

The Rho Chi Society's 101st Annual Meeting

Report of the National President

February 26, 2025

It is my privilege to present this year's report summarizing the Society's activities and accomplishments. Building on the strong foundation of previous years, we continued to advance Rho Chi's mission and goals through strategic initiatives and member engagement.

The most significant and immediate accomplishment of 2024-2025 was the approval and initial implementation of the strategic plan. This process included five planning sessions to finalize the plan and two listening sessions to gather feedback from the Executive Council before its approval in June 2024.

With approval secured, the real work began. The National Office has been developing a detailed timeline for new initiatives over the next four years. I am very pleased with the new plan, which will introduce significant changes in chapter reporting and alumni relations.

Overall, the new strategic plan refocuses and strengthens The Society's efforts in supporting members, advancing the profession, engaging alumni, and creating opportunities to recognize and promote critical inquiry.

I would like to highlight key achievements, updates, and opportunities for member engagement that align with and exemplify our **new** strategic plan:

1. **Annual Rho Chi Recognition Event – A New Tradition**

The most exciting new initiative is the Annual Rho Chi Recognition Event, first held virtually on January 29, 2025. This inaugural event celebrated outstanding chapters and advisors, recognizing achievements in project proposals and chapter excellence. Highlights included reports from four project proposal winners, the Most Improved Chapter, the Chapter Achievement Award winner, and the Faculty Advisor of the Year.

The enthusiasm following the event was palpable, and we are excited to make this an annual tradition. Moving forward, we plan to shift the event earlier in the academic year (September-October) to allow chapters more time to implement activities inspired by the event.

With over 50 members in attendance, this event directly supports Strategic Plan **Goal 1** (Recognizing Intellectual Achievement) and **Goal 5** (Fostering Communication and Collaboration).

2. **Joint Reception at APHA – Strengthening Professional Connections**

On March 24, 2024, we successfully hosted our first joint reception with Phi Lambda Sigma at the APHA meeting in Orlando, FL. This event provided a valuable opportunity

for students and alumni to connect, build professional relationships, and engage in leadership development.

Building on this success, we are excited to continue this initiative. This year's event will be held on Sunday, March 23, 2025, from 6:00-8:00 PM CT at Liberty Commons in Nashville, TN.

This activity aligns with **Goal 3** (Developing Lifelong Intellectual Leaders) by fostering networking opportunities and encouraging intellectual growth beyond pharmacy school and reinforces **Goal 5** (Fostering Communication and Collaboration) by strengthening partnerships between pharmacy organizations and promoting cross-organizational engagement.

3. Enhancing Communication Through the Revamped Rho Chi Newsletter

The Communications Committee, led by Jelena Lewis (Secretary), has been actively working to improve communication within the Society. One of the most significant accomplishments has been the revival and revamp of the Rho Chi newsletter, aimed at increasing transparency and member engagement.

The first edition was released in Fall 2024, with plans to continue this initiative with a Spring 2025 edition. This newsletter serves as a vital tool for keeping members informed, connected, and engaged with Society updates, initiatives, and opportunities. It supports **Goal 5** (Fostering Communication and Collaboration) by ensuring regular, meaningful communication that enhances member involvement and organizational transparency.

4. Town Hall Series – Guiding Future Leaders in Postgraduate Training

The Town Hall Task Force, led by Emmanuelle Schwartzman (Past President), successfully hosted its fourth Town Hall, focusing on “Success in Applying for Residency and Fellowship Training.” This session featured in-depth discussions on residencies, pharmaceutical industry fellowships, and research fellowships, providing invaluable insights for attendees.

With over 170 participants, this event highlighted the importance of career preparation and critical discussion on postgraduate training opportunities. This supports **Goal 3** (Developing Lifelong Intellectual Leaders) by equipping students with knowledge and strategies for postgraduate training and encourages critical inquiry and analysis (**Goal 2**) by facilitating expert-led discussions on diverse career paths

5. Upcoming Faculty Advisor Reception at AACP 2025

We are excited to announce a special reception at the AACP meeting in Chicago in July 2025, dedicated to Faculty Advisors—the cornerstone of Rho Chi's success. This event will provide an opportunity to recognize their contributions, facilitate networking, and promote collaboration within the Society. Supporting **Goal 3** (Developing Lifelong

Intellectual Leaders) by honoring Faculty Advisors' critical role in mentoring and guiding students, shaping the next generation of pharmacy professionals and advancing **Goal 5** (Fostering Communication and Collaboration) by offering a platform for Faculty Advisors to exchange best practices, enhance inter-chapter connections, and strengthen engagement across the Society.

More details will be shared in the coming months, so stay tuned!

In addition to the Society's standing committees, whose charges are outlined in our bylaws, four task forces were appointed in 2024: **Town Hall, Member Recognition, Alumni, and Regional Meeting**. The **Town Hall Task Force** was discussed earlier, and I will now provide updates on the remaining three task forces.

- The **Member Recognition Task Force**, led by former Regional Councilor Tom Franko, was established to enhance recognition for Rho Chi members by exploring fellow status, awards, and a Hall of Honor. With broad stakeholder input, the task force has presented preliminary recommendations, with a final proposal expected in Summer 2025. This initiative supports **Goal 1** (Recognizing Intellectual Achievement) by expanding formal recognition for members who exemplify excellence and leadership. It also aligns with **Goal 3** (Developing Lifelong Intellectual Leaders) by fostering lifelong engagement through advanced recognition systems. Additionally, **Goal 5** (Fostering Communication and Collaboration) is reinforced by incorporating diverse perspectives and increasing transparency in recognition programs.
- The **Alumni Task Force**, led by Lori Duke (former Regional Councilor), focused on enhancing alumni engagement, evaluating the need for an Alumni Committee, and aligning initiatives with communication strategies. A survey of 82 alumni responses informed recommendations reviewed by the Executive Council in Summer 2024, leading to a key change: refocusing the Alumni Honor Roll to allow chapters to nominate any alumni, regardless of their original chapter. This supports **Goal 1** (Recognizing Intellectual Achievement) by broadening recognition and **Goal 3** (Developing Lifelong Intellectual Leaders) by reinforcing alumni mentorship and professional development. Additionally, **Goal 5** (Fostering Communication and Collaboration) is strengthened through improved outreach.
- The **Regional Meeting Planning Task Force**, co-chaired by Lindsay Brust-Sisti (Alumni) and Lucio Volino (Immediate Past President), is assessing the feasibility of starting or resuming Rho Chi Regional Meetings. This ongoing work will culminate in a report by the end of 2025. Reviving Regional Meetings supports **Goal 5** (Fostering Communication and Collaboration) by providing structured opportunities for chapters to connect, share best practices, and engage in joint initiatives.

For a complete record of the Executive Council's work, please refer to the archived approved minutes on the Society's website, rhochi.org.

A heartfelt thank you to our Rho Chi members, Faculty Advisors, Regional Councilors, and Executive Council Members, including Immediate Past President Lucio Volino, President-Elect Amanda Stahnke, Program Manager Julie Seeger, and Executive Vice President Karen Farris. Your commitment, perseverance, and passion drive the Society forward. I am sincerely grateful for your contributions, which make all this possible. Your unwavering dedication to advancing both the profession and Rho Chi through intellectual leadership is truly commendable.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrew J. Smith

Andrew J. Smith, PharmD, FCCP, BCPS, BCCP

National President 2024 – 2026

The Rho Chi Honor Society



February 24, 2025

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 2024 Rho Chi Financial Records

Dear National Office,

The Rho Chi Audit Committee consisting of Susan Skledar (Chair), Jeffrey Sherer, and Lauren Angelo, was charged to review the 2024 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. The Society continued to work with the Midwest Trust Company (accounts opened in August of 2021), with a change implemented this year. The short-term investment account was closed, and funds were moved into the long-term (LT) investment account. The Rho Chi Investment Policy was updated to include this change, as well as provide guidance on the process for annual disbursements from the LT investment account.

The Committee finds all financial records to be in good order and did not note any discrepancies on the DRAFT 2024 Treasurer's Report. Notable findings include:

- Overall, Rho Chi operating income exceeded expenses for CY2024 (\$33,995.63), as was the case in CY 2023 (\$31,299.99).
- The breakdown of revenue vs. expense is similar for CY2023 and CY2024, with the following findings noted between the two years:
 - Income from new members (i.e., certificates, jewelry, dues) was similar across the two years, despite the decrease in new member numbers we know of related to declining enrollment (\$224,600.42 CY2023; \$224,273.17 CY 2024). New member income continues to comprise most of the annual income.
 - Royalty income was \$10,428.45 less for CY2024, comprised of less award and honor cord sales (\$19,187.00 CY2023; \$8,758.55 CY2024). This reduction in income comprises much of the deficit from CY2023 to CY2024 (\$11,341.70 deficit).
 - Expenses (\$200,353.97 CY2024) are comprised of national office expenditures (70%); member expenses (i.e., jewelry; 21%); meeting expenses (APhA meeting, reception 6%); and awards (4%). These percentages are stable for CY2024 compared to CY2023.
 - Overall expenses were reduced by \$14,037.34 in CY2024 (\$214,391.31 CY2023; \$200,353.97 CY2024). The reduction was due to two events that occurred in CY2023 but did not occur in CY2024 (website redesign and the Strategic Planning session; combined \$30,141.18).
- From the statements provided, and inquiry to Dr. Bentley, 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. Market performance in CY2024 was positive, with a value of \$750,573.92. The market value increase for the holdings of the Society changed by \$62,571.32 in CY2024, with additional gain from combining the short-term account and dividend interest. As per the Treasurer's report, and in speaking with Dr. Bentley, comparing the ending balance in CY2024 (\$750,573.92) to that in CY2023 (\$677,488.81), the total increase in holdings was \$73,085.11, year-to-year.

To that end, the Committee views the following items as important for future budgeting and financial projections:

- Continuing the national/regional meetings on the virtual platform continues to be cost-effective.
- The 2025 Budget Forecast reports that in addition to the APhA member reception at the annual APhA meeting, the Society plans to host an advisor meeting at the AACP meeting in July 2025, which is budgeted for \$15,000. Since this is a first-time event in 2025, event expense should be documented for next year's review.
- The funds budgeted for the AFPE First-Year Graduate Fellowship are doubled in the 2025 Budget Forecast to \$6250.00 (from \$3000 CY2024). Without applicants for the Clinical Research Scholarship this year, those funds appear to be rolled over into the AFPE Fellowship. We encourage Rho Chi to re-allocate funds as they can between awards, if the applicant pool declines for a particular award.
- As in prior years, new membership items (i.e., national dues/jewelry/certificates) continue to be the primary revenue stream. As enrollment continues to decline, the Society budgeted \$9,273.14 less for CY2025 for this income item, a 4% reduction in income (\$224,273.17 CY 2024 versus \$215,000.00 CY2025). Please consider adding more detail in the Treasurer's Report regarding how the 4% reduction estimate was determined.
- Revenue from royalties is budgeted for CY2025 as \$10,000 which is 14% higher than what was realized in CY2024 (\$8,758.55). This comes from honor cord and online product sales. With a reduction in enrollments and fewer graduates, it is not clear how this increase was determined. A plan for achieving this increase should be designed by the Society. Use of the AACP Advisor Dinner may be part of that plan, for example.
- For future reports, it would be helpful to have a percent change column added to the Budget Forecast spreadsheets to compare projected income and expenses to actuals from the prior year. Please also consider including the percent change column on the Income/Expense Comparison by Category report (in addition to the amount difference).
- The Midwest Trust Company continues to create the opportunity for increased income and growth in assets (and appropriate management of reserve funds). The decision to merge the short-term account into the LT account was sound.
 - With the decision each year to take a disbursement (or decline) from the LT investment account, we suggest that the documentation of each year's decision reside not only in the Treasurer's Report, but as a line item in the Banking Summary and Income-Expense Comparison. This will allow ease of tracking year over year.

The Committee recommends for subsequent years that the Draft Treasurer's Report, banking summaries, and 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, we thank you for the opportunity to serve Rho Chi in this capacity.

Sincerely,



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

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



2024 National Treasurer's Report February 24, 2025

Calendar year 2024 was another stable year financially for the Rho Chi Society. A summary of these events is outlined below.

- Operating revenue exceeding expenses by \$33,995.63. Of particular significance from the revenue and expense report was that *new member* revenue was roughly unchanged year-over-year in 2024, even though the number of new members decreased by almost 10% when comparing the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 academic years (the decrease in new members parallels a decrease in college and school enrollment nationally for pharmacy). This is mostly explained by the timing payments by Chapters to the National Office. There was a decline in revenue from royalties for Rho Chi merchandise from the previous year of \$10,428.45, which is partially explained by the reduced number of new members. Although the number of new members will likely drop again in the 2024-2025 academic year, there are early indications that the numbers may somewhat stabilize. Even though *total* revenue in calendar year 2024 was down relative to 2023, so too were *total* expenses because two expenses from 2023 (i.e., a strategic planning meeting and web redesign) did not recur in 2024.
- For the fifth 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. This has become the new normal for this annual event looking forward. The Society did co-host (with Phi Lambda Sigma) a reception at the APhA meeting costing \$6,430.31, which was under the budgeted amount of \$15,000. The 2025 budget includes plans to co-host this event again (budgeted at \$8,500) as well as a reception for advisors at the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Annual Meeting in July, 2025 (budgeted at \$15,000).
- Midwest Trust Company continued to manage the Rho Chi Society investments in compliance with the Rho Chi Investment Policy. The Society's Executive Council approved changes to the Investment Policy in 2024:
 - The short-term fund investment policy statement was removed and we closed our short-term (ST) investment account, moving those funds into the long-term (LT) investment account (using the current Target Asset Mix of the LT account).
 - The long-term fund investment policy statement is now included as part of a broader Statement of General Financial Management, which includes a new statement regarding maintenance of reserve funds as well as a new Spending Policy to govern disbursements from the LT investment account. Given that sufficient funds are available through normal operating funds from 2024 to fund all of the Society's

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

National Officers

Andrew J. Smith
President

Amanda Stahnke
President-elect

Lucio Volino
Immediate Past President

John P. Bentley
Treasurer

Cynthia M. Phillips
Historian

National Office

Karen B. Farris
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proposed initiatives in 2025, a decision was made to not take a disbursement (funds remain in the Long-Term Fund to support future growth).

- As of December 31, 2024, the Long-Term Investment Account's value was \$750,573.92. When considering that the funds in the ST investment account were combined into the LT investment account, the total increase in the market value for the Society's holdings was \$73,085.11 in 2024.
- The Society has proposed to increase the amount for the Rho Chi-AFPE First Year Graduate School Fellowship (split with the American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education). The increase is included in the 2025 budget. There were no applicants for the Rho Chi Society Clinical Research Scholarship by the December 15, 2024, deadline so that award will not be made in 2025 (which is why \$0 is budgeted for 2025). The Society has proposed to increase the amount for this award as well in future years.
- Successful audit of the 2024 Rho Chi Society financial records by the Rho Chi Audit Committee in their letter dated February 24, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

John P. Bentley, Ph.D.
National Treasurer, The Rho Chi Society



**Karen B. Farris, PhD, Executive Vice President
2025 National Convention
March 15, 2025**

1. Chapter status

At present, we have 138 active chapters and 148 chartered chapters historically. One chapter closing due to school closure. One newest chapter initiated members in November 2024.

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. 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. We renewed the National Office contract with the University of Michigan College of Pharmacy.

I want to thank Julie, Lucio, Andy, and Amanda for their commitment to the Society. Most weeks, we hold virtual one-hour executive leadership meetings with the past, current, and incoming presidents to keep the Society running smoothly. We discuss strategic plan activities, chapter or member concerns, and plan upcoming virtual or in-person events. We enjoy inviting other officers or committee chairs for reports. We have been doing this for a few years and it is an important part of the National Office.

3. 2024-25 Priorities

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

- In-person event! PLS/Rho Chi Reception at 2024 APhA. Last year's was a huge success and we look forward to collaborating this year. Joint our Reception in collaboration with PLS at APhA – Sunday, March 23, 2025, from 6:00-8:00pm CT [Liberty Common](#) Nashville, TN (Student/Alumni Event)
- The 2024-2028 Rho Chi Strategic Plan was approved by Executive Council in June 2024. You can find it here <https://rhochi.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Rho-Chi-Strategic-Plan-5.21.24kf.pdf>. Some key activities thus far have been:
 1. Task Force recommending award for alumni exceptional achievement (Goal #1),
 2. Increase amount of some Rho Chi Scholarships (Goal #1),
 3. Increased social media on Instagram and LinkedIn, (Goal #2),
 4. Profiled Rho Chi leader on SM and website (Communications has completed one interview), (Goals #2 and #3),
 5. Support Town Hall and provision of information for Fellowship and graduate education (Goal #3),
 6. Highlight Advisor of the Year at Annual Convention and Recognition event, (Goal #3), and
 7. Initiate and evaluate in-person events at APhA and AACP (Goal #5).
 8. In the coming year, we have more exciting work on our Strategic Plan. I look forward to an initiative where we will benchmark our work nationally using data from chapter reports.

- Hosted virtual Rho Chi Town Hall on October 22, 2024, focused on “Success in Applying for Residency and Fellowship Training.” <https://rhochi.org/town-hall/>
- Hosted virtual Rho Chi Society Recognition, January 29, 2025, which highlighted outstanding chapter achievement as well as reports from some chapter project proposals. ***I highly recommend watching the videos at rhochi.org!***
- *New in-person event:* AACP Rho Chi Society Reception, July 19-23, 2025, Chicago, IL. This social reception is primarily for advisors, as they attend AACP. Additional details to follow.
- Support the work of the Rho Chi Executive Council officers, committees, and task forces
- Manage the agenda, technology, and voting for National Convention

4. Update on rhochi.org

The National Office in conjunction with the Brian and the Communications Committee has reorganized information on rhochi.org. Please continue to update your chapter profiles through the Advisor login. You can also send updates to the National Office at rhochisociety@umich.edu and we will complete the updates on your behalf.

5. Social Media

I want to acknowledge the work of Jelena Lewis and her leadership of the Communications Committee as well as Julie Seeger! Our Rho Chi Society social media groups continue to grow. We encourage sharing your chapter content on your pages, tagging Rho Chi, sharing on our Rho Chi group pages, and following other chapters. Please tag using [#rhochiforlife](#).

6. Update on Financials

I want to acknowledge the leadership of our national treasurer, John Bentley. The financial viability of The Rho Chi Society is positive, and the Treasurer and Audit reports attest to this status. The National Office works with the Treasurer and Executive Council to determine what financial resources should be reinvested in the Society, following our Investment Policy. This year, the Executive Council voted to consolidate our short and long-term funds into a single long-term fund to achieve an endowment-like approach. In this way, we can obtain revenue from the fund each year to use or we can choose to reinvest it. The Strategic Plan provides guidance on using our investments and raised funds.

7. Virtual conventions and future in-person gatherings

We 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.

To reiterate...

We are hosting an in-person networking reception with Phi Lambda Sigma at APhA – Sunday, March 23, 2025, from 6:00-8:00pm CT at [Liberty Common](#) in Nashville, TN (Student/Alumni Event). Attendance and feedback will provide us information to plan similar future events.

New in-person event: AACP Rho Chi Society Reception, July 19-23, 2025, Chicago, IL. This networking reception is primarily for advisors as they attend AACP. Any current Rho Chi members attending the meeting are very welcome! Additional details to follow.

The Rho Chi Society

2025 Lecture Award Committee Report

Executive Council

February 26, 2025

The 2025 Rho Chi Lecture Award recipient, Dr. Frank Romanelli will deliver the recorded lecture, “Unstoppable: Becoming a Force of Nature” on Saturday, March 15, 2025, during the 2025 Rho Chi Annual National Convention. Chapters are encouraged to join others across the country to attend this inspiring lecture.

The work for the 2025 Lecture Award is progressing as the call for nominations occurred in the fall semester of 2024. Rho Chi Chapters received routine e-mails during the fall semester requesting nominations for the 2024 Rho Chi Lecture Award. E-mails provided an outline of the process and links to the Rho Chi website for submission. The Rho Chi National Office posted Lecture Award announcements on social media outlets. Communications targeted Rho Chi Chapters, Chapter Presidents, Advisors and College of Pharmacy Deans.

The Lecture Award Committee appointed for the 2026 Lecture Award includes Dr. Sean Sullivan 2024 Rho Chi Lecture Award Recipient, Dr. Jean Nappi 2022 Rho Chi Lecture Award Recipient, Dr. Michael J. Smith, Presidential Appointment, and Dr. Cynthia Phillips Rho Chi National Historian. In her role as National Historian, Dr. Cynthia Phillips serves as Ex-Officio Committee Chair.

As of the January 15, 2025, deadline, no new nominations were received. The deadline for nomination was extended until March 1, 2025. Five nominations from the previous cycle and any new submissions will be considered. The committee will review the dossiers and will provide the results to the Executive Committee at the June 2025 Executive Council Meeting.



The Rho Chi Society

Scholarship/Fellowship Committee Report

February 26, 2025

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 2025-2026

- Applications were due on December 15, 2025.
- No applications were received.

American Foundation of Pharmaceutical Education (AFPE) First Year Graduate Fellowship 2024-2025

- Two applications were received.
- The committee reviewed that application and unanimously awarded the fellowship to Kyle Rehrauer, PharmD, PhD student at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.
- Applications for the 2025-2026 school year are due on May 1, 2025.

The Rho Chi Society

Chapter Awards Committee Report

February 26, 2025

Task Force Members

<i>Chair:</i>	Amanda Stahnke (President-Elect, University of Missouri-Kanas City)
<i>EC Members:</i>	Sara Grossman (Region I, Long Island University)
	Daniel J. Canney (Region II Councilor, Temple University)
	Riley Bowers (Region III-E, Campbell University)
	Kelly Covert (Region III-W, Tennessee State University)
	Courtney Watts Alexander (Region III-S, Auburn University)
	Bradley E. Hein (Region IV-E, University of Cincinnati)
	Melany P. Puglisi-Weening (Region IV-W, Chicago State University)
	Linda Sobeski (Region V, University of Nebraska)
	Beth H. Resman-Targoff (Region VI, University of Oklahoma)
	Angela Stewart (Region VII, Washington State University)
	Paul J. Wong (Region VIII, University of Southern California)

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 most of their work remotely and submitted evaluations electronically.

A virtual orientation was held on June 19, 2024 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 other regions.
- Top two chapters from each region (total of 22) move on to the next round.
- This year 19 chapters moved on to the second round due to eligibility.

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.*

The Most Improved Chapter Award material distribution, review, and winner selection occurs in conjunction with the Chapter Achievement Award. The most improved award will not be judged in regions, all chapters submitting for the award will be evaluated equally. This year there were only ten eligible entries, so ranking started with Round 2.

Most Improved Chapter Award Review Process Overview**

Round 1 (Top 10 Chapter Selection)

- This round was not required this year (only ten 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 progression to the next round if needed.*

Chapter Report and Project Proposal Award Review Summary 2023-2024

Chapter Report Submission

- 2024: 120 Chapters submitted a report for their work conducted in 2023-2024.
- 48 Chapters did not submit a report by May 15 for award consideration.
- 15 active Chapters did not submit a report. (2 chapters did not qualify to submit a report)

Chapter Achievement Award

- 40 Chapters met eligibility for the Chapter Achievement Award.
- 32 Chapters submitted on time but did not meet all required eligibility criteria.
- Reports were distributed to the Committee for review on July 15, 2024.
- Councilors reviewed and scored chapter reports for the Chapter Achievement Award Round 1 review by August 16, 2024.
- Top 19 chapters were selected as Round 1 Finalists and sent to the Committee for Round 2 review and scoring on September 3, 2024, with evaluations due by October 2, 2024.
- Top 10 chapters were selected as Round 2 Finalists and sent to the Committee for Round 3 review and scoring on October 22, 2024, with evaluations due by November 15, 2024.
- Top scoring chapter was selected for the Chapter Achievement Award in December 2024 and will be announced at the Rho Chi Virtual Annual Meeting on March 15, 2025.

Most Improved Chapter Award

- 17 Chapters indicated an interest in being considered for the Most Improved Chapter Award, but 7 chapters were not eligible.
- A total of 10 Chapters were eligible and reviewed for the Most Improved Chapter Award.
- Reviewed started in conjunction with Round 2 of the Chapter Achievement Award.
- Councilors were instructed to rank the ten chapters. Materials were provided September 3, 2024, with evaluations due by October 2, 2024.
- The ranking showed a clear winner, so no further voting was required.
- Top ranked chapter was selected for the Most Improved Chapter Award in December 2024 and will be announced at the Rho Chi Virtual Annual Meeting on March 15, 2025.

Chapter Project Proposal Award

- Submissions Summary
 - Summer 2024: 5
 - Spring 2025: 7
- Committee members reviewed and approved or ranked proposals they deemed worthy of being evaluated and accepted in July 2024 (Summer Cycle) and January 2025 (Spring Cycle).
- Two proposals were accepted for the Summer and Spring Cycle.

Rho Chi Chapter Award Finalists and Recipients Summary

Chapter Achievement Award

Top 10 Finalists – In order by region

Region	Chapter Name	University/School Name
II	Alpha Eta	Rutgers University
III-East	Beta Alpha	University of South Carolina
III-South	Chi	University of Mississippi
III-South	Gamma Theta	Nova Southeastern University
III-West	Epsilon Eta	South College School of Pharmacy
IV East	Alpha Chi	Wayne State University
V	Alpha Alpha	Creighton University
VI	Gamma	University of Oklahoma
VI	Nu	The University of Texas at Austin
VIII	Epsilon Rho	Chapman University School of Pharmacy

Most Improved Chapter Award

Finalists – In order by region

Region	Chapter Name	University/School Name
II	Alpha Beta	Duquense University
II	Alpha Eta	Rutgers
III-E	Alpha Iota	Medical University of South Carolina
III-S	Zeta	Auburn University
IV-E	Alpha Xi	University of Kentucky
IV-W	Epsilon Theta	Roosevelt University
V	Alpha Alpha	Creighton University
VI	Gamma Delta	Texas Southern University
VI	Nu	University of Texas
VIII	Epsilon Rho	Chapman University

Chapter Project Proposal Award Recipients

- *Summer 2024*
 - Alpha Xi (University of Kentucky) “Fighting the Epidemic: Preparing Students to Practice in the Climate of the Opioid Epidemic”
 - Gamma Sigma (Western University) “Student Pharmacist Confidence in OSCE Performances After Participating in Student-Led Simulated OSCE Sessions”
- *Spring 2025*
 - TBD
 - TBD

The Rho Chi Society

Nominating Committee Report

February 26, 2025

Committee Members

Chair: Lucio R. Volino (Rutgers University, Immediate Past President)
Daniel J. Canney (Temple University; Region II Councilor)
Bradley E. Hein (University of Cincinnati; Region IV-E Councilor)
Melany P. Puglisi-Weening (Chicago State; Region IV-W Councilor)
Beth H. Resman-Targoff (University of Oklahoma; VI Councilor)
Paul J. Wong (University of Southern California; Region VIII 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 Secretary**
 - Jelena Lewis, Incumbent (Chapman)
 - Kimberly A.B. Cauthon (University of the Incarnate Word)
- **National Historian**
 - Cynthia M. Phillips, Incumbent (South Carolina)
 - Kari Vavra Janes (Ferris State)
 - Kristy Wahaib (Belmont)
- **Region I Councilor**
 - Maria Kostka-Rokosz (Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, MCPHS)
 - Unopposed
- **Region III-E Councilor**
 - Riley Bowers, Incumbent (Campbell)
 - Cathy Worrall (Medical University of South Carolina)
- **Region III-W Councilor**
 - Kelly Covert, Incumbent (East Tennessee State)
 - Lauren Ladd (South College)
- **Region III-S Councilor**
 - Courtney S. Watts Alexander, Incumbent (Auburn University)
 - Lan Bui (Palm Beach Atlantic University)
- **Region V Councilor**
 - Linda M. Sobeski, Incumbent (Nebraska)
 - Unopposed
- **Region VII Councilor**
 - Angela Stewart, Incumbent (Washington State)
 - Unopposed



The Rho Chi Society

Faculty Advisor Award Committee

2025

Committee Members

Chair: Cathy Worrall (Medical University of South Carolina)
2022 Recipient

Members: Susan J. Skledar (University of Pittsburg) 2023 Recipient
Daniel J. Canney (Temple University) 2024 Recipient

Awardee

Faculty Advisor Award 2025

- Sara Wettergreen advisor of the Alpha Theta Chapter at the University of Colorado.

Six outstanding candidates were nominated for the 2025 Rho Chi Faculty Advisor Award. After review of the nomination materials, nominees were ranked by the committee members. Based on these rankings, Sara Wettergreen, advisor of the Alpha Theta Chapter at the University of Colorado was selected to receive the Rho Chi Faculty Advisor Award for 2025.