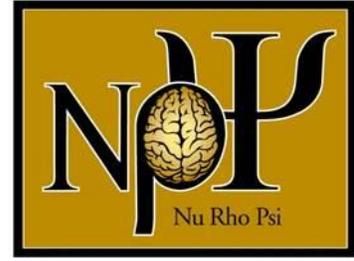


***Nu Rho Psi*, The National Honor Society in Neuroscience**



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Abstract:

Nu Rho Psi, The National Honor Society in Neuroscience, is a non-profit, grass-roots organization comprised of neuroscientists, like you. With more than 56 chapters across the United States and over 2600 members, *Nu Rho Psi* is a dynamic organization that aims to support the professional growth of its members. Most of our members are invited to join *Nu Rho Psi* during their undergraduate training, but qualified graduate students, faculty, and alumni are also welcome to join. Membership in *Nu Rho Psi* is granted exclusively through chartered *Nu Rho Psi* chapters at Colleges and Universities.

Nu Rho Psi has become a vibrant contributor to the neuroscience community through: (1) encouragement of professional interest and excellence in neuroscience, (2) recognition of outstanding scholarship, (3) advancement of the discipline of neuroscience, (4) encouragement of intellectual and social interaction between students, faculty, and professionals, (5) promotion of career development in neuroscience and related fields, (6) increased public awareness of neuroscience and its benefits for society, and (7) encouragement of service to the community.

Nu Rho Psi goes beyond providing recognition of excellence in neuroscience scholarship and research. We offer our members a variety of grants and awards including competitive research grants to facilitate senior theses or other scholarly projects. Our chapters may apply for *Nu Rho Psi* Chapter Activity grants to promote their educational and community outreach initiatives. Members may also apply for travel grants to present their research at the annual Society for Neuroscience convention. *Nu Rho Psi* members participate in a variety of professional development opportunities such as national networking videoconferences and access online resources (e.g., “How-to Guide for Graduate school in Neuroscience”).

Schools wishing to foster a chapter of *Nu Rho Psi* may contact the National Office located at Baldwin Wallace University (nurhopsi@bw.edu) and apply for a charter. For more information, see our web page (<http://www.nurhopsi.org/>) or attend our informational session at the Faculty for Undergraduate Neuroscience (FUN) booth during the 2015 Society for Neuroscience annual meeting.

History – Timeline in the development of *Nu Rho Psi*

1991- Faculty for Undergraduate Neuroscience (FUN) is created and early discussions about an honor society begin.

Mid 1990s – Dr. Joe Achor accumulates model documents (Constitution and By-Laws) from other honor societies and formulated a basic structure for *Nu Rho Psi*.

1990 – 2000 – As the field of Neuroscience expands nationally, several universities (e.g., Johns Hopkins University, Emory University, Baylor University) start local neuroscience honor societies – some named *Nu Rho Psi*.



1995 – 2000 – FUN leadership (Eric Wiertelak) and Joe Achor coordinate ideas for a national neuroscience honor society with representatives from several local neuroscience honor societies.

2001 – Dr. Jack Boitano of Fairfield University and Past President of FUN begins the process of establishing a national honor society in neuroscience by adapting the constitution of *Psi Chi* with wording to fit neuroscience.

2005 – Dr. G. Andrew Mickley volunteers to lead a working group of FUN members to organize *Nu Rho Psi*, the National Honor Society in Neuroscience.

2006 - *Nu Rho Psi*, Constitution and By-Laws are approved by the FUN membership and National Council. The FUN Council acts as the temporary *Nu Rho Psi* governing board. Dr. Mickley is elected Executive Director of *Nu Rho Psi* and he establishes a FUN working group to assist in the management of the new honor society.

2006 – The first *Nu Rho Psi* charter is awarded to Baldwin Wallace College (now Baldwin Wallace University). Chapters at Baylor University and Macalester College are established soon thereafter.

2011 – *Nu Rho Psi* is incorporated (in Ohio) and is granted Tax Exempt status by the IRS. *Nu Rho Psi* elects its own governing National Council and becomes an organization separate from FUN.

2013 –The *Nu Rho Psi* Endowment Fund is established. Lake Forest College is recognized as our first “Chapter of the Year”.

2014 – The Dali Lama becomes one of our Honorary Members of *Nu Rho Psi*. We offer our first “Research Grants” and “Chapter Activity Grants”.

2015 - The honor society grows to 56 chapters and over 2600 members.

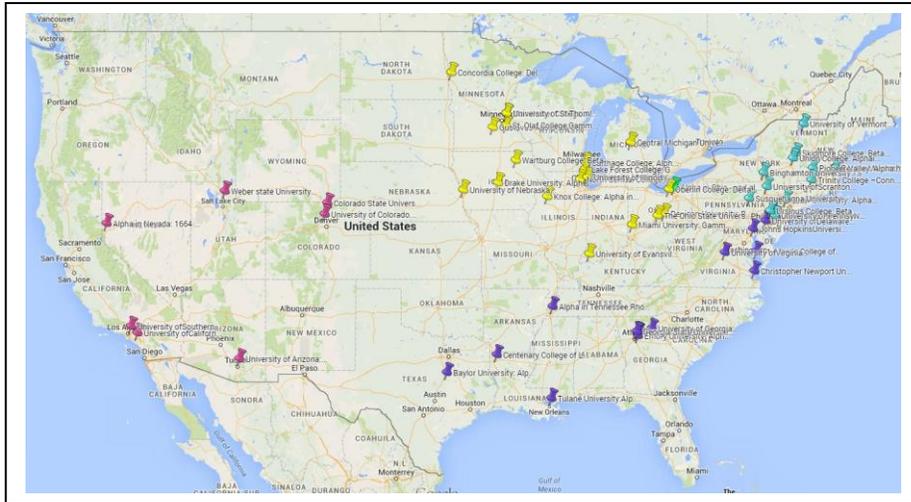
Current status of Nu Rho Psi (56 chapters in all 4 regions of the U.S.):

Agnes Scott College
Atlanta University Center Consortium
(Morehouse College, Spelman College, Clark Atlanta University, and Morehouse School of Medicine)
Baldwin Wallace University
Baylor University
Binghamton University
Boston University
Carthage College
Centenary College of Louisiana
Central Michigan University
Christopher Newport University
Colorado State University
Concordia College
Denison University
Dominican University
Drake University
Drew University
Emory University
Georgia State University
Gustavus Adolphus College
Johns Hopkins University
Knox College
Lake Forest College
Macalester College
Miami University
North Central College
Northeastern University
Oberlin College
The Ohio State University

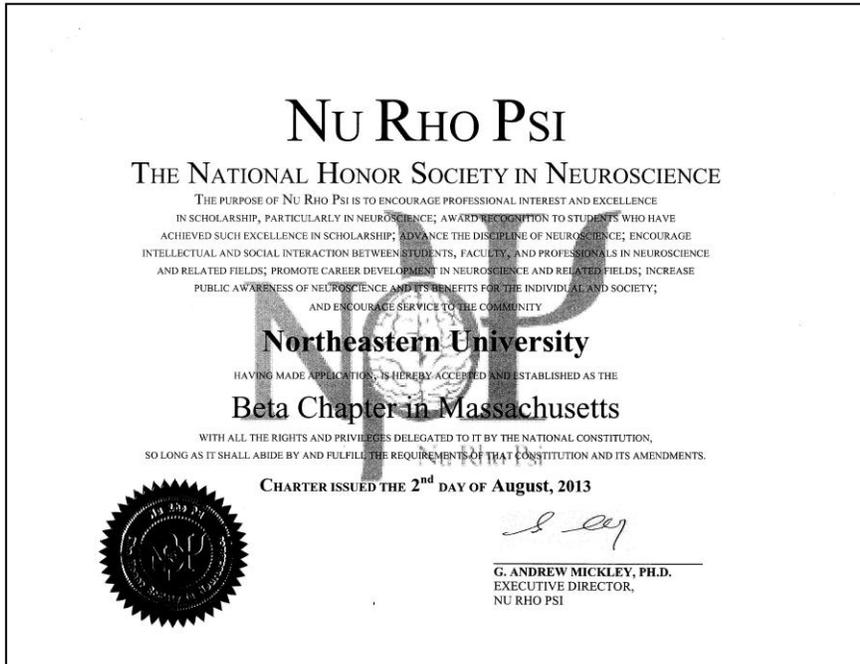
Pioneer Valley (Smith College; University of Massachusetts, Amherst)
Rhodes College
Skidmore College
St. Mary's College of Maryland
St. Olaf College
Susquehanna University
Temple University
Trinity College - Connecticut
Tulane University
Union College
University of Arizona
University of California - Irvine
University of Colorado, Boulder
University of Delaware
University of Evansville
University of Georgia
University of Illinois, Chicago
University of Nebraska, Omaha
University of Nevada, Reno
University of Pennsylvania
University of Scranton
University of Southern California
University of St. Thomas
University of Virginia
University of Vermont
Ursinus College
Weber State University
Wartburg College



Location of Nu Rho Psi Chapters: See a link to our Google Map:
<http://www.nurhopsi.org/drupal/chapters>



***Nu Rho Psi* continues to grow and has been chartering 9-10 new chapters/year:**



Nu Rho Psi has chapters located at both large and small schools:



Recent Nu Rho Psi induction class from Northeastern University



New Nu Rho Psi members from Atlanta University Center Consortium (Morehouse College, Spelman College, Clark Atlanta University, and Morehouse School of Medicine).

The *Nu Rho Psi* 2015-2016 Theme is “**Traumatic Brain Injury**” – the focus of our community outreach, fundraising and educational experiences this year.



Nu Rho Psi sponsors Travel Awards (administered by the Faculty for Undergraduate Neuroscience) allow our members to attend the annual Society for Neuroscience meeting and present their research here:

Recent *Nu Rho Psi* travel-grant awardees:

2014 (Washington DC)

Lucas Huffman (Central Michigan University)

Veronica Burnham (Oberlin College)

Sara Cottrell-Comber (University of Virginia)

2015 (Chicago)

Nathaniel Bohm-Levine (Oberlin College)

Ernesto Hernandez (University of Arizona)

Daniel Lowes (Oberlin College)

Thomas Voight (Skidmore College)

Weelic Chong (Oberlin College)

The University of Virginia Wins the 2014 “Chapter of the Year” Award



(Left to Right) Dr. Graham Cousens (President of Nu Rho Psi) presents the Chapter of the Year Award to University of Virginia student Ashley O’Keffe, Dr. Alev Erisir (Chapter Advisor), and student (and Nu Rho Psi travel award winner) Sarah Cottrell-Comber.

Recent *Nu Rho Psi* Undergraduate Research Grant awardees:

Academic Year, 2014-15

Weelic Chong, Oberlin College (Sponsor: Dr. Gunnar Kwakye). Project title: Examination of the neuromodulatory role of human alpha3synuclein in cadmium transport dynamics and homeostasis in an established cell model of Parkinson’s disease.

Molly Larson, Concordia College (Sponsor: Dr. Krys Strand). Project title: Correlation between C3 protein levels and autoimmunity-associated behavior in female *MRL/lpr* mice.

Summer, 2015

Kristen Brown and Christine Boutros, Northeastern University (Sponsor: Dr. Gregory Miller). Project title: The interaction between the consumption of alcohol and marijuana constituents in C57BL/6J mice.

Alexandra Roman, Lake Forest College (Sponsor: Dr. Shubhik K. DebBurman). Project title: Evaluating α -Synuclein sumoylation in yeast models of Parkinson's Disease.

Recent *Nu Rho Psi* Chapter Activity Grants: 2014-15

- **Northeastern University** [β in MA; faculty advisor: Dr. Jade Zee] to purchase equipment and supplies in support of their “neuroscience of addiction” community outreach program for Boston’s inner-city youth, who are at a higher than average risk of developing a substance use disorder.
- **Oberlin College** [δ in OH; faculty advisor: Dr. Jan Thornton] to support an undergraduate course titled: “The and Neurobiology of Addiction” and the *Nu Rho Psi* students in that course who will collectively design and produce a workshop that will teach students at the Langston Middle School about brain development and drugs of abuse.
- **St. Mary’s College of Maryland** [β in MD; faculty advisor: Dr. Aileen Bailey] to produce videos that will be used in a peer-to-peer mentoring program designed to teach high school students as well as teen offenders from the local “Teen Drug Court” about drug-induced brain changes and how those brain changes set up adolescents for drug craving, addiction and relapse.



Nu Rho Psi members at Northeastern University presenting information about the Neuroscience of Addiction – the 2014-2015 Theme.

Communication: The *Nu Rho Psi* website is a rich resource to find a wide variety of information, e.g., How to apply for a new chapter, where to find our publications, lists of National Council officers, Regional Vice Presidents, etc.

See: <http://www.nurhopsi.org/drupal/>

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Nu Rho Psi website. At the top, there is a search bar and a shopping cart link. The main header features the Nu Rho Psi logo and the text 'The National Honor Society in Neuroscience'. A navigation menu on the left lists various site sections like Home, Chapters, Facebook Page, etc. The main content area has a title 'Nu Rho Psi, The National Honor Society in Neuroscience' and a subtitle 'Nu Rho Psi is the National Honor Society in Neuroscience, founded in 2006 by the Faculty for Undergraduate Neuroscience.' Below this, there are several links and a list of membership requirements.

Nu Rho Psi, The National Honor Society in Neuroscience
 Nu Rho Psi is the National Honor Society in Neuroscience, founded in 2006 by the Faculty for Undergraduate Neuroscience.

Visit our "Publications" Page and read the NEW [Guide to Graduate School in Neuroscience](#)

Welcome to our newest Nu Rho Psi chapter at [Northeastern University, Boston, MA!](#)

[Listing and map of current Nu Rho Psi chapters. Click here.](#)

Visit our Facebook Page! [Click here.](#)

Follow us on Twitter: [Click here.](#)

Check out, [ERIN](#), the database of educational resources in neuroscience.

The purpose of Nu Rho Psi is to:

- encourage professional interest and excellence in scholarship, particularly in neuroscience;
- award recognition to students who have achieved such excellence in scholarship;
- advance the discipline of neuroscience; encourage intellectual and social interaction between students, faculty, and professionals in neuroscience and related fields;
- promote career development in neuroscience and related fields;
- increase public awareness of neuroscience and its benefits for the individual and society; and
- encourage service to the community.

Who may join?

Membership is by invitation and is open to graduate and undergraduate men and women who are making the study of Neuroscience one of their major interests and who meet the other academic qualifications. Nu Rho Psi is also open to qualifying Neuroscience faculty and alumni of Neuroscience programs.

Requirements for membership include:

- Major or minor in Neuroscience
- Completion of at least 3 semesters of the College course
- Completion of at least 9 semester hours of Neuroscience-related courses

The Future of NRP:

Nu Rho Psi Endowment Fund: Following a generous contribution by NeuroScience Associates, the National Council established an endowment fund that, as our investments grow, we expect will support additional neuroscience research done by our members.



Want to learn more about *Nu Rho Psi*?

Contact *Nu Rho Psi* Executive Director, Dr. G. Andrew Mickley (amickley@bw.edu) at the National Office located at Baldwin Wallace University (nurhopsi@bw.edu).

Attend our information session at the Faculty for Undergraduate Neuroscience booth during the Society for Neuroscience conference on Monday, 19 October from 2:00-3:00pm.

Nu Rho Psi members are encouraged to attend the *Nu Rho Psi* members meeting from 11:00am-12:00noon on Sunday morning, 18 October 2015.

Location: The Buckingham Athletic Club Hotel; One Financial Place, 440 S LaSalle St., Chicago, IL 60605
<http://www.bac-chicago.com/>

The *Nu Rho Psi* National Council business meeting takes place at the same venue from 8:00-11:00am.

The Buckingham Athletic Club Hotel is 3 miles away from the convention center (McCormick Place) and is near several stops for public transport. Alternatively, it's a 10 min cab ride or a ride on a SfN shuttle bus and about an 8-block walk to the venue.