



The Rho Chi Society

Minutes of the Executive Council Meeting

Monday, April 6, 2009

Marriott Rivercenter Hotel

San Antonio, TX

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 8:47 AM by President Karen L. Rascati.

Members Present: President Karen Rascati, Immediate Past-President Gary DeLander, President-Elect Robert McCarty, Secretary Paul Jungnickel, Historian L. Douglas Bricker, Executive Vice-President A. Wayne Pittman, and National Office Administrative Assistant Gail Moriarty.

Regional Councilors Present: Gina Garrison (I, via telephone), Marc Harrold (II), Mary Ferrill (III-SE), Melody Ryan (IV), Beth Resman-Targoff (VI), Karen Gunning (VII), Michael Wincor (VIII).

Regional Councilors Absent: Robert Dupuis (III-Mid Atlantic), Robert Soltis (V)

Student Representative Present: John Jezak (Gamma Gamma – Albany College of Pharmacy)

Approval of Executive Council Meeting Minutes: The minutes of the March 17, 2008 Executive Council meeting in San Diego were approved with the correction indicating that Regional Councilor Melody Ryan was present. The minutes of the July 19, 2008 Executive Council meeting in Chicago were approved with corrections of minor typographical errors.

Consideration of Reports: The Executive Council considered the following reports:

President's Report, Karen Rascati

Executive Vice President/Treasurer's Report, A. Wayne Pittman

Audit Committee, Jack Reynolds (Chair)

Nominating Committee, Past President DeLander (Chair) – The Executive Council discussed the issue of travel expenses being a factor that would limit willingness of individuals to serve as Society officers. It was decided that at the present time the Society would not pay for such travel expenses. It was further decided to explore having a hybrid Executive Council meeting in July 2009, with teleconference options for those Executive Council members who are unable to be present in Boston. The presentation of the Advisor of the Year Award will be moved to the Society's Annual Meeting instead of being presented at the AACP Annual Meeting.

Chapter Awards Committee, President-Elect Robert L. McCarthy (Chair) – The Executive Council discussed the Most Improved Chapter Award which was not presented this year. Discussion centered on the need to clarify criteria for the Award and more actively promote it to member chapters. President-Elect McCarthy agreed to review and revise guidelines for the award.

First-Year Graduate Scholarship Committee, Victoria F. Roche (Chair) – The Committee reported that there were 10 applicants for the Award, with 2 being disqualified for eligibility reasons. It was stated that AFPE may decrease funding for this award to \$6,000 from the current \$7,500. Rho Chi could make up the difference, however the funding really should be increased to

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above \$7,500. The possibility of Rho Chi funding a second scholarship was discussed. It was suggested that Victoria Roche and Gary DeLander meet to discuss other forms of recognition.

Research Fellow Scholarship Committee, Alan H. Lau (Chair) – This report was presented by President Rascati. Improved advertising is needed to increase the number of applicants for this award.

Lecture Award Committee, J. Douglas Bricker (Chair) – The Committee currently has one nominee for the Lecture Award. Regional councilors were asked to encourage their chapters to submit additional nominees.

Review of the 85th Annual Meeting: It was suggested that the meeting format be revised with the awards given first, followed by the lecture, and then the business meeting. The possibility of a break between the lecture award, with punch and cookies, was suggested as an alternative to the reception.

The results of the roundtable discussions will be summarized by Secretary Jungnickel and will be posted on the Society's website. It was felt that the roundtable discussions should continue to be a part of the business meeting, hopefully with more time than was available this year.

The concern was voiced that some chapters require initiates to commit to activities such as tutoring as a condition for membership in Rho Chi. The Rho Chi Bylaws do not directly address this issue, but do indicate that chapters can impose higher academic standards than those stated in the Bylaws.

Old Business:

Petitions to Establish New Chapters – Executive Vice-President Pittman provided a list of pharmacy schools, who had inquired about Rho Chi chapters, that he had communicated with following the amendment of the Bylaws regarding the eligibility requirements for establishing new chapters. Additional discussion related to the establishment of new chapters included the following:

- **LECOM-Bradenton:** Apparently this school is being accredited as a satellite campus of LECOM-Erie, with both campuses being accredited as a single pharmacy school. However, the Erie campus has a 3-year accelerated program and the Bradenton campus is a 4-year traditional program, thus creating questions as to how membership eligibility would be determined with this situation.
- **Eligibility of Lebanon School of Pharmacy:** This is an ACPE accredited pharmacy school.
- **Membership of additional Canadian Schools** – Executive Vice-President Pittman will follow up with the deans of these schools.

Alumni Honor Roll – Only 3 chapters selected recipients for the award in 2009, raising concerns as to if the award should be continued. After significant discussion it was decided that no changes will be made for 2010, but additional communication will encourage chapters to select alumni to be honored.

New Business:

Waiver of Annual Meeting attendance requirement – The Executive Council discussed the option of waiving the Annual Meeting attendance requirements due to the current financial state resulting in reduced travel to national professional meetings, and decided to not waive this requirement. Seventy-eight of 89 chapters were represented in San Antonio, Texas.

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Bylaws issue - The ongoing changes in pharmacy curricula continue to raise issues as to the point at which students can be considered for Rho Chi Membership. A committee consisting of Michael Wincor (Chair of the Bylaw Committee), Gina Garrison, Paul Jungnickel and Wayne Pittman, ex-officio will review this issue and report their findings to the Executive Council.

Communications – It was announced that the National Office will be providing more frequent bulleted electronic communications. National officers need to have information to the National Office by the 20th of the month to be included in the communication that will be sent during the first 5 days of the following month.

Next Meeting – The next meeting of the Executive Council is tentatively scheduled for July 18, 2009 in conjunction with the AACP Annual Meeting in Boston, with a possible teleconference available to those members who cannot be present

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Paul W. Jungnickel, Secretary