

The Rho Chi Society

Nominating Committee

National Historian

National Historian

- **Cynthia Phillips, Incumbent (South Carolina)**

Bio: Originally from Memphis, Tennessee, Cynthia M. Phillips obtained her B.S. in biology from the University of Tennessee at Martin, received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree at the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy in Memphis and trained at University of Alabama Birmingham for her pharmacy practice residency.

Dr. Phillips currently serves as National Historian for the Rho Chi Society. As part of these responsibilities, she chairs the Rho Chi Lecture Award Committee and has been privileged to work with past Lecture Award recipients. She served as Rho Chi Regional Councilor (2014-2019). During her tenure with Rho Chi, she has served on the Rho Chi Bylaws Committee, Communications Committee, Collaborative Task Force for the Development of the Advisor Guidebook, and the Centennial Task Force.

As a Clinical Associate Professor at the University of South Carolina College of Pharmacy, she serves as course coordinator, instructor, and preceptor. She teaches throughout the Doctor of Pharmacy curriculum with areas of focus and research in diabetes, nutrition and obesity, dyslipidemia, and drug interactions. Most recently she served as the Chair for the Faculty Governance Committee and led efforts to update the College of Pharmacy Bylaws.

She is passionate about advancing the scholarship of pharmacy trainees. As faculty advisor for the Beta Alpha Chapter (1996-present), Dr. Phillips collaborated with Rho Chi student members to develop the Rho Chi Tutoring Program which improved student attitudes and academic skills in first professional pharmacy students. Through this service opportunity, she has worked with Rho Chi members to develop their intellectual leadership skills. Her research interests include exploring the role of peer mentors in tutoring and improving outcomes for patients with diabetes.

Dr. Phillips currently practices as an Ambulatory Care Pharmacist with Prisma Health Medical Group where she works with a multi-disciplinary team to provide care for a variety of patients. As a Certified Diabetes Care and Education Specialist, she focuses on improving the quality of life and outcomes for her patients.

- **Unopposed**

The Rho Chi Society

Nominating Committee

National Secretary

National Secretary

- **Amanda Stahnke, Incumbent (Missouri-Kansas City)**

Bio: Amanda Stahnke, PharmD, BCACP, is a Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Pharmacy (UMKC). She received her Pharm.D. from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville School of Pharmacy (SIUE) and completed a PGY-1 Pharmacy Practice Residency at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Belleville, IL. Post residency she accepted a Clinical Assistant Professor position with SIUE before joining UMKC faculty in 2012. Dr. Stahnke has been a member of Rho Chi since 2009. She has served as co-advisor for the Alpha Omega chapter of Rho Chi since 2014 and previously served as co-advisor for the Beta Delta chapter at SIUE. She served two terms as Regional Councilor for Region VI of Rho Chi from 2016 until 2020 and is currently serving as Rho Chi National Secretary. Dr. Stahnke has served the Association of Diabetes Care and Education Specialists (ADCES) as Member Affiliates Council member, leader of the Missouri Coordinating Body and Pharmacy Community of Interest and served as chair of the programming committee for the Missouri Society of Health-System Pharmacists (MSHP).

Dr. Stahnke provides patient care services at the Kansas City Veterans Affairs Medical Center (KCVVA) in primary care. She has been involved in research projects within the university and at the KCVVA. Currently, she is working with colleagues at the KCVVA to determine the impact of assessing and providing targeted interventions for Diabetes Distress on glycemic control.

She received Rho Chi Teacher of the Year from UMKC in 2019 and 2021, Preceptor of the Year from UMKC in 2015 and Volunteer of the Year from MSHP in 2014.

Dr. Stahnke looks forward to the opportunity to continue to serve as Rho Chi National Secretary.

- **Jelena Lewis (Chapman)**

Bio: Dr. Jelena Lewis is an Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice and Director of Residency and Fellowship Programs at Chapman University School of Pharmacy in Irvine, CA. She is also a Board-Certified Ambulatory Care Pharmacist, and she holds a California Advanced Practice Pharmacist license. Dr. Lewis received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree and completed her PGY-1 pharmacy practice residency at the University of Southern California (USC). Upon completion of her residency, she worked as a clinical pharmacist at Cedars-Sinai Medical Care Foundation where she managed patients with chronic conditions such as diabetes, hypertension, and dyslipidemia. She is currently a faculty in residence at Providence Medical Foundation where she works as a clinical pharmacist in team-based care with a primary focus on diabetes management.

Dr. Lewis was inducted into the Rho Chi Theta Chapter at USC in 2007 and Phi Kappa Phi All-University Honor Society in 2008. In 2018, Dr. Lewis and her faculty colleagues submitted a petition to establish the Rho Chi Society Chapter at Chapman University School of Pharmacy. In Spring 2019, the Epsilon Rho Chapter was the 129th to be organized and approved by all other member chapters. Upon approval of the Epsilon Rho Chapter, Dr. Lewis took on the faculty advisor role at the school and in July 2019, she helped induct the inaugural Rho Chi Epsilon Rho Chapter class. With Dr. Lewis's guidance Rho Chi Epsilon Rho Chapter student members now provide tutoring and supplemental instruction services at Chapman. Over the next few years, Dr. Lewis hopes to work with the current student members to develop the chapter further with community outreach services that align with the mission and vision of the society. Additionally, she would like to become more involved with the Rho Chi Society's Executive Council in order to help foster collaboration with other chapters and continue to develop intellectual leaders.

Dr. Lewis has also been very involved with the American Pharmacists Association and specifically the APhA-APPM Medical Home/ACO SIG group. She is the past APhA-APPM Medical Home/ACO SIG coordinator and past chair of the SIG's Education and Resources Committee. Additionally, this year she is serving as a member of the APhA-APPM Policy Standing Committee.

Her research interests include population health management and implementation and outcomes of a pharmacist run chronic disease management program in team-based care.

The Rho Chi Society

Nominating Committee

Region I Councilor

Region I Councilor

- **Sara Grossman, Incumbent (Long Island)**

Bio: Sara Grossman, PharmD, is Co-Director of the Leonardi Institute for Health Analytics and AI (formerly: International Drug Information Center) at Long Island University where she also serves as an Adjunct Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice. Dr. Grossman received her PharmD degree from Long Island University in 2007.

In her role at the College, Dr. Grossman has established partnerships with healthcare organizations and other user groups for the provision of drug information services to both healthcare professionals and consumers. She facilitated the development, funding, and launch of the first post-PharmD fellowship at Long Island University, the focus of which is on drug information and medical communications. Since that time, Dr. Grossman has been responsible for bringing additional post-PharmD fellowship programs to fruition at the College.

Dr. Grossman serves as a lecturer in a drug information and literature evaluation course and precepts students completing an advanced pharmacy practice experience in drug information. She also serves as a lecturer for the School of Health Professions at LIU Brooklyn and has served as an international guest lecturer at the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev – Faculty of Health Sciences.

Dr. Grossman was selected for membership in the Rho Chi Society as a pharmacy student in 2005 and served as a historian for the chapter during the following academic year. She has served as an advisor to the Beta Theta Chapter since September 2014 and since that time, has been instrumental in increasing the impact of the Chapter on the LIU Community, surrounding community, and through the Chapter's generation of scholarly material, on the profession as a whole.

- **Unopposed**

The Rho Chi Society

Nominating Committee

Region III-E Councilor

Region III-E Councilor

- **Riley Bowers (Campbell)**

Bio: Dr. Bowers is a Clinical Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice with CPHS. He also serves as the Residency Program Director for the PGY2 Internal Medicine Pharmacy Residency at Cape Fear Valley Health. At Cape Fear Valley, he serves as a clinical specialist in adult internal medicine and heart failure, and precepts Internal Medicine I & II APPE rotations along with multiple residency rotations. Dr. Bowers completed a pharmacy practice PGY1 residency with Harnett Health and Campbell University, followed by a PGY2 residency in Internal Medicine and Academia at Duke Regional Hospital. His research interests include the scholarship of teaching and learning, cardiology, and pharmacy practice/service-based research.

Dr. Bowers has served as the faculty advisor for the Gamma Iota Chapter of Rho Chi for the last 4 years, is the advisor for the ASHP student organization, and serves as a member of the North Carolina Association of Pharmacists Board of Directors. Dr. Bowers is also a member of AACP's Academic Leadership Fellows Program Cohort 19. In his free time, Dr. Bowers enjoys traveling with his wife, Elizabeth, playing golf, and is a self-proclaimed fly-fishing enthusiast.

"Thank you for considering me for the Region III-East Councilor position. During my time in the Rho Chi Pharmacy Honor Society as a student and faculty advisor, I have had the opportunity to be involved with the implementation and continuation of our walk-in tutoring led by Rho Chi students at Campbell University. Through this experience, I have learned the impact this can provide on an institution and the broader impact we can have as a Society. It would be my honor to extend my service as a Region Councilor."

- **Sarah Wheeler (Ohio State)**

Bio: Dr. Wheeler was inducted into the Rho Chi Upsilon chapter at The Ohio State University and graduated with her PharmD degree in 2018. She completed a PGY1 Pharmacy Residency at Cleveland Clinic Akron General and a PGY2 Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Residency at Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee.

Dr. Wheeler has experience in pharmacy across different practice areas including community pharmacy, inpatient staffing and clinical pharmacy, and ambulatory pharmacy including primary care and specialty clinics. She is passionate about pharmacy practice advancement and student development and currently serves as the Rho Chi Gamma Omicron chapter co-advisor and as the ACCP Ambulatory Care PRN Student Committee Vice Chair and the lead for the PRN student mentorship program. Despite her relatively short tenure as a Rho Chi advisor, she has prior experience as the chair of the APhA-ASHP Awards Standing Committee, which will serve her well in the Rho Chi Region III-East Councilor role.

The Rho Chi Society

Nominating Committee

Region III-W Councilor

Region III-W Councilor

- **Kristy Wahaib, Incumbent (Belmont)**

Bio: Kristy Wahaib is a graduate of Butler University College of Pharmacy in Indianapolis, Indiana. Following graduation Dr. Wahaib completed an ASHP-accredited Pharmacy Practice Residency at Missouri Baptist Medical Center in St. Louis, Missouri as well as a Specialty Residency in Internal Medicine with University Medical Center Brackenridge and The University of Texas in Austin, Texas. She joined the Belmont University College of Pharmacy faculty during the summer of 2010 and became a board certified pharmacotherapy specialist (BCPS) in 2012.

As Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice, Dr. Wahaib teaches courses related to clinical science, such as Pathophysiology and Therapeutics and Therapeutic Case Studies, and she offers an elective course in Cardiology each spring semester. Additionally, she is coordinator of the Belmont University Teaching Certificate Program offered each year to area pharmacy residents. Dr. Wahaib's practice focus is Internal Medicine. She has established a practice site at Vanderbilt University Medical Center where she provides direct patient care on a daily basis and precepts students completing their APPEs during the fourth year of the pharmacy curriculum. Dr. Wahaib has received numerous teaching awards at Belmont, including Preceptor of the Year in 2012, 2013, and 2021, and Faculty of the year in 2015. It is evident that her passion lies in the student-educator dynamic in both the didactic and clinical setting. Dr. Wahaib is actively involved in many college committees and student organizations, including The Rho Chi Society. She has served as advisor for Belmont's Rho Chi chapter since its inception in 2013 and has worked with members, year after year, to build a Rho Chi led tutoring program that serves the needs of the college. Additionally, she has served as Regional Councilor for the past two years is looking forward to the possibility of serving for an additional term.

- **Kelly Covert (East Tennessee State)**

Bio: Kelly L. Covert, PharmD, BCPS is an Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice at the East Tennessee State University Bill Gatton College of Pharmacy. She received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy in 2014 and then went on to complete a 24-month Pharmacotherapy Residency at the Medical University of South Carolina. Dr. Covert currently practices as an inpatient Family Medicine specialist at Johnson City Medical Center and serves as a preceptor for IPPE, APPE, PGY1, and PGY2 Internal Medicine Residents. Dr. Covert has been involved in the Tennessee Pharmacists Association, the Tennessee Society of Health-System Pharmacists, ACCP, and AACP, in addition to several college committees. Further, Dr. Covert has served as co-advisor of the Delta Epsilon chapter of the Gatton College of Pharmacy's Rho Chi chapter since 2016. Dr. Covert's current teaching and research interests include gastroenterology, nephrology, infectious disease, and post-graduate development and training.

The Rho Chi Society

Nominating Committee

Region III-S Councilor

Region III-S Councilor

- **Courtney Watts Alexander (Auburn)**

Bio: Courtney Watts Alexander, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCOP, joined the Harrison School of Pharmacy as an Assistant Professor of Clinical Pharmacogenomics in the Department of Pharmacy Practice on August 1, 2020. Her practice site is the Auburn University Pharmaceutical Care Center (AUPCC) where her work focuses in the area of Clinical Pharmacogenomics. After earning a Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences from the University of Alabama in 2008, she went on to complete her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the Auburn University Harrison School of Pharmacy in 2013. Following graduation, she completed a PGY1 pharmacy residency at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas and a PGY2 oncology residency at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee. Dr. Alexander became a Board-Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist (BCPS) in 2014 and a Board-Certified Oncology Pharmacist (BCOP) in 2016. Prior to joining the Harrison School of Pharmacy, Dr. Alexander worked at Prisma-Health Upstate in Greenville, South Carolina where she served as a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist in Pediatric Hematology/Oncology. In conjunction with this position, she served as an Affiliate Clinical Assistant Professor with the University of South Carolina School of Medicine Greenville and an Adjunct Assistant Professor with the University of South Carolina College of Pharmacy. Dr. Alexander is an active member in the Clinical Pharmacogenetics Implementation Consortium (CPIC), the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP), the American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP), the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP), and the Alabama Pharmacy Association (APA). She currently serves as content expert reviewer in the ACCP/ASHP Oncology Preparatory Review and Preparation Course for those wishing to become board certified in oncology pharmacy. Her clinical and research interests include pediatric and adult oncology and pharmacogenomics.

- **Melissa Santibanez (Nova Southeastern)**

Bio: Dr. Santibañez is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice at Nova Southeastern University College of Pharmacy with a clinical practice site focused on ICU outcomes at Memorial Regional Hospital. She received her Pharm.D. from Nova Southeastern University in 2015. As a fourth-year pharmacy student, she completed the 6-month Advanced Clinical Experience Program through Jackson Memorial Hospital, an intensive program intended to prepare students for post-graduate residency training. Dr. Santibañez completed a PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency at the University of Illinois at Chicago in 2016, followed by a PGY2 Critical Care Pharmacy Residency at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital in 2017. Prior to joining the faculty at NSU COP in January 2021, she was an Assistant Professor at Larkin University College of Pharmacy for 3.5 years. She is the faculty advisor for NSU's Rho Chi Gamma Theta chapter and a co-advisor for NSU's Legislative Task Force. She also serves as the chair of the ACCP Pulmonary Practice and Research Network (PRN) and as the State Regional Coordinator for the Florida chapter of SCCM. Her research interests include hemostasis and reversal of anticoagulation, antimicrobial stewardship in the ICU, pharmacist burnout, and pharmacy advocacy.

The Rho Chi Society

Nominating Committee

Region V Councilor

Region V Councilor

- **Jeanne Frenzel, Incumbent (North Dakota State)**

Bio: Jeanne Frenzel, PharmD, PhD, BCSCP is a professor in the School of Pharmacy at North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND. She teaches complex pharmacy practice skills to students and graduate pharmacists. Her research involves innovative pedagogies using simulation and technology in the classroom.

Dr. Frenzel received a Bachelors of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences and Microbiology, a PharmD degree, and a PhD in education from North Dakota State University. She completed a PGY1 residency at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Fargo, ND in 2004. Dr. Frenzel was named Distinguished Young Pharmacist of the Year by the North Dakota Pharmacists Association in 2008. She has received local and national teaching awards for her work with pharmacy students including the Peltier Award for Innovative Teaching, the Mary Berg Award for Excellence in Teaching, the award for Excellence in Course Assessment, School of Pharmacy Faculty Preceptor of the Year, and the Odney Excellence in Teaching Award from NDSU. She has also been recognized by the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy through the Innovations in Teaching award, Laboratory Innovation and Teaching Excellence award, and Emerging Teaching Scholar award. Dr. Frenzel has been advisor to the Kappa Chapter of the Rho Chi Society since 2006. She has served three terms as Region V - Regional Councilor from 2013-2015, 2015-2017, and 2021-2023.

- **Linda Sobeski, (Nebraska)**

Bio: Linda Sobeski is a Clinical Associate Professor with Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. She received her PharmD degree from UNMC in 1992 and completed a PGY1 residency in Pharmacy Practice at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Denver, CO. She joined the UNMC faculty in February 2005. She was also Assistant Clinical Professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice at Drake University from 1993-1994.

Dr. Sobeski was inducted into the Alpha Epsilon Chapter of Rho Chi National Honor Society as a student in 1990. She has served as the Rho Chi Alpha Epsilon Chapter Advisor at UNMC for eleven years (2008-2014 and 2018 to present). She was elected and served as Rho Chi Region V Councilor from 2010-2013.

Dr. Sobeski is a member of the American College of Clinical Pharmacists, American Geriatrics Society, American Society of Consultant Pharmacists, American Pharmaceutical Association, and the Nebraska Pharmacists Association. Dr. Sobeski was recognized as an Outstanding COP Faculty Member by the UNMC Class of 2022. She was the recipient of the UNMC Faculty Preceptor of the Year Award in 2020.

The Rho Chi Society

Nominating Committee

Region VII Councilor

Region VII Councilor

- **Angela Stewart (Washington State)**

Bio: Dr. Stewart received her BS in Pharmacy from the University of Washington and her PharmD from the University of Texas, Austin and University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio (UTHSCSA). She completed a general residency at St. Joseph Hospital in Tacoma, WA and a specialty residency in Adult Internal Medicine at the UTHSCSA and Bexar County Hospital in San Antonio, TX. She is a Board-Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist with more than 20 years of acute care experience leading clinical pharmacy services, providing direct patient care, teaching, and directing an accredited residency program. Dr. Stewart joined the faculty of the WSU College of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences in 2014 and is a Scholarly Professor in the Department of Pharmacotherapy. She served as founding campus director and associate dean for the Yakima extension program and is now the Associate Dean for Rural Health. She assumed the role of Executive Director of the Yakima Valley Interprofessional Practice and Education Collaborative (YVIPEC) hosted at Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences (PNWU) in March 2021. In this role, she leads the collaborative in offering interprofessional education programming, faculty and professional development, and community engagement and service.

- **Unopposed**