



The Rho Chi Society

National Bylaws

2022 Revision

Revised August 25, 2022
(Chapter Updates 8/2022)

A Brief History of The Rho Chi Society

The Rho Chi Society has its origin in the merger of two movements, both commencing in 1917, to create a national honor society for pharmacy. One had started on the campus of the University of Michigan where there had been a local honor society (known as the "Aristolochite Society") in existence at the Pharmaceutical Department since 1908. This group began to plan for national expansion in 1917, and finally established a second chapter at the School of Pharmacy of the (then) Oregon Agricultural College in 1919 and a third at the University of Oklahoma in 1922.

The other movement, originally independent of the Michigan movement, was initiated even earlier in 1917 by Rufus A. Lyman in his presidential address to the American Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties. Under the stimulus of his suggestion, and the conscientious efforts of Professor Zada M. Cooper, it was decided to take advantage of the activity in progress at Michigan. The "Aristolochite Society" had in the meantime become the "Rho Chi Society," and had been granted a charter by the State of Michigan on May 19, 1922. The Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties, finding that the group met the standards which the Conference had determined upon, extended its recognition to Rho Chi, as "the Honor Society of Pharmacy." Rho Chi, in turn, provided that chapters could be established only at colleges that were members of the Conference (now the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy.)

A policy of conservative expansion followed. After five years of existence, Rho Chi could count eight chapters; and after ten years, eighteen, but thereafter, growth continued more rapidly. In 2018, there were 128 active chapters and additional chapters are anticipated at new schools of pharmacy.

The high standards maintained for membership in Rho Chi have resulted in the general recognition of the Society not only by Pharmacy, but also by academic circles generally. Since 1947, the Society has been a member of the Association of College Honor Societies.

The Mission of The Rho Chi Society

In July 1998, the Executive Council of the Society revised the vision and mission statements for the Society that have guided the Society into the 21st century. Those statements are:

The Rho Chi Society will achieve universal recognition of its members as lifelong intellectual leaders in pharmacy. As a community of scholars, the Society will instill the desire to pursue intellectual excellence and critical inquiry to advance the profession.

The Rho Chi Society, Pharmacy's academic honor society, encourages and recognizes excellence in intellectual achievement and fosters fellowship among its members. Further, the Society encourages high standards of conduct and character, and advocates critical inquiry in all aspects of pharmacy.

Objectives of The Rho Chi Society

The fundamental objective of Rho Chi has always been to promote the advancement of the pharmaceutical sciences through the encouragement and recognition of sound scholarship. High standards of intellectual and scholarly attainment have been demanded for election to membership; and such election, symbolized by the award of the Rho Chi Key, supplies a unique scholarship incentive.

Rho Chi seeks to promote scholarly fellowship in pharmacy by bringing professional students, graduate students, and faculty members together in fraternal and helpful association. Regular chapter meetings, and other activities, emphasize the professional aspects of pharmacy and point the way to instructive study and research. By such means, Rho Chi, like its sister honor societies, seeks to increase the awareness of the ethical and social responsibilities of the profession, and thereby, to enhance the prestige of the profession.

The Society has also sought to encourage research in pharmacy and in 1972 established a first-year graduate scholarship. In 1992, the first-year graduate scholarship was awarded in conjunction with the American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education (AFPE) Board of Grants. This scholarship is awarded, on a competitive basis, to a student in the final year of professional studies or to a member who has completed professional studies. It is limited to members of the Rho Chi Society who enter graduate programs in accredited schools/colleges of pharmacy leading to the Ph.D. degree. A similar post-doctoral clinical research scholarship was established in 2003 and is administered by the Rho Chi Scholarship Committee. The Scholarship is awarded to a Rho Chi member entering the second year of fellowship training. In addition, small cash awards are presented to chapters who are selected in the Chapter Awards Program and are based upon competitive theme entries suggested each year by the Society's Executive Council and/or sustained activities of the chapter.

The Society's Insignia

The Greek letters, "Rho" and "Chi," were the relative position in which they are found the prescription sign. The colors attached to indicate the royalty of purple and the loyalty



originally selected because, when placed in on the Rho Chi Key, they are emblematic of the seal of membership were chosen to of white. The eight sides of the Key,

although they have had different meanings in the past, now represent chemistry, biology, physiology, pharmaceuticals, pharmacology, and the biomedical, social/administrative, and clinical sciences.

Society Publications

Beginning in 1933 and for the next 60 years, the Society published its annual report, *The Report of Rho Chi*, containing complete accounts of the activities of the Executive Council, the National Office, and local chapters, and distributed the *Report* in print version among collegiate and honorary members at their initiation. Although the *Report of Rho Chi* is no longer printed, the content is nonetheless published through the Society's Website, www.rhochi.org.

A historical study, called *The Rho Chi Society* by Roy A. Bowers and David L. Cowen, was issued by the Society in 1955 in cooperation with the American Institute of the History of Pharmacy. This work was first published in the *American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education* (1955;19:244-284). The fifth revision, edited by Robert A. Buerki, published in 1992 is the current edition. In the future, *The Rho Chi Society* will be published through the Society's Website.

Current information about the Society, useful both for members and non-members, can be found at the Society's Internet site, www.rhochi.org. Members and guests are welcome to visit the site or contact the National Office through email at RhoChiSociety@umich.edu for further information.

The Rho Chi Society Chapters

Chartered	Chapter	University	City	State
1922	Alpha	University of Michigan	Ann Arbor	MI
1922	Beta	Oregon State University	Corvallis	OR
1922	Gamma	University of Oklahoma	Oklahoma City	OK
1923	Delta	University of Iowa	Iowa City	IA
1925	Epsilon	Washington State University	Pullman	WA
1925	Zeta	Auburn University	Auburn	AL
1925	Eta	University of Wisconsin	Madison	WI
1925	Theta	University of Southern California	Los Angeles	CA
1928	Iota	University of Florida	Gainesville	FL
1928	Kappa	North Dakota State University	Fargo	ND
1929	Lambda	Virginia Commonwealth University	Richmond	VA
1930	Mu	University of Minnesota	Minneapolis	MN
1930	Nu	University of Texas at Austin	Austin	TX
1929	Xi	University of North Carolina	Chapel Hill	NC
1930	Omicron	University of Maryland	Baltimore	MD
1931	Pi *	North Pacific College of Oregon	Portland	OR
1931	Rho	University of Washington	Seattle	WA
1931	Sigma *	Western Reserve University	Cleveland	OH
1931	Tau	South Dakota State University	Brookings	SD
1934	Upsilon	Ohio State University	Columbus	OH
1934	Phi	University of Illinois at Chicago	Chicago	IL
1937	Chi	University of Mississippi	University	MS
1939	Psi	Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences	Boston	MA
1940	Omega	State University of New York at Buffalo	Buffalo	NY
1941	Alpha Alpha	Creighton University	Omaha	NE
1941	Alpha Beta	Duquesne University	Pittsburgh	PA
1942	Alpha Gamma	University of Connecticut	Storrs	CT
1942	Alpha Delta *	Loyola University of the South	New Orleans	LA
1943	Alpha Epsilon	University of Nebraska	Omaha	NE
1945	Alpha Zeta	Purdue University	West Lafayette	IN
1947	Alpha Eta	Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey	Piscataway	NJ
1948	Alpha Theta	University of Colorado	Denver	CO
1948	Alpha Iota	Medical College of South Carolina	Charleston	SC
1949	Alpha Kappa	University of Georgia	Athens	GA
1949	Alpha Lambda *	University of California	San Francisco	CA

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Chartered	Chapter	University	City	State
1949	Alpha Mu	West Virginia University	Morgantown	WV
1948	Alpha Nu	University of Tennessee	Memphis	TN
1949	Alpha Xi	University of Kentucky	Lexington	KY
1950	Alpha Omicron	University of Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh	PA
1951	Alpha Pi *	University of Arizona	Tucson	AZ
1951	Alpha Rho	University of Kansas	Lawrence	KS
1951	Alpha Sigma	Drake University	Des Moines	IA
1951	Alpha Tau	University of the Sciences in Philadelphia	Philadelphia	PA
1951	Alpha Upsilon	Idaho State University	Pocatello	ID
1953	Alpha Phi	Butler University	Indianapolis	IN
1953	Alpha Chi	Wayne State University	Detroit	MI
1954	Alpha Psi	University of Arizona	Tucson	AZ
1954	Alpha Omega	University of Missouri at Kansas City	Kansas City	MO
1954	Beta Alpha	University of South Carolina	Columbia	SC
1954	Beta Beta	Samford University	Birmingham	AL
1954	Beta Gamma *	Columbia University	New York	NY
1954	Beta Delta	St. John's University	Jamaica	NY
1955	Beta Epsilon	University of Utah	Salt Lake City	UT
1955	Beta Zeta *	George Washington University	Washington	D.C.
1955	Beta Eta	University of Toledo	Toledo	OH
1955	Beta Theta	Long Island University	Brooklyn	NY
1955	Beta Iota	University of Arkansas	Little Rock	AR
1955	Beta Kappa	St. Louis College of Pharmacy	St. Louis	MO
1955	Beta Lambda	Temple University	Philadelphia	PA
1955	Beta Mu	Ferris State College	Big Rapids	MI
1956	Beta Nu	University of Cincinnati	Cincinnati	OH
1956	Beta Xi *	Fordham University	New York	NY
1958	Beta Omicron	University of Houston	Houston	TX
1959	Beta Pi	University of Rhode Island	Kingston	RI
1960	Beta Rho	University of Montana	Missoula	MT
1960	Beta Sigma	Howard University	Washington	D.C.
1961	Beta Tau	Northeastern University	Boston	MA
1961	Beta Upsilon	Southwestern Oklahoma State University	Weatherford	OK
1961	Beta Phi	University of Wyoming	Laramie	WY
1961	Beta Chi	University of Louisiana at Monroe	Monroe	LA
1962	Beta Psi	Ohio Northern University	Ada	OH

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1964	Beta Omega	University of the Pacific	Stockton	CA
1967	Gamma Alpha	Mercer University	Atlanta	GA
1968	Gamma Beta	University of New Mexico	Albuquerque	NM
1976	Gamma Gamma	Union University	Albany	NY
1977	Gamma Delta	Texas Southern University	Houston	TX
1977	Gamma Epsilon	Xavier University of Louisiana	New Orleans	LA
1980	Gamma Zeta	Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University	Tallahassee	FL
1986	Gamma Eta	University of Puerto Rico	San Juan	PR
1991	Gamma Theta	Nova Southeastern University	Ft. Lauderdale	FL
1994	Gamma Iota	Campbell University	Buies Creek	NC
1995	Gamma Kappa	Midwestern University	Downers Grove	IL
2000	Gamma Lambda	Wilkes University	Wilkes Barre	PA
2000	Gamma Mu	Texas Tech University	Amarillo	TX
2001	Gamma Nu	Midwestern University - Glendale	Glendale	AZ
2002	Gamma Xi *	Hampton University	Hampton	VA
2003	Gamma Omicron	Shenandoah University	Winchester	VA
2003	Gamma Pi	Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Science - School of Pharmacy - Worcester	Worcester	MA
2004	Gamma Rho	Loma Linda University	Loma Linda	CA
2005	Gamma Sigma	Western University of Health Sciences	Pomona	CA
2005	Gamma Tau	Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM) University	Erie	PA
2005	Gamma Upsilon	South University	Savannah	GA
2005	Gamma Phi	Wingate University	Wingate	NC
2006	Gamma Chi	Palm Beach Atlantic University	West Palm Beach	FL
2008	Gamma Psi *	South Carolina College of Pharmacy	Columbia/ Charleston	SC
2008	Gamma Omega	Texas A & M Health Science Center	Kingsville	TX
2008	Delta Alpha	University of Appalachia	Oakwood	VA
2008	Delta Beta	Southern Illinois University Edwardsville	Edwardsville	IL
2010	Delta Gamma	University of British Columbia	Vancouver	BC
2011	Delta Delta	Touro University – California	Vallejo	CA
2011	Delta Epsilon	East Tennessee State University	Johnson City	TN
2011	Delta Zeta	St. John Fisher College	Rochester	NY

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2011	Delta Eta	University of the Incarnate Word	San Antonio	TX
2012	Delta Theta	University of Findlay	Findlay	OH
2012	Delta Iota	University of Hawaii	Hilo	HI
2012	Delta Kappa	Sullivan University	Louisville	KY
2012	Delta Lambda	University of Charleston	Charleston	WV
2013	Delta Mu	Belmont University	Nashville	TN
2013	Delta Nu	Touro College of Pharmacy	New York	NY
2013	Delta Xi	Chicago State University	Chicago	IL
2013	Delta Omicron	Harding University	Searcy	AR
2013	Delta Pi	Lipscomb University	Nashville	TN
2013	Delta Rho	Union University	Jackson	TN
2014	Delta Sigma	University of Maryland Eastern Shore	Princess Anne	MD
2014	Delta Tau	Notre Dame of Maryland	Baltimore	MD
2014	Delta Upsilon	California Northstate University	Rancho Cordova	CA
2014	Delta Phi	Northeast Ohio Medical University	Rootstown	OH
2014	Delta Chi	University of New England	Portland	ME
2014	Delta Psi	Regis University	Denver	Co
2015	Delta Omega	Presbyterian College	Clinton	SC
2015	Epsilon Alpha	University of Saint Joseph	Hartford	CT
2015	Epsilon Beta	D'Youville College	Buffalo	NY
2015	Epsilon Gamma	Husson University	Bangor	ME
2015	Epsilon Delta	Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine – Georgia Campus	Suwanee	GA
2015	Epsilon Zeta	Concordia University – Wisconsin	Mequon	WI
2016	Epsilon Epsilon	Thomas Jefferson University	Philadelphia	PA
2016	Epsilon Eta	South College	Knoxville	TN
2016	Epsilon Theta	Roosevelt University	Schaumburg	IL
2016	Epsilon Iota	Western New England University	Springfield	MA
2016	Epsilon Kappa	University of South Florida	Tampa	FL
2016	Epsilon Lambda	Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science	North Chicago	IL
2017	Epsilon Mu	Cedarville University	Cedarville	OH
2017	Epsilon Nu	Manchester University	Ft. Wayne	IN
2018	Epsilon Xi	Marshall University	Huntington	WV
2018	Epsilon Omicron	Fairleigh Dickinson University	Florham Park	NJ
2019	Epsilon Pi	University of North Texas Health Science Center - UNTHSC	Fort Worth	TX

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2019	Epsilon Rho	Chapman University	Orange	CA
2020	Epsilon Sigma	University of Texas at Tyler	Tyler	TX
2020	Epsilon Tau	West Coast University	Los Angeles	CA
2020	Epsilon Upsilon	Keck Graduate Institute - KGI	Claremont	CA
2022	Epsilon Phi	University of Texas at El Paso	El Paso	TX
2022	Epsilon Chi	William Carey University	Biloxi	MS
2022	Epsilon Psi	High Point University	High Point	NC
2022	Epsilon Omega	Binghamton University	Binghamton	NY
2022	Zeta Alpha	Marshall B. Ketchum University	Fullerton	CA
2022	Zeta Beta	Medical College of Wisconsin	Milwaukee	WI

* Designates an Inactive Chapter