



The Rho Chi Society

Minutes of the Executive Council

Monday, April 4, 2005

Peabody Hotel

Orlando, FL

President Gary Stoehr called the Meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

Members Present: Immediate Past President Daniel C. Robinson, President-Elect Gary E. DeLander, Executive Vice President A. Wayne Pittman, Secretary Thomas L. Lemke, Historian J. Douglas Bricker, Immediate Past-Historian Robert A. Buerki, and National Office Administrative Assistant Gail R. Moriarty

Regional Councilors: Jack Reynolds (I), Dong-Churl Suh(II), Mary Ann Kirkpatrick (III), Matthias Lu (IV), Victoria F. Roche (V), Jonathan J. Wolfe (VI), Nanci L. Murphy (VII) Anne Y. Lin (VIII).

Absent:

Student Representative: Katie Francis (University of Pittsburgh)

Guest: Mary J. Ferrill (Wingate University)

President Stoehr asked that the Council consider several issues not on the agenda. The Council agreed. The first issues addressed were petitions from two schools asking for admission to Rho Chi. From South University - the petition was incomplete and therefore was not brought for action. It is hoped that this petition can be updated in time for a vote before summer vacation. For Wingate University Executive Vice President Pittman felt that this petition should be tabled because Wingate University is presently on probation (accreditation of the school is under consideration) from Commission on Colleges Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). The school is accredited by both SACS and Accreditation Council for Pharmaceutical Education (ACPE) but because of the concerns about the SACS accreditation a representative from Wingate was invited to attend the Executive Council to discuss their status (Mary Ferrill). Executive Vice President Pittman submitted a paper taken from the SACS web site which discussed the action taken against Wingate (an issue of integrity). Mary Ferrill (Rho Chi Advisor for Wingate) was present to answer questions as a Wingate representative. She explained that SACS will visit the University April 14-15 and a decision regarding their accreditation status is expected shortly thereafter. The issue relates to a change of the University from level III to V, a change that is associated with the addition of a doctoral program in pharmacy. Dr. Ferrill stated that the issue really is a University issue and not a college issue. The first graduating class is scheduled for 2007. The College would like to induct their first Rho Chi group of students in the spring of 2005.

After discussion, a motion was made to postpone action on Wingate's petition until the July Executive Council Meeting or until further information is available about the accreditation of the University. Motion passed.

Consideration of Reports:

The minutes from the March 29, 2004 (Seattle) and July 10, 2004 (Salt Lake City) were distributed and a motion was made to accept the minutes. The motion carried.

Dr. Stoehr discussed the financial status which was reported in the President's Report. He pointed out how well the budget has been handled by the National Office.

Executive Vice President/Treasurer Wayne Pittman presented the detailed budget of the Society and highlighted several items listed in the budget. There was some discussion of the financial support for regional meetings and how such meetings could adversely affect the Society's budget. Executive Vice President/Treasurer Pittman made a motion that he in consultation with the National Officers be allowed to approach a financial advisor to discuss investment of a portion of the Society's funds (\$100,000) for better growth. The motion passed.

Audit Committee (Jack Reynolds): The audit was completed as instructed.

Nomination Committee (Dan Robinson): Immediate Past-President Robinson thanked everyone for their efforts. Next year Robinson will work with the odd numbered regional councilors to have a slate of nominees by October 1st. Candidates for President will be needed and the Executive Council was asked for suggestions. Several names were suggested (Earlene E. Lipowski, Lori J. Morin, Robert L. McCarthy, Karen L. Rascati, Myron Weiner, Michael C. Gerald).

Chapter Awards Committee (Gary DeLander): A report was distributed indicating the action of the Scholarship and Chapter Awards Committee. President-Elect DeLander discussed the process for selecting the award winners. Dr. Roche asked for a mechanism for chapters to review award winning reports so that they could model their reports after winners. It was pointed out that the volume of activities and clarity of presentation were important in the judging. There was a discussion of the role of the chapter advisor in preparing the report.

Scholarship/Fellowship Committee (Gary DeLander): Nominations for these awards need to happen in January (deadline is February). Past-President Robinson will be contacting Lilly to work on long-term support for this program. Dr. Robinson reported that he had great response this past year for both the Scholarship awards and the Fellowship awards. It was suggested that the financial aid section needs to be deleted from the application material for the Scholarship Award since this is an award. If additional sponsors can be found for scholarships, the Society would be encouraged to give more scholarships. President-Elect DeLander indicated that ACCP is driving the increase in applicants. He also identified a contact at each school to encourage submissions and this may have increased the response. Various other approaches were discussed. Pittman asked if Rho Chi wants to contribute more money into the scholarship funds. This may be possible after the discussions with the financial advisors.

Chapter proposals were discussed because two chapters submitted proposals that did not meet standards. Dr. Roche asked if the regional councilors have been involved in the development of the proposals. Dr. Stoehr suggested that a rubric for scoring could be shared with the chapters and that this might be valuable. A reflection piece is also valuable and was not always present in the reports.

National Faculty Advisor Award Committee: No report

Lecture Award Committee (Anne Lin): Two nominees are present from previous years. Since one candidate had previously been selected but was unable to attend the APhA Meeting, the question was posed, should he be the 2006 Lecturer? Additional nominees were encouraged and no action was taken at this time, but a report will be presented at the July Meeting.

Review of Luncheon and 81st Annual Meeting: Around 176 were in attendance with a very positive response toward Dr. Hepler's presentation. The location may have helped with attendance this time, but the location is chosen by APhA. Dr. Buerki suggested opening the room to individuals who want to attend the lecture only. This suggestion will be considered when planning next year's lunch.

Results of Roundtable discussions - notes have been collected and will be transcribed into the minutes for further action.

New Business: Integrated programs at Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) and University of South Carolina (USC) - This issue also affects distance campuses as well as the two schools merging in South Carolina. The new school is actually a new entity being formed. With multiple campuses, schools can decide how to split up the 20% selection and therefore this is not an issue in South Carolina. President Stoehr suggested that the new dean be given options as to which chapter should be retained or whether both chapters should be inactivated and a new chapter formed. Discussion followed. Chapter is tied to accreditation and depending on what ACPE does with the new school may influence a decision on how to handle the Rho Chi chapter. No decision was made at this time.

Recognition of non-PharmD pharmacy students – schools that have BS programs in Pharmacy would like to recognize outstanding students in such programs. These students are not those who will move into a PharmD program. The Society's Bylaws do not address guidelines for who will receive recognition from Rho Chi. The present recognition program with possible guidelines would seem to be the best approach. Motion was made that certificates of recognition be used as a means of recognizing BS students. The motion passed.

Unfinished Business:

Petitions for New Chapters – South University will revise and resubmit its petition to establish a Rho Chi chapter.

Bylaws revisions:

Executive Vice-President Pittman presented recommendations for revisions to the Constitution and By-Laws. Current and revised versions were distributed for the Council's consideration. Pittman referenced Robert's Rules of Order and read extracted information regarding the use of a constitution vs. by-laws by an organization. Merger of our Constitution and By-Laws appears to be best practice and will result in greater clarity.

Page 8 – Article III Members - Section 1 - Membership Designations 1 – not a member until duly initiated – moved from Article V, 1d (1999)

Article III, Section 3, a1 - Collegiate Membership – full time inserted. Gary DeLander expressed concern that part-time students should not be penalized and the decision should be made at the chapter level.

Page 9 – Article III, Section 3a, 3c - Collegiate Membership – changed to grade point average. Gary Stoehr made a recommendation that the minimum grade point average be raised. Dan Robinson suggested that the grade point average be left as is since chapters can set their minimum at a higher level than National. Bob Buerki suggested that we might reconsider a change, if ACHS makes changes to their standards. The current minimum grade point average of 3.0 was retained.

Page 11 – Article III, Section 8, Member Election – Wayne Pittman expressed concern for a clear statement of “members elect” privileges. After discussion, it was decided that draft wording will be developed to define these privileges.

Article III, Section 12 - Disqualification and Loss of Membership – This was discussed at length. Jon Wolfe stated that their State Association has backed away from this issue on the advice of their attorney because of issues related to issue becoming public information outside of the organization. Executive Vice President Pittman raised the question of how to deal with students who have been dismissed from programs due to unprofessional conduct and do not complete their pharmacy degree – how do you discover this information? Gary Stoehr said there were two separate issues – students vs. alumni members. Dan Robinson commented that academic integrity/honesty became involved in FERPA issues – how do you protect students’ privacy? Can chapters remove students from membership when they become inactive in the program? Dong-Churl Suh asked, if a student is dismissed from a program, how is this information disseminated? Gary Stoehr asked, is there a precedent for disqualification of membership? Executive Vice President Pittman will check with other honor societies to see if there is a precedent/procedure for disqualification of membership.

Page 12 – Article IV - Member Chapters – Section 4 – Wayne Pittman asked that Council review. Section 4 was changed to reflect the name change for ACPE – Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education.

Page 13 – Article V – National Officers and Regional Councilors – Section 6 – Wayne Pittman asked how this issue comes before the membership. What constitutes removal and how does removal of an Executive Council/Regional Council come before the delegates. One recommendation was that “when the member cannot discharge the duties/responsibilities of position.

Page 14 – Article VI - Section 6 – Regional Councilors – Reviewed responsibilities of Regional Councilors.

Article VII – Section 2 – Nominating Committee – Reviewed the composition and responsibilities of the Nominating Committee.

Page 15 – Article VII - Section 4 – Rho Chi Lecture Award Committee – recommended a three year appointment with chairmanship in third year and rotation off the Committee.

Article VIII – Chapter Officers – wording seems overly formal – Wayne Pittman asked the Council to read and make recommendations.

Page 16 – 17 – Article VIII, Section 7– Faculty Advisors – asked Council to review and make recommendations.

Page 12 – Article IV – Member Chapters - it was suggested that assignment of chapters by regions be added to this section.

Executive President Pittman would like to finalize changes by July, 2005 and asked that recommendations/comments be received by June 1.

On behalf of the Society, Gary Stoehr expressed appreciation to Past-Historian Robert Buerki for his hard work and dedication as Historian and “corporate” memory. Dr. Buerki has served as a National Officer since 1967 in different offices and began his tenure as Historian in 1993.

President Stoehr will be contacting faculty advisor and council members regarding 2005-2006 committee appointments.

The meeting adjourned at 12:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Lemke, Secretary
Gail Moriarty, Administrative Assistant