



Fall 2014 Wrap-Up

FALL 2014 SAW MUCH GSO SUCCESS

New officer elections took place in April of 2014 and the new administration hit the ground running. After surveying members about future GSO event options and ideas, the administration worked throughout the summer to plan service activities, brown bag speakers, fundraising opportunities, and the annual back-to-school BBQ (which was a huge success). Additionally, the Criminal Justice Department’s new student handbook was expanded and updated for incoming graduate students.

Many successful brown bags were held and a “Stats Refresher” workshop was hosted by Dr. Leanna Bouffard for all incoming graduate students. Afternoon Brown Bags included presentations by Dr. King, Dr. Boisvert, Dr. Randa, Dr. Armstrong, Dr. Tasca, Karen Eads, and Michaelanne Teeters. The majority of these events were planned based on membership suggestions, which included graduate school success and conference travel tips. Thank you to all faculty and advisors that participated!

Beginning with the summer BBQ, social events (all wonderfully decorated by Meghan Mitchell) included a Halloween party at the local bowling alley, a cultural Thanksgiving potluck, resurrection of the “Dungeon Squad” intramural team thanks to Kellie VanDyke (the only graduate student intramural team), and a faculty/student holiday party.

Donations or hats/gloves for children were collected at the holiday party, resulting in over \$200 worth of winter warmth collected. Cash donations purchased **50 sets** of adorable hats/gloves for children at Hosea Elementary School in St. Joseph, MO, a school with a high population of less fortunate families. The principal of Hosea was ecstatic and reported that the wind chill was -1° this week. The officers are currently planning more service events for the Spring semester and hope to leave a lasting mark in the community.

CJ GSO FUNDRAISES UP A STORM

The new administration entered their term with approximately \$200 in the CJ GSO bank account, making our first priority fundraising. This began during the summer when Masters VP, Kiersten, networked with TDCJ to set up bake sales during training days. The combination of selling all items for \$1 and setting up a process for taking credit cards made these sales hugely successful. A complete breakdown of money raised can be seen to right of this article. Lastly, officers donated gift baskets for the back-to-school BBQ which were raffled off, with all proceeds going directly the GSO bank account. Students and faculty participated in the raffle with highlights including new professor Dr. Hayes winning our “Beer Pong Kit!”

The most recent bake sale began a conference scholarship fund for Masters students. The overall goal of this fund is to provide \$500 travel scholarships to students who have earned the chance to present at multiple conferences during the academic year, but do not have the finances for such an opportunity. This process will continue in the fall, hopefully having a fund available for multiple students in the 2015-2016 school year.

The officers would to give a special **THANK YOU** to all the graduate students who donated their time and awesome baking skills to these bake sales! We really couldn’t have done it without you!

FALL ‘14 HIGHLIGHTS

- Officers participated in a day-long leadership workshop
- Officers volunteered heavily for Graduate Studies, including new student orientation and Casino Night
- Formation of committees that are actively contributing and planning for Spring events



FALL ‘14 FINANCIALS

July 14th Bake Sale.....	\$171
July 23rd Bake Sale.....	\$134
BBQ Raffle.....	\$156
Oct. 20th Bake Sale.....	\$223
Nov. 14th Bake Sale.....	\$172
Dec. 10th Bake Sale.....	\$185
TOTAL RAISED.....	\$1041

SPRING ‘15 HIGHLIGHTS

- Spring intramurals!
- First Brown Bag: “How to Work with Faculty” by Dr. Wells
- Stata workshop with Dr. Orrick and Dr. Nobles
- HUGE V-Day bake sale
- Prospective service events with SAAFE House and “Walk a Mile in Her Shoes”