



Sigma Xi Succeeds

Chapter Name: Rice University-Texas Medical Center

Program Name: Rice University Texas Medical Center Institutional Review Board

Please Provide a Brief Description of the Program:

Many Sigma Xi members no longer are connected with a university. For these scientists, attaining a commercial IRB can be very costly and time consuming. Last July and August we went through the process and established our own IRB. We now offer IRBs to our members for \$400 and non-members \$600

Target Audience:

Chapter Members
General Audience
Non-Members

What is the frequency of the event?

As often as IRB applications are submitted

What are the goals of the program?

To encourage independent investigation and to offer a service to our members that has true value. The fees collected support our scholarship fund.

How do you publicize for the program?

Email to members,
Through Sigma Xi Communities
Our website

What advice would you provide to other chapters if they are interested in implementing this program? In other words, what worked for your chapter and what didn't?

Our chapter's IRB compliance administrator, Ms. Alexandra Roark, built the program, developed a standard operations procedures, and designed all of the government required forms. She and we would be happy to assist any chapter interested in establishing an Institution Review Board

How is the program funded?

There are no costs associated

Do you feel you have achieved those goals? How do you assess that? Surveys, feedback, attendance rate...etc.

We measure success by increased membership, IRB applications submitted, and increased scholarship funds

Other Comments

Ms. Roark and I would be happy to present this at this year's conference.

Chapter Name: Rice University-Texas Medical Center

Program Name: Annual Holiday Party and Science Celebration

Please Provide a Brief Description of the Program:

We invited poster submissions from several university undergraduate and graduate programs. We invited the 15 submitters and their faculty mentors to attend a poster competition that was held in conjunction with our annual holiday party. Cash scholarship awards were given to the top three winners.

Target Audience:

Chapter Members
University professors

What is the frequency of the event?

Annually

What are the goals of the program?

Our goal is to provide an opportunity for graduate and undergraduate students to present their research which could be added to their CV and to encourage professors to consider joining our Sigma Xi chapter.

How do you publicize for the program? Please check all that apply

Email to members
Email contact with university professors

What advice would you provide to other chapters if they are interested in implementing this program? In other words, what worked for your chapter and what didn't?

Other chapters should consider hosting poster presentations as a way to promote young science and meet young professors that can contribute greatly to your chapter

How is the program funded?

Local support from Sigma Xi
Chapter funds

Do you feel you have achieved those goals? How do you assess that? Surveys, feedback, attendance rate...etc.

We added 15 associate members and four professor members of which one joined our board

Other Comments

Prior, our holiday parties averaged 10 to 20 members (mostly board members) and this year we had almost 70 people attend