### Annual Chapter Report Outline

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

**Date of report submission:** 2015-05-14

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

**Chapter Name & region:** Psi

**Delegate who attended the Rho Chi Annual Meeting:** Chelsea Assalone

**Date Delegate’s name submitted:** 2015-03-06

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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)

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[chapter-advisors]

**Introduction**

The Rho Chi Society, the academic honor society in pharmacy, encourages and recognizes excellence in intellectual achievement and advocates critical inquiry in all aspects of pharmacy. The student chapter here at MCPHS University, strives to achieve academic excellence. As a chapter, volunteering, fundraising and community service has been our main goals. Together we have held many peer tutoring sessions for our fellow students. We have also organized and executed the annual Rho Chi Induction Ceremony, where we were fortunate to have Dr. Joseph T. DiPiro as our guest speaker. With the new executive board set in placed, we hope to carry the same goals forward.

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

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Attendance | Agenda | Action Steps |
| 2014-09-23 | 50 | Ratification of new constitution | Drafted modifications, met with advisor and faculty. |
| 2014-10-23 | 50 | Guest speaker on industry | Organized an organization wide meeting with food and a speaker |
| 2015-01-29 | 40 | Approval of incoming class | Held the meeting for everyone to approve the new class |
| 2015-02-04 | 70 | Elections | Ran the election speeches for the new class |

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

The goals set by this organization were to foster education among underclassmen via tutoring sessions. Our chapter held numerous review sessions for our specific pharmacy courses keeping up with our organizations mission of being the intellects and leaders in pharmacy. In addition we planned on exposing our incoming class of students to leaders within the field by bringing in guest speakers at general meetings to share their experiences and perspectives on the field of pharmacy. In summary, our plans were to educate and prepare current and prospective members of the organization to become the new leaders and intellects within the field of pharmacy.

**Activities**

The activities fair is held within the university at the beginning of the academic school year. The Psi chapter set up a table in order to inform new students of our mission. Our table encourages new students to strive for intellectual achievements. We promote the society and encourage students to inform students on the process of becoming a member. A poster is displayed in order to show students the mission statement. In addition, pamphlets were distributed to all interested students. This is done every year and the new initiatives will continue to be a part of this activity in the next academic year.

We invited Dr. Dan Kiel, Ph.D as our guest speaker for the first general assembly of the academic year. Dr. Kiel informed us on his journey to earning his Ph.D in pharmacology. He provided insight to the requirements needed in earning a Ph.D. Dr. Kiel also promoted the importance of continuing education and the benefits of additional education. General assemblies will continue to have a guest speaker invited in order to educate members on their experiences.

A pharmacy event was held for all pharmacy groups to present posters to students interested in a profession in pharmacy. We had a table with a poster displayed in order to promote our mission to pharmacy students. This event is held once an academic year and will be continued to be attended by the new initiatives.

Our chapter sponsored a movie event for students enrolled in Physiology/Pathophysiology, showing “Awakenings.” This helped students understand the history of Parkinson’s Disease and the development of Levodopa as a treatment drug. This movie displayed to students the importance and impact of critical inquiry in the advancement of pharmacy. This was a one time event done for PGY1 students.

A sponsored lecture was presented by Dr. Michael Montagne. This lecture was open to all students in the university. Dr. Montagne enlightened students on the history of inhaled anesthetics. Dr. Montagne promoted the significance of Horace Wells in inhaled anesthetics. This lecture was held on Dr. Wells’ birthday. The new initiatives will continue to sponsor lectures.

Review sessions were held by a number of members throughout the year in order to assist younger students on subjects that students often struggle with, such as Pharmacology and Virology. Summary slides were produced by the members conducting the session and were made available to all students attending. There have been a total of 7 Pharmacology sessions and 3 Virology sessions. The review sessions will be continued next year.

A health program held by Mission Main Apartments was available for our members to serve our community. This event helped our members provide health information to residents in the community. This event allowed members to inform patients in the community on basic drug and health information that may be important for them to know. This health program was a one time event held by Mission Main. New initiatives may volunteer for this event next year if it’s available or volunteer for a different community service activity.

**Financial Budgeting**

The budget was determined based on previously planned, annual events as well as new events we wanted to take part in. Rho Chi has always conducted exam review sessions for pharmacology and virology and provided food for students attending. The other major event we hold is the induction event for new members which took a majority of our budget. We also held member meetings for which we provide food to our members. Not included in the budget, we opted to get shirts made for our current Rho Chi class and to help subsidize costs, we sold t-shirts made by previous years.

**Installation Function**

The initiation took place at the Hyatt in Cambridge. We had the new class along with guests (about 1 guest per student attended). Faculty of the School of Pharmacy – Boston were invited. It was a luncheon style event in the ball room at the hotel with a guest speaker, Dr. Joseph T. DiPiro. We followed the induction ritual to induct each member and had everyone receive their certificate and pin that attended. Each of the E-Board members and some of the faculty said a few words and the event concluded in four hours.

**Evaluation/Reflection**

Out of all these activities, the most attractive activity was tutoring. We were fortunate enough to have many e-board members with experience in tutoring. The tutoring activity was effective because it was divided well between the tutors and the amount of food that was order was sufficient. In addition, it was wonderful having Rho Chi members who were not on the executive board tutor as well. There were about four members who assisted in the tutoring sessions. In the future it would be more beneficial if more members of Rho Chi would participate in the tutoring. It is our mission to spread and advocate higher education. As intellectual leaders, it would help more members develop leadership with this event. The tutoring session usually runs for two to three hours. One of the problems that presented was that there was adequate time to go through all the materials. To improve the tutoring activity, more tutoring sessions can be initiated instead of just one tutoring session before the academic exam. With more tutoring session, there will be more time flexibility for other members to participate in tutoring.
For the fundraiser activity, customized pharmacy shirts were sold. It was effective because of the variety of creative shirts and the low prices. Each shirt was sold at five dollars and many shirts were sold, but there are still many remaining. One downfall is that the shirt sale was not advertise as well. To increase awareness in the future, a promotion idea could be implored. Each shirt will be sold for ten dollars but if the buyer brings a friend, it is buy-one-get-one-free which ultimately would yield the same profit but does increase more awareness.
Rho Chi participated in volunteer activity such as family night, accepted student day, food can drive and Mission Hill health fair. Out of all the activities, the Mission Hill health fair was most effective. It was effective because many members participated in the event and it was set up in the community. Community based events seem to be better than events that is just enclosed in the University.
There were also guest speaker events throughout the year. The first speaker was the pharmacology professor. He spoke about going to graduate school for pharmacology and working in the pharmaceutical industry. The event was effective because it was about a different path of pharmacy instead of community or institutional pharmacy. It educated other aspiring pharmacist that there is various fields of pharmacy available. The second speaker was the assistant provost who spoke about the anniversary of anesthesia. Although it was not specific to pharmacy, it was superb to see students of different majors at the same event. The speaker events could improve in the future with more awareness and information.
One of the major events this year was the Rho Chi induction ceremony. It was located at the Hyatt hotel in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The guest speaker for this year was Dr. Joseph Dipiro, the author of pharmacotherapy textbook. The ceremony was effective because the speaker is a well known figure in Pharmacy. There was also a stunning view of the Charles River and a marvelous reception. In the future, it would be an improvement if the professors and faculty would be seated with the students. It would be beneficial for students to get to personally know the professors and faculty and vice versa.

**Other Information**

The Rho Chi Psi Chapter here at MCPHS University took an effort to utilize social media. We revamped our local website and utilized our Facebook page. We shared new and emerging information in pharmacy with our followers on facebook. We also used it to share important information on Rho Chi events and tutoring sessions for our P2 peers.

In addition, a few other things we did is: (1) offered opportunities to learn from other professionals in the field of pharmacy (2) conducted general meetings with Rho Chi members and (3) offered T-shirts to the current Rho Chi class.