chapter also focused on recognizing our dedicated members by founding two new traditions: Rho Chi Member of the Month and graduation stoles. Our members were very active as members and leaders in other student organizations; therefore our community outreach projects were limited during the spring semester. The new members in Kingsville and College Station look forward to expanding the pre-exam review courses, improving the community outreach projects, and increasing fundraising opportunities. Our Chapter hopes to begin a monthly tutoring program at a local elementary school in Kingsville to further academic excellence in our community. We believe our Rho Chi Gamma Omega Chapter will continue to expand and further our presence in the College of Pharmacy and local community over the next year.

**Other information**: N/A

Most Improved Chapter Award

**Name of School/College:** Texas A&M Health Science Center Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy

**Chapter name and region:** Gamma Omega, Region VI - Gulf Coast

**Name of member submitting statement:** Monica Nguyen Pham

**Name of Chapter Advisor:** Dr. Mohammad T. Nutan

This past year our Chapter made great strides in its service to the College of Pharmacy, our community, and to our members. Our Chapter increased the total number of tutoring hours offered from 55 to 75 hours from 2014-2016. Our ultimate goals included improving the academic performance of struggling students and to increase retention and comprehension of core material. The leadership and public speaking experience gained through tutoring may incentivize students to pursue a career in academia and become lifelong educators. Our tutoring program was well received by both faculty and the student body and will be continued by incoming members to further academic excellence within the College of Pharmacy.

Additionally, our Chapter increased our community outreach throughout the year with a focus on enhancing education through reducing attrition rates and barriers to academic success as well as providing health education and services to our community. The 2nd Annual Rho Chi Back-to-School Supply Drive not only met the basic requirement for educational supplies, but it also sought to encourage intellectual achievement among young Elementary school students. The school supply drive raised over 2,000 donations, quadrupling last year’s amount, to meet every request on the school’s wish list. Harrel Elementary is a Title I school where approximately 29% of the school’s students have household incomes below the poverty line. Such a large-scale donation will have a lasting impact on the students and will eliminate the need for teachers to use personal funds to supplement their minimal classroom budgets. Our members also contributed to the planning and execution of the Kleberg County Health fair where employees from the City of Kingsville and Kleberg County received free health care screenings, influenza vaccinations, and education regarding a variety of topics. Health care services included blood pressure, blood glucose, A1c, and cholesterol screenings. Employees were educated on the importance of a healthy diet, exercise, diabetes, prescription drug abuse, and vaccinations. Four educational posters were created regarding the following vaccinations: pneumococcal, influenza, TDaP, and meningitis. An “Ask the Doc” booth was designated for patient counseling based on screening results and a physician was readily available to facilitate pharmacy students as they counseled the patients. This was the first year for the Rho Chi Gamma Omega Chapter to help coordinate and organize a health fair of this magnitude in conjunction with various student organizations at the College of Pharmacy and the City of Kingsville. A total of ten Rho Chi members volunteered to provide screenings and health-related education to over 100 employees.

Despite reduced funding from Texas A&M Kingsville, our Chapter was able to begin a new tradition to recognize the intellectual achievement, hard work, and dedication of its members. Personalized graduation stoles featuring the Texas A&M Pharmacy and Rho Chi symbol were designed and purchased by the Chapter for the Class of 2016 and 2017. Our many fundraising activities supplemented our budget and allowed our Chapter to pay for half of the overall cost as a gift to our graduating members. This new tradition was well received among our current members and will be continued for future years.

 Our Chapter is fairly young but our diverse range of activities and events would indicate otherwise. Our members continue to demonstrate their commitment to excellence over the years. Our ultimate goal is to promote the mission of The Rho Chi Society in each and every contribution to the College of Pharmacy, our community, and our members.