### Annual Chapter Report Outline

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

**Date of report submission:** 2015-05-12

**Name of School/College:** University of Minnesota

**Chapter Name & region:** Mu Chapter – Region V Midwest

**Delegate who attended the Rho Chi Annual Meeting:** Jonathan Wilson

**Date Delegate’s name submitted:** 2015-03-01

Past year's officers and e-mail addresses

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Historian

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Abby

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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)
2015-04-29

New officers and e-mail addresses

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Chapter advisor’s name and e-mail address

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**Chapter advisor’s name and e-mail address**

[chapter-advisors]

**Introduction**

During the 2014-2015 academic year, the Mu Chapter continued to improve current projects/events while adding new initiatives to expand our role in the college of pharmacy. We continued our role in advancing academics within the college by developing a Twin Cities Rho Chi Tutor Center while maintaining our Duluth Tutor Center which increased our visibility within the College of Pharmacy. Additionally, we expanded our dual-campus Rho Chi Research Symposium and provided students with tools to help them in class, on rotation, and as future pharmacists. Furthermore, we established an informational research meeting and provided financial support for events throughout the college while hosting our own Initiation Banquet. We look forward to advancing our role within the college both with current and new initiatives.

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

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Attendance | Agenda | Action Steps |
| 2014-09-30 | Officers | - Welcome Back, discussion of goals, brainstorming new initiatives, discussing keynote speakers for initiation banquet, discussing progress from test packet fundraising for Fall semester, determination of meeting times, coordination of Twin Cities Tutor Center staffing, budgeting discussion | - Contact Dr. Ferguson as a candidate to speak during initiation banquet, approved funds for T-shirts ($300) for Tutor Center Volunteers, set times of meetings at 7:00 a.m. due to conflicting class schedules, budget approved (see attached document). |
| 2014-11-03 | Officers + General Members (21) | - Discussion of initiation banquet, lunch lectures, student of the month award, and 4 year donation | - Dr. Ferguson scheduled as Rho Chi Initiation Banquet Speaker, Lunch Lecture event turned into Research Information Session for PDI/II students, student of the month award increase to $25, 4 year donation/project discussion tabled to next meeting. |
| 2014-12-04 | Officers + General Members | - Research Infomation Session report (Nov. 21), Research Symposium Fund discussion, Expansion of Initiation Banquet to Current General Members, Increasing Reimbursement for national meeting attendance. | - Approved $750 for research symposium supplies/abstract printing and awards; approved $400 to cover expense of current member attendance at initiation banquet to provide sense of community in our society; increased reimbursement to "X" dollars resulting in an end account value of $5000 at the end of Spring Semester. |
| 2015-03-14 | Officers + General Members + New Members + Faculty + Guests | Initiation Banquet | Induction of the Class of 2017 Rho Chi Mu Chapter Members |

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

Our newly elected officers met with our current officers to discuss our primary focus for the upcoming year after our election meeting. The President and Vice Presidents on each campus will continue to communicate regularly to set up the fundraising projects for the next academic year. We have constant goals of continuing current projects, supporting pharmacy events, and expanding the academic support we provide within the college on both campuses. We plan to establish an image for Rho Chi within our University as an organization that not only recognizes excellence in pharmacy, but one that also helps foster excellence in all student pharmacists. Furthermore, our strategic plan involves developing a sense of community in our chapter to increase comradery so that we can sustain current projects while advancing our role in the college. We successfully achieved this by encouraging current member attendance during our initiation banquet while spreading awareness of our even ts and tutoring services.

**Activities**

Student of the Month – Ongoing – Monthly from September through May
Every month, Rho Chi collected peer nominations for students within the College of Pharmacy that went above and beyond to help their classmates and/or community. The nominated students were then presented to the general Rho Chi e-board, and were voted upon for which student should be recognized as the Colleges’ “Students of the Month.” Winners received a $25 gift card and recognition on the Rho Chi bulletin board located in our college’s student lounge. Additionally, our chapter sent out a monthly email to the entire college to announce the winning student and a description for why they won.

Test Packets – Ongoing– Once in September and once in January

With the authorization of all staff and faculty, Rho Chi collects and sells old exams of selected courses to students. These test packets are widely used as a study guide and serves as the main source of revenue for our chapter. Just as last year, we were able to sell packets for 12 courses offered by the College of Pharmacy in both the fall and spring.

In collaboration with the University of Minnesota’s interface, a webpage was generated and will now serve as a secured vault for all of Mu Chapter’s documents. Upon paying for access to old exams, College of Pharmacy students are enrolled into the Rho Chi’s webpage that is linked to their current classes enrollment webpage. Through the website, each student is given different security settings. This ensures that students have access only to the exams that they purchased. Faculty at the College of Pharmacy was extremely enthusiastic about this change as it provided a means to prevent Honor Code violations and because it fell right in line with the college’s initiative to move all classes to electronic format. This initiative was also greatly accepted by students as it allowed them to access the exams from any computer, tablet, or electronic device.

Initiation Banquet – Ongoing – March 14th, 2015

This year’s initiation ceremony and banquet was held at the McNamara Alumni Center in Minneapolis, MN. Our chapter inducted 40 new student and faculty members. The ceremony was attended by approximately 100 people, which included all new initiates, their families, our faculty Advisor, and three other faculty members. Our evening included speeches from the current chapter President, individual recognition of new members, formal initiation including all officers in the organization, gifts and recognition to Executive Board Officers and a keynote address delivered by Dr. David Ferguson from the University of Minnesota.

PDI and PD4 Rho Chi Award – Ongoing/New New Initiative –
The Rho Chi Award is a scholarship that goes to the first year pharmacy student(s) with the highest GPA after their first semester in pharmacy school. This scholarship is in the form of a gift card and is awarded to the student at their last class meeting of the year. This year, 7 students tied for the highest GPA (a perfect 4.0), resulting in a split award. Our increased revenue from our fundraising was used to ensure that each student was awarded his or her scholarship.

Additionally, our chapter started a new Rho Chi Award to the 4th year student who won the best PharmD IV Research Paper Award. This will be in the form of a personalized plaque and check for $100. This award will be presented at research day each year.

Tutoring Center – Ongoing – Twice Weekly from September to May

This was a new initiative which was started up two years ago in Duluth and this past year in the Twin Cities. It went well last year and was greatly accepted by students but this year we wanted to increase attendance and make the student a place where students can teach each other and learn valuable study skills. In order to make the tutoring center a success a student director was appointed to schedule tutors, book rooms and work with faculty and staff to help students achieve academic success. This center works with the Office of Student Services to help staff and fund the center.

Professional Meeting Reimbursement – Ongoing

Rho Chi members were given reimbursement for each national meeting that they attended throughout the year. As a chapter, we believe that indulging in pharmacy conferences is beneficial from an academic and professional development standpoint.

**Financial Budgeting**

The president and treasurer from each campus met prior to the start of the Fall 2014 Semester to discuss budgeting and the budget was voted on and approved by current members at the September 30th General Meeting. The attached document reflects actual costs from the Fall 2014-Spring 2015 semesters.

**Installation Function**

This year we had a total of 96 attendees at our Rho Chi Initiation Banquet occurring on Saturday, March 14th, 2015 at Memorial Hall in McNamara Alumni Center. The attendees included new initiates, guests of initiates, current members, faculty, and Dean Speedie. We provided plated meal options for all in attendance and all tables were decorated with the theme colors of Rho Chi, purple and white.
During the banquet, we initiated 40 new members that included 34 PDII students, 5 graduate students, and 1 faculty member. Overall, we met several of our goals prior to the event. We wanted to increase current member attendance and successfully did so by 300% compared to last year's event. Increasing current member attendance was vital in order to provide a sense of continuation in our Chapter that has been missing in previous years. We could not have made this happen without the support of the Century Mortar Club.

Our keynote speaker this year was Dr. Ferguson who provided an interesting speech regarding academic achievement that captured the attention of our audience. Subsequently, we met our goal of providing entertainment at the event with a magician to close the night due to the short length of the banquet prior to this year. Both new and current members, along with guests appeared to be having an enjoyable time. Next year's event will be held in Duluth.

**Evaluation/Reflection**

Our E-board evaluated the effectiveness of our organization executing its role within the college. We came to a consensus that our 2014-2015 academic year was successful for numerous reasons. We expanded our role within the college by continuing our Duluth tutor center and establishing a Twin Cities tutor center. Furthermore, we expanded PDII and PDIII connection through our initiative to expand our initiation banquet to allow current members to meet new members. Overall, our organization is headed in the correct

