

NATIONAL RHO CHI SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



Dear Rho Chi Members,

On behalf of the Communications Committee, it is my absolute pleasure to welcome you to another exciting year with the Rho Chi Society — where academic excellence, leadership, and service in pharmacy unite. Whether you are a new inductee or a continuing member, your commitment to the values of intellectual achievement and ethical leadership sets you apart. As members of Rho Chi, we are uniquely positioned to shape the future of pharmacy through collaboration, scholarship, and a passion for lifelong learning. Our role as the Communications Committee is to ensure that every member stays informed, engaged, and inspired. Throughout the year, we will be sharing initiatives to highlight events, member achievements, and Society activities. As our profession faces both new challenges and exciting transformations — from healthcare access to technological innovation — Rho Chi members stand ready to lead with integrity, knowledge, and purpose. Let's embrace this opportunity to support one another and elevate pharmacy practice together. We look forward to celebrating your accomplishments and sharing your stories.

Jelena Lewis, Rho Chi National Secretary

Communications Committee 2024-2025

Chair:

Jelena Lewis (Secretary, Chapman University)

Executive Council Members and Staff:

Amanda Stahnke (University of Missouri-Kansas City)

Julie Seeger (Rho Chi National Office, Michigan)

Riley Bowers (Region III-E Councilor, Campbell University)

Bradley Hein (Region IV-E Councilor, University of Cincinnati)

Angela Stewart (Region VII Councilor, Washington State University)

Faculty Members:

Michelle Bottenberg (Drake)

Cathy Worrall (Medical University of South Carolina)

Brittany Long (Ohio Northern University)

Student Members:

Haley King (Medical University of South Carolina)

Mae Sarah Trinh (Long Island University)

Maria Roye-Azar (Wayne State University)

Rebecca Bovee (Ferris State University)



[Rho Chi Executive Team](#)



*Beta Alpha Chapter, University of South Carolina
Rho Chi X PLS Reception at APhA*

Congratulations to
Sara Wettergreen for
being awarded the
2025 Rho Chi Faculty
Advisor Award! This
recognition highlights
her dedication and
exceptional service as a faculty advisor,
making a significant impact on students
and the academic community.
Congrats, Sara!



Congratulations to the 2025 Rho Chi Spring Project Proposal Winners!

Alpha Chi Chapter, Wayne State University

"From Advocacy to Action: Empowering the Future of
Pharmacy."

Alpha Eta Chapter, Rutgers University

"Empowering Pharmacists to Better Care for Patients
Experiencing Trauma: Domestic Violence and Sexual
Assault Awareness"



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Upcoming Deadlines

[Annual Chapter Reports](#)

June 15, 2025

[Clinical Research Scholarship](#)

December 15, 2025

[Lecture Award Nominations](#)

January 15, 2026

[Alumni Honor Roll Nominations](#)

January 15, 2026

[Spring Project Proposals](#)

January 15, 2026

[Faculty Advisor Award](#)

February 1, 2026

2025 Chapter Award Winners

Congratulations to the **Alpha Eta** Chapter from Rutgers University on receiving the 2025 Chapter Achievement Award!

Congratulations to the **Alpha Alpha** Chapter from Creighton University on receiving the 2025 Most Improved Chapter Award!

Each Chapter was honored with a certificate and a \$500 award.

CONGRATS, Alpha Eta and Alpha Alpha!

2025 A. Wayne Pittman Award Recipient

Bradley A. Boucher

This award recognizes individuals who have provided significant and sustained contributions to the Society and those who have profoundly advanced the vision and mission of the Society.



Upcoming Events

Save the Date for The Rho Chi Virtual Recognition Event! The event will be held via Zoom on **Thursday, September 18, 2025**. Additional details will be shared soon.

The Rho Chi Society will be hosting a virtual Town Hall via Zoom on **Wednesday, October 22, 2025**. We will have panels focused on: Residency Training, Fellowships in Pharma, and Pharmacy Research Fellowships. Additional details will be shared soon.

2025 Rho Chi Society Critical Inquiry and Intellectual Leadership Interview

[Listen as Rho Chi National Secretary, Jelena Lewis, PharmD, BCACP, sits down with the esteemed Betty H. Dennis to explore the essence of intellectual leadership.](#) Discover what makes an intellectual leader and learn how students can enhance their own leadership skills.



Shop the [Rho Chi Merchandise Store](#) for cozy hoodies, trendy tees, honor cords, and so much more!

Save the Date!
Rho Chi Annual
National Convention
March 21, 2026

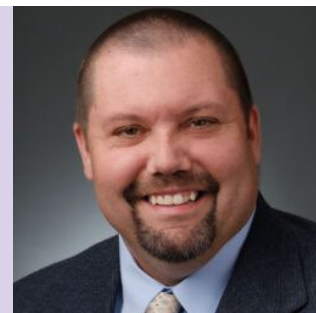




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President's Corner

Andrew J. Smith
University of Missouri-Kansas City
President, Rho Chi Society



Thinking Like a Poker Player: How Rho Chi Members Can Sharpen Critical Thinking and Lead with Confidence

In *Thinking in Bets*, author and former professional poker player Annie Duke challenges us to rethink how we approach decisions, uncertainty, and leadership. Her central premise—that good decisions are not always defined by good outcomes—aligns powerfully with Rho Chi's commitment to critical inquiry and intellectual leadership.

As pharmacy leaders, we are often asked to make decisions with incomplete information. Whether interpreting clinical data, developing a treatment plan, or leading an organizational initiative, uncertainty is inevitable. Duke encourages us to replace rigid certainty with *probabilistic thinking*—a mindset that values nuance, evaluates likelihoods, and stays open to revising beliefs when new evidence emerges. This is exactly the kind of intellectual agility that defines Rho Chi's vision of leadership.

A powerful example from Duke's poker career illustrates this well. Imagine you're holding a strong hand—say, a pair of aces—and based on your opponents' betting patterns and probabilities, you decide to go all-in. Statistically, you're a heavy favorite to win. But then the final card (the "river") gives your opponent an unlikely straight, and you lose. The *outcome* was bad, but the *decision*—based on all available information—was excellent. This separation between decision quality and result is crucial for pharmacy professionals who must often act amid clinical uncertainty.

Duke also introduces a simple but powerful way to challenge your own thinking: **"You wanna bet?"** This question forces us to examine how confident we are in our assumptions. In the Rho Chi spirit of intellectual leadership, this approach encourages thoughtful reflection, humility, and openness to feedback.

Equally important is Duke's concept of a **"truth-seeking pod"**—a small, trusted group of peers who help you analyze decisions, spot blind spots, and refine your reasoning. For Rho Chi members, this mirrors the collaborative energy of our chapters, where dialogue, peer learning, and mentoring are key. These pods promote intellectual humility, accountability, and continuous improvement—hallmarks of leadership in pharmacy and beyond.

By adopting the principles in *Thinking in Bets*, Rho Chi members can enhance their ability to lead with clarity, curiosity, and confidence amid uncertainty. It's not about knowing all the answers—it's about making thoughtful bets, learning from the outcomes, and continuously refining our thinking. That's the kind of leadership our profession needs.

Reference:

Duke, A. (2018). *Thinking in bets: Making smarter decisions when you don't have all the facts*. Portfolio/Penguin.