

# The Rho Chi Society's 100<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

## Report of the National President

### February 28, 2024

It is truly my pleasure to provide a summary of the Society's achievements since the 2023 virtual National Convention. While we reflected on and celebrated the Society's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2022-2023, this past year was dedicated to setting the stage for the next 100 years of Rho Chi's history.

The most significant and immediate step in that process involved reviewing the Society's mission and goals to develop a new strategic plan for 2024-2028. David Zgarrick (Alum) led the strategic planning process with introductory meetings in Spring 2023 followed by a comprehensive planning seminar at the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) Annual Meeting in July 2023. Comments, notes, and details from the meeting were utilized as a framework for developing a draft plan which is described in the report of the National Office. Overall, the process helped the Society reposition and focus its efforts in supporting members, advancing the profession, engaging alumni, and developing opportunities to recognize and promote critical inquiry.

As we continue to develop and review the plan, I would like to highlight some key achievements, updates, and opportunities for member engagement that align with and exemplify these efforts from the past year:

- The National Office fully transitioned all business components of the Annual Convention to a virtual environment.
- The conversion of the Communications Task Force to a Communications Committee was approved by members of the Society during the 2023 Annual Meeting. The Committee, led by the Jelena Lewis (Secretary), was charged with monitoring website functionality, promoting communication with Rho Chi chapters, determining social media campaigns, engaging members via social media, and coordinating with other committees/taskforces to promote activities of the Society.
- The Executive Council moved forward with developing alumni engagement through annual reception and external networking opportunities. The first collaboration with the Phi Lambda Sigma Pharmacy Leadership Society will take place at the American Pharmacists Association Annual Meeting in Orlando, FL on Sunday, March 24, 2024. Plans for future events and partnerships to expand interactions with alumni through other organizations are being evaluated by the National Office.
- The Town Hall Task Force led by Emmanuelle Schwartzman (Immediate Past President) held its third Town Hall which focused on "Success in Applying for Residency and Fellowship Training". Rho Chi alumni from three areas of practice served as guest speakers:

- Residency
  - Moderator: Emmanuelle Schwartzmann
  - Panelists: Micah Hata, Landon Johnson, Kirsten Smith
- Pharmaceutical Industry Fellowships
  - Moderator: Lucio Volino
  - Panelists: Ariana Aun, Carolyn Seyss, James Alexander
- Research Fellowships
  - Moderator: Karen Farris
  - Panelists: Anandi Law, Daniel Hertz

The town hall provided members with valuable insight, tips, and methods for applying to, securing, and succeeding in post-graduate training opportunities. Based on the tremendous success and positive feedback received from the event, post-graduate awareness and preparation will become an annual town hall program topic moving forward.

In addition to the Society's standing committees and task forces, whose charges are outlined in our bylaws, two task forces (Student Executive Council Task Force and Alumni Task Force) were appointed in late 2022 to conduct their work in 2023 and one new task force (Member Engagement Task Force) was appointed in late 2023 to conduct its work in 2024.

- The Student Executive Council Task Force led by Lindsay Brust-Sisti (Alum) and Lucio Volino (President) evaluated other pharmacy organizations' student leadership missions and structures. The group then reviewed the potential need, role, and structure of a Rho Chi Student Executive Council. Based on their evaluation, the Task Force recommended against developing a formal Student Executive Council at this time. Instead, the Task Force advised the Society to support regional meetings for fostering student engagement and discussions. Additional recommendations included creating a task force to develop standardized procedures, informational resources, and a student support system.
- The Alumni Task Force led by Lori Duke (Alum) and Fatima Amjad (Alum) were charged with engaging Rho Chi alumni, aligning initiatives with communication-based activities, and evaluating the need for an Alumni Committee. Their efforts are ongoing with a summary of their recommendations anticipated in 2024.
- As an additional component to engaging Rho Chi stakeholders, the newly formed Member Engagement Task Force led by Tom Franko (Region II Councilor) was charged with evaluating methods for recognizing Rho Chi members (e.g., fellow status, awards, hall of honor, etc.) while incorporating input from non-task force individuals. A report that summarizes the evaluative process, highlights key findings of their evaluations, and recommends potential approach(es) to recognize members is expected to be submitted to the Executive Council in 2024. The Task Force's assessment and recommendations will support the Society's intention to consistently recognize and showcase member and alumni achievements which align with the forthcoming strategic plan.

For complete records of the Executive Council's work, please refer to the archived approved minutes, accessible on the Society's website, [rhochi.org](http://rhochi.org).

Thank you to our chapters, Rho Chi members, Faculty Advisors, Regional Councilors, and Executive Council Members including Immediate Past President Emmanuelle Schwartzman, President-Elect Andy Smith, Program Manager Julie Seeger, and Executive Vice President Karen Farris. Your hard work, dedication, and resilience drive the Society forward. Without you, none of this could be possible. I truly appreciate you and applaud your continued dedication to advancing the profession and Rho Chi through your intellectual leadership.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lucio R. Volino". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Lucio R. Volino, PharmD, RUCIF, NCNTT**  
National President 2022 – 2024  
The Rho Chi Honor Society



February 20, 2024

The Rho Chi Society National Office  
University of Michigan, College of Pharmacy  
428 Church Street  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 49109-1065

RE: Report of Audit of 2023 Rho Chi Financial Records

Dear National Office,

The Rho Chi Audit Committee consisting of Susan Skledar (Chair), John Bentley, and Jeffrey Sherer, was charged to review the 2023 financial records of the Society. Julie Seeger, Program Manager, provided the Society's Financial Records to the Committee's members. The National Office has maintained the same checking and Money Market savings accounts with the Bank of Ann Arbor (opened in December of 2020), along with the same EIN and IRS 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status. In addition, the Society maintains the same short-term and long-term investment accounts with the Midwest Trust Company (opened in August of 2021).

The Committee finds all financial records to be in good order and did not note any discrepancies on the DRAFT 2023 Treasurer's Report. However, we make the following suggestions:

- The Treasurer is correct in noting that the Society continues to experience a reduction in expenses due to holding the National Convention virtually rather than at the American Pharmacists Association's (APhA) Annual Meeting & Exposition. However, in the 2024 Budget Forecast it is noted that the Society plans to host (with Phi Lambda Sigma) a Reception Dinner at APhA in 2024 and has budgeted \$15,000 for this event. Even though this is a budgeted item for 2024 and the expense did not occur in CY2023, it may be worthwhile to note this in the Treasurer's Report.
- From the statements provided, the end of year market value of the Midwest Trust Short-Term and Long-Term Investment Accounts are properly recorded and there are no discrepancies. The DRAFT 2023 Treasurer's Report notes that the long-term and short-term assets increased in market value by \$74,703.85 in 2023. This number represents the changes in market value for these two accounts noted in the two year-end statements, but because of dividends, fees, and realized losses, when one compares the beginning CY2023 (January 1, 2023) market values with the ending CY2023 (December 31, 2023) market values for these two accounts, the two accounts actually experienced an increase in total market value of \$76,589.26 rather than \$74,703.85 in CY2023.

The Committee notes that overall, operating income exceeded expenses for CY2023 (\$31,799.99), as it did for CY2022 (\$54,634.96). Notable findings include:

- Overall, the breakdown of revenue vs. expense is similar for CY2022 and CY2023, with the following differences noted between the two years:
  - Income from Rho Chi merchandise royalties totaled \$19,187 in CY2023, which is slightly less than \$20,231.50 from CY2022. However, income from National Dues significantly decreased by \$30,425.91 in CY2023 compared to CY2022. This is directly

related to national declining trends in pharmacy school enrollment (i.e., less inductees) (income from Jewelry and Certificates, also associated with new members, also decreased in CY2023). In total, there was a 14.6% decrease in income related to new members from CY2022 to CY2023.

- Revenue continues to be comprised of new member contributions: National Dues/Jewelry/Certificates (\$224,600.42) and royalties (\$19,187.00) is properly accounted for.
- Major new expenses in CY2023 relative to CY2022 were the strategic planning meeting (\$16,461.18) and web redesign (\$13,680.00).
- There were no donations recorded in CY2023 (i.e., 2022 Centennial donations).
- Transition of the National Meeting to the virtual platform has kept National Convention expenses to a minimum (\$4,830.00).
- Operating income exceeded annual expenses by \$31,799.99 in CY2023, which is a 41.8% reduction in net revenue (i.e., operating income in excess of expenses) from CY2022. As noted above, declining enrollments are a major factor in this decline. That being said, the Society's finances, especially considering funds in operating accounts (Bank of Ann Arbor) and investment accounts (Midwest Trust Company), continue to support a solid foundation for the future.

The Committee views the following items as important for future budgeting and financial projections:

- New membership related items (i.e., national dues/jewelry/certificates) continue to be the primary revenue stream. As noted last year, in the short-term this will continue to decline as pharmacy school enrollments continue to decline. As noted above, from CY2022 to CY2023 there was a 14.6% decrease in income in this category. Based on previous reports, from CY2021 to CY2022 there was a 10.1% decrease in income in this category. In the 2024 Budget Forecast, this number is budgeted to decrease in CY2024 by just 4.3% relative to CY2023. The Society may want to consider budgeting a smaller amount in this category for CY2024.
- Revenue/income from royalties continues to be a benefit to Rho Chi; in the past, a campaign for charitable contributions had some success.
  - The Society should consider another campaign to Rho Chi alumni donors to secure donations, and encourage chapters and alumni to purchase Rho Chi items (currently available via the website) on an ongoing basis. Perhaps targeted emails can be sent to Chapter Advisors/Presidents whose chapters do not regularly purchase Rho Chi Honor Cords.
- Continuing the national and regional meetings on the virtual platform continues to be cost-effective.
- The budget forecast for CY2024 is that operating income will exceed expenses, which is a reasonable assumption in the current environment. The total income over expenses is projected to be slightly less in CY2024 than CY2023 (by \$8,711.66). The forecast assumes no donations for CY2024. As noted above, net revenue (i.e., operating income in excess of expenses) continues to decrease. Although the Society is still on a very solid financial foundation, leadership should continue to evaluate whether these changes are concerning for the short run and long run.
- The Midwest Trust Company continues to create the opportunity for increased income and growth in assets (and appropriate management of reserve funds). Market performance in CY2023 was positive.

The Committee recommends for subsequent years that the Draft Treasurer's Report and the Banking Summary continue to be included as the base documents for comparison for this audit. We also

recommend that the "Income/Expense Comparison by Category," containing values for the current year and previous year, continue to be included in the base documents made available to the Audit Committee.

On behalf of the Committee's members, we thank you for the opportunity to serve Rho Chi in this capacity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan J. Skledar".

Sue Skledar, RPh, BS Pharm, MPH  
Chair, Rho Chi Audit Committee

cc: Karen Farris, Executive Vice-President  
Julie Seeger, Program Manager  
Brad Boucher, Treasurer  
John Bentley, Audit Committee Member  
Jeffrey Sherer, Audit Committee Member



## 2023 National Treasurer's Report Febraury 20, 2024

Calendar year 2023 was another stable year financially for the Rho Chi Society. A summary of these events is outlined below.

428 Church Street  
Ann Arbor MI 48109  
734-615-4898  
www.rhochi.org

### National Officers

**Lucio Volino**  
President

**Andy Smith**  
President-elect

**Emmanuelle Schwartzman**  
Immediate Past President

**Amanda M. Stahnke**  
Secretary

**Cynthia M. Phillips**  
Historian

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### National Office

**Karen B. Farris**  
Executive Vice President

**Julie Seeger**  
Program Manager

- Operating revenue exceeding expenses by \$31,799.99. Of particular significance from the revenue and expense report were \$19,187 in revenue from royalties for Rho Chi merchandise. These monies help in offsetting a trend towards reduced revenues from new Rho Chi Society memberships paralleling a decrease in college and school enrollment nationally. One major non-recurring expense in 2023 was the Rho Chi Society Strategic Planning Retreat held in July 2023 costing \$16,461.18 which was under the budgeted amount of \$20,000.
- For the fourth consecutive year, the Society had a major reduction in expenses due to the National Convention being held virtually instead of at the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) Annual Meeting & Exposition. Essentially this has become the new normal for this annual event looking forward. Notewoth, however, is that the 2024 budget does include plans to co-host a reception at the APhA meeting at an estimated cost of \$15,000.
- Midwest Trust Company continued to manage the Rho Chi Society investments in compliance with the Rho Chi Investment Policy. As of December 31, 2023, the Short-Term Investment Fund assets value was \$71,223.51 and the Long-Term Investments Fund assets value was \$606,265.30. In total, the increase in the market value for the two funds was \$76,589.26 in 2023.
- Successful audit of the 2023 Rho Chi Society financial records by the Rho Chi Audit Committee in their letter dated February 20, 2024.

Respectfully submitted, Bradley A. Boucher, Pharm.D.  
National Treasurer, The Rho Chi Society





**Karen B. Farris, PhD, Executive Vice President  
2024 National Convention  
February 20, 2024**

**1. Chapter status**

At present, we have 137 active chapters and 147 chartered chapters historically, with 1 new chapter pending election results and 1 new chapter pending initiation ceremony. We have 10 inactive chapters.

**2. Rho Chi Society National Office staff**

The University of Michigan College of Pharmacy is pleased to continue to host The Rho Chi Society National Office through 2028. Julie Seeger is our Program Manager in the National Office. We also work with Brian VanDerziel at the College and he supports our website updates. We can be reached at [rhochisociety@umich.edu](mailto:rhochisociety@umich.edu).

**3. 2023-24 Priorities**

Our priorities in the National Office for the past year were:

- Supporting the work of the Rho Chi Executive Council officers, committees, and task forces,
- Managing the agenda, technology, and voting for National Convention,
- Hosting the Rho Chi Town Hall on October 17, 2023, focused on "Success in Applying for Residency and Fellowship Training,"
- Hosting strategic planning session on July 21, 2023 with consultant Dr. Dave Zgarrick. We anticipate sending the 2024-2028 Rho Chi Strategic Plan to Executive Council for adoption in June 2024, and
- Facilitating renewal of the National Office contract with the University of Michigan College of Pharmacy between UM staff and Brad Boucher, Rho Chi Society Treasurer.

**5. Update on rhochi.org**

The National Office, in conjunction with the Brian VanDerziel and the Communications Committee, is working on a new home page design for rhochi.org. Watch for the new look in Summer 2024. Please continue to update your chapter profiles through the Advisor login. You can also send updates to the National Office at [rhochisociety@umich.edu](mailto:rhochisociety@umich.edu) and we will complete the updates on your behalf.

**6. Social Media**

Our Rho Chi Society social media groups continue to grow. We anticipate that our SM presence will increase with our new standing Communications Committee and new Strategic Plan. We encourage sharing your chapter content on your pages, tagging Rho Chi, sharing on our Rho Chi group pages, and following other chapters. **#rhochiforlife**

**7. Update on Financials**

The financial viability of The Rho Chi Society is positive, and the Treasurer and Audit reports attest to this status. The EVP works with the Treasurer and Executive Council to determine what financial resources should be reinvested in the Society. The Strategic Plan will provide guidance on using our investments and raised funds.



## **8. Virtual conventions and future in-person gatherings**

We now host all annual National Conventions ***virtually***. This approach saves costs for the organization and allows more chapter delegates to attend as they can avoid travel costs.

\*\*\*We are hosting an in-person networking reception with Phi Lambda Sigma at the 2024 APhA meeting in Orlando on Sunday, March 24, 2024 6:00 – 8:00 pm EST at [Cuba Libre Restaurant, Orlando](#), 9101 International Dr., Orlando, FL.\*\*\*

Attendance and feedback will provide us information to plan similar future events. For our advisors and alumni, we are planning to host a Rho Chi Society Networking Reception at the 2025 AACP Annual Meeting.

# **The Rho Chi Society**

## **Chapter Awards Committee Report**

### **March 4, 2024**

#### **Task Force Members**

Chair: Nathan Cherrington (University of Arizona) – Term: 2019 – 2025  
Members: Dana Strachan (Palm Beach Atlantic University) – Term: 2022 – 2028  
Amanda Stolarz (University of Arkansas) – Term: 2023 – 2029  
Ellen Woods (AFPE President) - ex officio

#### **Review of Charges**

It shall be the responsibility of the Committee to promote the availability of all Rho Chi Scholarships and Fellowships, review applications and determine recipients for scholarships, the number and amount of which, if any, is determined by the Executive Council.

#### **Activities**

The Scholarship and Fellowship Committee reviewed application submissions throughout the year. Councilors conducted their work remotely and submitted evaluations electronically.

#### **Clinical Research Scholarship for 2023-2024**

- No applications received.

#### **American Foundation of Pharmaceutical Education (AFPE) First Year Graduate Fellowship 2022-2023**

- Four applications were received.
- The committee reviewed that application and awarded the fellowship to Alexcia Carr Ph.D. student at University of Texas at Austin.

# The Rho Chi Society

## Chapter Awards Committee Report

### February 26, 2024

#### Committee Members

Chair:	Andrew Smith (President-Elect, University of Missouri Kanas City)
EC Members:	Sara Grossman (Region I, Long Island University)
	Thomas Franko (Region II Councilor, Wilkes University)
	Riley Bowers (Region III-E, Campbell University)
	Kelly Covert (Region III-W, Tennessee State University)
	Courtney Watts Alexander (Region III-S, Auburn University)
	Lynette Moser (Region IV-E, Wayne State University)
	Steven Scott (Region IV-W, Purdue University)
	Linda Sobeski (Region V, University of Nebraska)
	Brooke Gildon (Region VI, Southwestern Oklahoma State University)
	Angela Stewart (Region VII, Washington State University)
	Jennifer Trujillo (Region VIII, University of Colorado)

#### Review of Charges

According to the National Bylaws of The Rho Chi Society, the Awards Committee is charged with “selecting recipients for the Rho Chi Chapter Achievement and Rho Chi Chapter Project Proposal Awards”.

#### Activities

The Awards Committee reviewed Chapter Reports and Project Proposal Award submissions throughout the year. Councilors conducted their work remotely and submitted evaluations electronically.

A virtual orientation was held in July 2023 with a presentation reviewing committee responsibilities, timelines, and evaluation materials. Scoring rubric feedback was collected and discussed.

#### Chapter Achievement Award Review Process Overview\*

##### Round 1

- Councilors review and score reports from another region.
- Top two chapters from each region (total of 22) move on to the next round.
- This year 23 chapters moved on to the second round due to ties.

##### Round 2 (Top 10 Selection)

- Each Councilor reviews and scores 10-12 new reports for round two.
- Each report is scored by at least 5 councilors.
- The top 10 ranked reports based on average scores move to Round 3.

##### Round 3 (Winner Selection)

- Councilors review and score all reports not previously scored by that Councilor in Round 2.
- Top scoring report is selected as the Chapter Achievement Award Winner.

*\*Note: Report scores are averaged in each round to determine rank, progression to the next round, and winner.*

#### Most Improved Chapter Award Review Process Overview\*\*

##### Round 1 (Top 10 Chapter Selection)

- This round was not required this year (only nine eligible entries).

##### Round 2 (Top Chapters Ranking and Selection)

- Councilors review and rank top region reports.
- There was a clear winner, so no further voting was needed.
- Top ranked report selected as the Most Improved Chapter Award Winner.

*\*\*Note: Report scores are averaged in each round to determine rank and if another round is needed.*

## Chapter Achievement Award Summary 2022-2023

### Chapter Report Submission:

- 125 Chapters submitted a report for their work conducted in 2022-2023.
- 63 Chapters did not submit a report by May 15 for award consideration.
- 11 active Chapters did not submit a report.
- 21 Chapters submitted on time but did not meet all required eligibility criteria.
- 41 Chapters met eligibility for the Chapter Achievement Award.

### Chapter Achievement Award timeline:

- Eligible reports were distributed to the Committee for review on July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
- Councilors reviewed and scored chapter reports for Round 1 review by August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
- Top 23 chapters were selected as Round 1 Finalists and sent to the Committee for Round 2 review and scoring on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 with evaluations due by October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023.
- Top 10 chapters were selected as Round 2 Finalists and sent to the Committee for Round 3 review and scoring on October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 with evaluations due by November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
- Top scoring chapter was selected for the Chapter Achievement Award in November 2023 and will be announced at the Rho Chi Virtual Annual Meeting on March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

### Chapter Achievement Award *Top 10 Finalists*

Region	Chapter	School
I	Beta Delta	St. John's University
I	Beta Theta	Long Island University
II	Alpha Eta	Rutgers University
II	Gamma Lambda	Wilkes University
III-East	Alpha Iota	Medical University of South Carolina
III-South	Chi	University of Mississippi
IV East	Epsilon Mu	Cedarville University
V	Kappa	North Dakota State University
VI	Delta Eta	University of the Incarnate Word
VIII	Epsilon Rho	Chapman University

## Most Improved Chapter Award Summary 2022-2023

### Most Improved Chapter Award submission:

- 16 Chapters indicated an interest in being considered for the Most Improved Chapter Award
- 5 chapters were not eligible
- 2 chapters did not complete the full report.
- 9 Chapters were eligible and reviewed for the Most Improved Chapter Award.

### Most Improved Chapter Award timeline:

- Most Improved Chapter reviews started in conjunction with Round 2 of the Chapter Achievement Award.
- Councilors were instructed to rank the nine chapters.
- Materials were provided September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, with evaluations due by October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023.
- The ranking showed a clear winner, so no further voting was required.
- Top ranked chapter was selected for the Most Improved Chapter Award in October 2023 and will be announced at the Rho Chi Virtual Annual Meeting on March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

### Most Improved Chapter Award *Finalists – In order by Region*

Chapter	Region	School
I	Beta Theta	Long Island University
II	Alpha Eta	Rutgers University
II	Gamma Lambda	Wilkes University
III-E	Alpha Iota	Medical University of South Carolina
IV-E	Alpha Xi	University of Kentucky
IV-E	Epsilon Mu	Cedarville University
V	Kappa	North Dakota State University
VI	Delta Eta	University of the Incarnate Word
VII	Epsilon Rho	Chapman University

## **Project Proposal Award Summary 2022-2023**

### **Chapter Project Proposal Award**

- Submissions Summary
  - Summer 2023: 5
  - Spring 2023: 7
- Committee members reviewed and approved or ranked proposals they deemed worthy of being evaluated and accepted in July 2032 (Summer Cycle) and January 2024 (Spring Cycle).
- Two proposals were accepted for the Summer and Spring Cycle.

### **Chapter Project Proposal Award Recipients**

- *Summer 2023*
  - Alpha Iota (Medical University of South Carolina): The Impact of Pharmacy Student Participation in Medication Therapy Management on Overall Performance and Confidence Level”
  - Alpha Xi (University of Kentucky): "Health Fair Haircuts: Improving patient health literacy one haircut at a time.”
- *Spring 2024*
  - Epsilon Rho (Chapman University): “Pharmacy on the Move: Elevating Health Care Literary Through Social Media”
  - Gamma Sigma (Western University): Student Pharmacist Knowledge and Preparedness on Delivering Telehealth and Virtual Care After Student-Led Educational Programs”

# The Rho Chi Society

## Nominating Committee Report

### March 4, 2024

#### Committee Members

*Chair:* Emmanuelle Schwartzman (Chapman, Immediate Past President)  
Sara Grossman (Long Island University; Region I Councilor)  
Riley Bowers (Campbell; Region III-E Councilor)  
Kelly Covert (East Tennessee State; Region III-W Councilor)  
Courtney Alexander (Auburn; III-S Councilor)  
Linda Sobeski (Nebraska; Region V Councilor)  
Angela Stewart (Washington; Region VII Councilor)

#### Charge (as stated in the Bylaws)

The Nominating Committee shall consist of the Immediate Past-President, who serves as Chair, and the Regional Councilors. Councilors from the even-numbered regions shall be appointed to the Committee in even-numbered years and those from the odd-numbered regions shall be appointed to the Committee in odd-numbered years. It shall be the duty of the Nominating Committee to provide nominees for the office of President-elect and Councilors for the even-numbered regions in odd-numbered years and for Secretary, Historian, and Councilors for the odd-numbered regions in even-numbered years. The Committee shall develop a slate of new officers and Councilors by October when the Committee will present the slate for review by the full Executive Council.

#### Tentative Slate

- **National President-Elect**
  - Esther (Penni) Black (Kentucky)
  - Amanda Stahnke (Missouri-Kansas City)
- **National Treasurer**
  - John P. Bentley (Mississippi)
  - Unopposed
- **Region II Councilor**
  - Daniel J. Canney (Temple)
  - Susan J. Skledar (Pittsburgh)
- **Region IV-W Councilor**
  - Stephanie L. Enz (Butler)
  - Melany P. Puglisi-Weening (Chicago State)
- **Region IV-E Councilor**
  - Bradley E. Hein (Cincinnati)
  - Kari Vavra Janes (Ferris State)
- **Region VI Councilor**
  - Brooke L. Gildon, Incumbent (Southwestern Oklahoma State)
  - Beth H. Resman-Targoff (Oklahoma)
- **Region VIII Councilor**
  - Paul J. Wong (Southern California)
  - Unopposed



# The Rho Chi Society

## Nominating Committee

### National President-Elect

#### National President-Elect

- **Esther P. (Penni) Black (Kentucky)**

Bio: I have been a faculty member at the University of Kentucky, College of Pharmacy, in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences since 2004. As an Associate Professor, I also hold the administrative position of Director of the PharmD program. I maintain a small research group of graduate, undergraduate, and pharmacy students together studying methods of personalizing lung cancer therapies using molecular and health records data. My instructional duties include a foundational molecular and cellular biology class for our P1 students and Integrated Drugs and Disease-Oncology class for our P3 students.

I have served as the advisor for the Alpha Xi Chapter of the Rho Chi Society since 2010. Our Chapter has been awarded a Chapter Proposal multiple times during my tenure and was named National Chapter of the Year for our 2019-20 academic year proposal. Additionally, I served as Region IV-E Councilor on the Rho Chi Executive Council from 2018 to 2020.

- **Amanda Stahnke (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 PharmD 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 served as Rho Chi National Secretary from 2021-2023. During her time as Regional Councilor and Secretary Dr. Stahnke assisted in the installation of several new chapters. While Secretary she chaired the Communications Taskforce that expanded Rho Chi's social media presence and led the development of the Communications Committee. Dr. Stahnke has served in other local, regional, and national leadership positions within several other professional organizations, including the Association of Diabetes Care and Education Specialists (ADCES) and the Missouri Society of Health-System Pharmacists (MSHP).

Dr. Stahnke provides patient care services at the Kansas City Veterans Affairs Medical Center (KCVA) in primary care, managing many chronic disease states including diabetes mellitus, hypertension, hyperlipidemia, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. She assists in coordination of Ambulatory Care topic discussions for KCVA preceptors, students, and residents and serves as preceptor to General Medicine I and Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience students and Post-Graduate Year 1 and 2 residents. In addition to experiential education, Dr. Stahnke provides didactic education throughout the curriculum at UMKC. She coordinates the Physical Assessment and Professional Communication lab and teaches a variety of topics within several required courses, including type 2 diabetes mellitus, hypertension, urinary incontinence, and multiple sclerosis within the pharmacotherapy series.

Her scholarly areas of interest including diabetes mellitus, multiple sclerosis, and scholarship of teaching. She has been involved in research projects within the university and at the KCVA. Currently, she is working with colleagues at the KCVA 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.

# The Rho Chi Society

## Nominating Committee

### National Treasurer

#### National Treasurer

- **John P. Bentley (Mississippi)**

Bio: John P. Bentley has been a faculty member at the University of Mississippi School of pharmacy for nearly 25 years. He is a pharmacist, biostatistician, health services researcher, and avid baseball fan (a passion he shares with his spouse, Sandy). He previously served as the Program Coordinator for the University's Graduate Minor in Applied Statistics and Chair of the Department of Pharmacy Administration. In the pharmacy curriculum, he has taught elements of research design, biostatistics, epidemiology, and drug literature evaluation. At the graduate level, he teaches several applied statistics courses.

John has conducted research projects in a variety of areas, including: patient-reported outcomes in health care; pharmacoepidemiology; measurement of medication adherence; and pharmaceutical marketing and patient behavior. He has been a member of many interdisciplinary research teams, consulted with numerous researchers concerning statistical analysis, published research in over 70 different journals, co-edited two textbooks, and served on the MS or PhD committees of over 180 students from various disciplines. He is a Fellow of both American Pharmacists Association and the National Academies of Practice and is a recipient of the UM School Pharmacy's Faculty Research Award, the UM Graduate School's Excellence in Graduate Teaching and Mentoring Award, the UM Faculty Achievement Award for Outstanding Teaching and Scholarship, the UM Elsie M. Hood Outstanding Teacher Award, and the Outstanding Article of the Year Award for a paper published in *Quality of Life Research*.

John received his BS in Pharmacy and MBA from Drake University, MS and PhD in Pharmacy Administration from the University of Mississippi, and MS and PhD in Biostatistics from the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB). He was initiated into Rho Chi as a pharmacy student (Alpha Sigma Chapter, Drake University) and is also a member of the Delta Omega Honorary Society in Public Health. He has served the Chi Chapter of Rho Chi (UM) as chapter secretary (5 years) and faculty advisor (20 years) and has been a member of the National Rho Chi Auditing Committee since 2021.

- **Unopposed**

# The Rho Chi Society

## Nominating Committee

### Region II Councilor

#### Region II Councilor

- **Daniel J. Canney (Temple)**

Bio: Dr. Canney received his B.S. in Pharmacy from Temple University in 1979. Dr. Canney went on to earn a PhD in Medicinal Chemistry at Temple University under the direction of Peter H. Doukas and was inducted to Rho Chi Honor Society while a student at Temple. He then accepted a position as a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Pharmacology and Molecular Biology at Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis working on the development of novel anticonvulsant agents with Douglas Covey and James Ferrendelli. He later joined the University of Pennsylvania's Department of Radiology (Section of Radiopharmaceutical Chemistry) as a research assistant professor where he worked with Hank Kung on the development of organ and receptor-specific imaging agents for use in SPECT imaging studies (technetium and radio-iodinated ligands).

Dr. Canney joined the faculty of TUSP in 1993 as assistant professor of medicinal chemistry and is currently associate professor. He has served as Director of Graduate Studies (2002-2020) and served as Chair of Pharmaceutical Sciences from 2011-2017. Dr. Canney has faculty responsibilities at both the professional (Med Chem II, and III) and graduate levels (Advanced Med Chem, Pharmaceutical Analysis) and also is involved in the direction of graduate student research (M.S. and Ph.D.). In the Pharm.D. program he also serves as the Faculty Advisor for the Rho Chi Pharmaceutical Honor Society (currently co-Advisor with Dr. Rotz) and the Committee on Addiction and Substance Abuse (C.A.S.A., Rx).

His current research interests include structure-activity relationship (SAR) studies involving molecules that modulate pharmacologically important protein targets. The development of efficient and versatile synthetic routes to pharmacologically useful building blocks is another interest of the group. Dr. Canney's research has been funded through internal grants (Temple Office of the VP for Research) and external grants from the NIH (NIDDK, NIDA) and foundations (CCFA). Recently, Dr. Canney has become a principal in a start-up company based on IP generated in his laboratory. That start-up, Praeventix, LLC, has successfully negotiated a license agreement with Temple University. The 5-HT7 project continues to be carried out in collaboration with Praeventix, LLC. Dr. Canney serves on NIH study sections, on Editorial Advisory Boards and as a reviewer for numerous journals. He has also served as Associate Editor of Life Sciences.

My responsibilities as Faculty Advisor for the Beta Lambda Chapter of Rho Chi at Temple Pharmacy School began in 1998 with the retirement of Dr. Paul Zanowiak. Since that time I have attended many annual meetings held in conjunction with APhA and the online meetings held in recent years. During my tenure, the chapter became increasingly more visible and is recognized as an active student organization on campus. More recently, a co-advisor (Dr. Melissa Rotz) from the Pharmacy Practice Department shares responsibilities with Dr. Canney. A review of our annual reports in recent years shows an active group involved in many aspects of student professional and social life. Our chapter hosted the 2nd Regional (Region II) meeting in 2004 that was well attended and considered a great success. Student representatives and I attended the 3rd Regional Meeting at Rutgers the following year also. Our students are involved in tutoring, community service and pharmacy related events each semester. Tutoring remains an important service the chapter offers to struggling students in the PY1 and PY2 years. For many years our chapter was involved in supporting Research Recognition Day at the School of Pharmacy. The event is designed to showcase the clinical and basic science research and increase interactions and improve communication between Pharm.D. and graduate students. As a fund raiser, our chapter has hosted a march madness basketball game between students and faculty, and more recently a volleyball game. It had become an annual custom that both the students and the faculty look forward to and enjoy. The pandemic put a stop to this activity but we hope to get things started again this year. The games improved the visibility of the Society and was great for student morale.

- **Susan J. Skledar (Pittsburg)**

Bio: Susan Skledar received her Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy and Master of Public Health from the University of Pittsburgh. Since 2016, she serves as Director of Experiential Learning and Continuing Professional Development at the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy (Pitt Pharmacy). She is a Professor in the Department of Pharmacy & Therapeutics at the School of Pharmacy, precepting and lecturing in the Doctor of Pharmacy curriculum. She has been a clinical faculty member since 1992. Susan has been a long-standing member of Rho Chi at Pitt Pharmacy, first being inducted as a student pharmacist, and she has been Faculty Co-Advisor of Rho Chi since 2008. During her work with the Rho Chi student members, the Alpha Omicron Chapter at Pitt Pharmacy has won the Most Improved Chapter and Chapter Achievement Awards multiple times, and has been recognized with the Project Proposal grant awards three times. Susan has served on the Rho Chi National Auditing Committee since 2019, and is Chair of this Committee for 2023-24. She was honored with national Faculty Advisor of the Year in 2023, and was named to the 2023 national Alumni Honor Roll. She leads the PA Coalition of Experiential Learning Leaders, which is comprised of all seven schools of pharmacy in Pennsylvania, and is an Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) site team evaluator. Susan's experiences in clinical practice are based in hospital and health-system pharmacy. Prior to 2016, she served as a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist in formulary management and drug use policy at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC), an integrated health care delivery system operating more than 20 academic, community and specialty hospitals across its care network. This work has yielded over 400 hospital guidelines, over 50 peer-reviewed publications, and 20 book chapters/articles related to pharmacy practice changes. She has published approaches to teaching innovations in the American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education, the Journal of the American Pharmaceutical Association, Currents in Pharmacy Teaching and Learning, and the American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy. Susan has received national and regional recognition for her work from the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP), American Pharmaceutical Association, Institute for Safe Medication Practices, National Association of Healthcare Quality, Hospital and Health-System Association of Pennsylvania, and Pennsylvania Society of Health-System Pharmacists. She, as part of interdisciplinary care teams, is a two-time honoree of the ASHP Best Practices Award in Health-System Pharmacy in 2000 and in 2012. She was an individual winner of the APhA Pinnacle Award for Healthcare Quality Improvement, and was recognized as a Fellow of the ASHP. In 2013, she received the ASHP Distinguished Service Award for her work in inpatient pharmacy practice advancement and interdisciplinary collaboration. She was awarded Preceptor of the Year at Pitt Pharmacy in 2011 and again in 2016, and received Pitt Pharmacy Teacher of the Year in 2021.

# The Rho Chi Society

## Nominating Committee

### Region IV-W Councilor

#### Region IV-W Councilor

- **Stephanie L. Enz (Butler)**

Bio: Dr. Stephanie Enz is an Associate Professor in the Pharmaceutical Sciences department at Butler University. She received her B.S. in Pharmacy from The Ohio State University and received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Shenandoah University in Winchester, VA. In her current role, she coordinates and teaches in the pharmaceuticals lab sequence, teaches a first-year pharmacy practice course (Approval to Administration - How Drugs Get to Patients), precepts an academic rotation, and advises pre-professional students. Dr. Enz serves on the admissions committee for the college and coordinates the pre-professional Exploring Pharmacy courses. She is actively involved with the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy. Her research is focused on the Science of Teaching and Learning and has included topics such as multi-tasking, collaborative test-taking, and teaching empathy. Dr. Enz has received multiple teaching awards including the Outstanding Pharmaceutical Sciences Faculty Award in 2011, 2014, 2016, and 2018, 2019. She has served as co-advisor for the Alpha Phi chapter of Rho Chi at Butler University for sixteen years. During her time as faculty advisor, she has helped to implement a successful peer-to-peer tutoring program through which Rho Chi members offer one-on-one tutoring sessions, review sessions, and exam reviews to campus-based and online students. Dr. Enz helped to increase the emerging tutoring program's visibility by handing out pieces of fruit with a Rho Chi information sticker attached to them at various points during the semester. She has worked with Rho Chi officers to plan every initiation and recognition event for the past sixteen years, including a meaningful virtual initiation during COVID, and has hosted a yearly appreciation dinner at her farm for all the fifth-year Rho Chi tutors.

- **Melany P. Puglisi-Weening (Chicago State)**

Bio: Melany P. Puglisi-Weening is the Director of Interprofessional Educations and a Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the Chicago State University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. She received her Ph.D. degree from the University of Mississippi College of Pharmacy in 2001 and then went on to complete postdoctoral fellowships at Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California at San Diego and the Smithsonian Marine Station, National Museum of Natural History. Dr. Puglisi is a founding member of the CSU College of Pharmacy and the founding advisor of the Delta Xi chapter of CSU College of Pharmacy's Rho Chi chapter since 2012. She has received multiple Teacher of the Year and Preceptor of the Year from CSU. In 2016, she joined the Editorial Board of the Journal of Natural Products. She served a member of the Executive Committee of the American Society of Pharmacognosy for eight year and as Secretary to the ASP Foundation. Her research interests involve the scholarship of teaching and learning to improve classroom outcome and scientific research collaborations concerning the chemical interactions between benthic marine organisms and microorganisms.

Dr. Puglisi-Weening was elected to the Chi Chapter of the Rho Chi Society as a graduate student in the Department of Pharmacognosy at The University of Mississippi in 1999. Since, she has been involved as a founding faculty advisor for Rho Chi at Lake Erie College of Pharmacy and CSU. During her leadership, Delta Xi at CSU has implemented programming within the mission of Rho Chi and the university to support and enhance the pharmacy program by: 1) bringing in yearly speakers to address the different career paths for pharmacists; 2) providing additional academic support through a Rho Chi sponsored tutoring program, and 3) providing resources that prepare pharmacy students to apply for residency. In addition, two Rho Chi members were chosen as AACP scholar awardees.

# The Rho Chi Society

## Nominating Committee

### Region IV-E Councilor

#### Region IV-E Councilor

- **Bradley E. Hein (Cincinnati)**

Bio: Bradley E. Hein, BS, PharmD, BCPS, is currently Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice and Associate Dean for Professional Education and Assessment at the University of Cincinnati James L. Winkle College of Pharmacy. He is an internal medicine clinical pharmacy specialist at The Christ Hospital in Cincinnati and is a Board-Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist. Dr. Hein has published over 90 peer-reviewed articles, book chapters and abstracts in areas of practice and research that include palliative care and pain management, geriatrics, anticoagulation, inpatient hyperglycemia and the scholarship of teaching and learning. He has given over 70 local, state and national presentations on a variety of clinical and academic topics.

Dr. Hein received his B.S. and Pharm.D degrees from the University of Cincinnati College of Pharmacy in 1996 and 1998, respectively. He completed residency training in internal medicine at the St. Louis College of Pharmacy in 1999. Dr. Hein joined the University of Cincinnati James L. Winkle College of Pharmacy in 2005 and was appointed to an Associate Dean role in 2016. Dr. Hein maintains an active practice site as an internal medicine specialist and coordinates a Therapeutics course in the PharmD curriculum.

Dr. Hein has received the Rho Chi Faculty Excellence Award in 2009 and 2013. He has also received the Faculty Excellence for Teaching for the Second Professional Year in 2007, 2009, 2010 and 2012 and 2022. Dr. Hein was inducted into Rho Chi as a student in 1994 and has served as the advisor since 2012. Dr. Hein was selected for the national Rho Chi Society Faculty Advisor Award in 2019 and his Beta Nu chapter has been a Top 10 finalist for the Chapter Achievement Award in 2020-2021 and 2021-2022

- **Kari Vavra Janes (Ferris State)**

Bio: Kari Vavra Janes, PharmD, BCPS, is a professor of pharmacy practice at Ferris State University and she practices in inpatient general medicine at Corewell Health in Grand Rapids. She has held this position since 2010. Kari graduated from Ferris in 2009 and completed a pharmacy practice residency at Sparrow Health System in 2010.

Kari has served as a co-advisor for the Rho Chi Beta Mu Chapter since 2013. She attained Rho Chi membership in 2007 and served as Rho Chi Beta Mu President from 2007-2008. She has also been actively involved with committees at her university since 2010 (progressions, professional development, CE, Timme travel grant). She is currently the chair of the Pharmacy Education Development and Lecture Series, a teaching and learning curriculum for pharmacy residents. Beyond service, she teaches P2's and P3's in the didactic curriculum and precepts P4's on advanced pharmacy practice experiences. She is also actively engaged in scholarly activity and research.

Kari has been an active member of the Michigan Pharmacists Association, participating in the Young Practitioner Leadership Academy in 2012, serving on the new practitioner committee in 2014, and representing the house of delegates from 2013-2016. Kari has been involved with the Western Michigan Society of Health-System Pharmacists, serving as board member from 2012-2014 and president in 2015. Kari has also been involved with the Michigan Society of Health-System Pharmacists, serving as board member in 2015 and treasurer from 2018-2020 plus various committees since 2013 (residency, organizational affairs, publications, informatics & technology).



# The Rho Chi Society

## Nominating Committee

### Region VI Councilor

#### Region VI Councilor

- **Brooke L. Gildon, Incumbent (Southwestern Oklahoma State)**

Bio: Brooke L. Gildon, PharmD, BCPS, BCPPS, FPPA is a Bernhardt Professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice at Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) College of Pharmacy in Weatherford, Oklahoma. Dr. Gildon currently practices as a pediatric clinical pharmacy specialist at SSM Health in Oklahoma City. She has practice interests in asthma, infectious diseases, pediatric ambulatory care, transitions of care, and caring for children with complex medical issues. Dr. Gildon received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from SWOSU College of Pharmacy. Following graduation, she completed a PGY1 Pharmacy Residency and PGY2 Pediatric Pharmacy Residency at the University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy and OU Medical Center. Over the past 10 years, Dr. Gildon has been recognized as a Bernhardt Scholar, a Fellow of the Pediatric Pharmacy Association (PPA), a Board-Certified Pediatric Pharmacy Specialist, a Board-Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist, and a Certified Asthma Educator. She has received numerous professional awards from PPA and the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) distinguishing her achievements in pediatric pharmacy practice and pharmacy education. Among her professional affiliations, she is a member of PPA, AACP, Rho Chi, Christian Pharmacists Fellowship International, and American College of Clinical Pharmacy. Her research/scholarship interests focus on medication safety, pediatric pharmacotherapy, and pharmacy education.

Related to The Rho Chi Society, Dr. Gildon currently serves as the Region VI regional councilor. She has also been the chapter advisor at SWOSU since 2018.

- **Beth H. Resman-Targoff (Oklahoma)**

Bio: I have been a member of Rho Chi since 1972 and advisor to the Gamma Chapter since 1988. I have received numerous Outstanding Faculty awards from the Rho Chi Society, Gamma Chapter, and the 2018 Rho Chi National Faculty Advisor Award. I served as Rho Chi Region VI Councilor from 2008-2012 and very much enjoyed learning about all the wonderful activities of Rho Chi chapters across the country. I coordinate a pharmaceutical care course in rheumatologic and gastrointestinal diseases and have participated in numerous other courses at the University, teaching Pharmacy students as well as Dental students. I precept Pharmacy students and residents as part of my clinical practice in adult medicine at the Oklahoma University Medical Center. I received my Bachelor of Science and Doctor of Pharmacy degrees from the State University of New York at Buffalo and did additional training at the Buffalo Veterans Hospital. I worked at Buffalo General Hospital and taught at the State University of New York at Buffalo prior to moving to Oklahoma. I am an author of numerous journal articles and book chapters and am a member of The Annals of Pharmacotherapy Editorial Board Panel on Rheumatology. I am a Fellow of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy and am active in numerous Pharmacy and Rheumatology organizations.



# The Rho Chi Society

## Nominating Committee

### Region VIII Councilor

#### Region VIII Councilor

- **Paul J. Wong (Southern California)**

Bio: Paul J. Wong is an Assistant Professor of Clinical Pharmacy at the University of Southern California (USC) Alfred E. Mann School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. He received his Doctor of Pharmacy from the University of North Carolina Eshelman School of Pharmacy, where he was also inducted as a student member of the Xi Chapter of Rho Chi. After graduation, he completed a PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency at the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Pharmacy followed by a PGY2 Critical Care Pharmacy Residency at the University of Kentucky HealthCare. Dr. Wong went on to work as a critical care pharmacist at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center and become board certified in critical care pharmacotherapy prior to joining USC Mann in 2017. He currently maintains a practice site at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, working with the internal medicine teams.

In 2019, he began collaborating with the students of the Theta Chapter of Rho Chi at USC Mann to develop and coordinate the LEAD Series, a new event aimed at creating opportunities for student pharmacists to practice and hone their critical literature evaluation skills. He has served as the faculty advisor for the Theta Chapter since 2021.

- **Unopposed**



## The Rho Chi Society Faculty Advisor Award Committee 2024

### Committee Members

**Chair:** Alexa Carlson (Northeastern University) 2021 Recipient

**Members:** Cathy Worrall (Medical University of South Carolina) 2022 Recipient  
Susan J. Skledar (University of Pittsburgh) 2023 Recipient

### Awardee

#### Faculty Advisor Award 2024

- Daniel Canney

Two outstanding candidates were nominated for the 2024 Rho Chi Faculty Advisor Award. After review of the nomination materials, nominees were ranked by the committee members. Based on these rankings, Daniel Canney, advisor to the Beta Lambda Chapter of Temple University was selected to receive the Rho Chi Faculty Advisor Award for 2024.