Spring 2015 Wrap-Up

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL SEMESTER FOR CJ GSO

During the Spring semester, CJ GSO continued our success from the Fall semester. Once again, a series of great brown bags were hosted on a variety of topics including How to Work with Faculty (Dr. Wells), How to Publish in Peer-Reviewed Journals (Dr. Oliver), and Tenure-Track Positions (Dr. Orrick and Dr. Pyrooz). We were also fortunate enough to host multiple statistics workshops for graduate students, thanks to Dr. Orrick and Dr. Nobles. We were excited to welcome graduate students and professors from other departments to the latter events.

Our Master’s VP, Kiersten, planned our biggest bake sale yet. Many graduate students donated Valentine’s themed treats to sell in the CJ building lobby and over $700 was raised! This money was put toward the first CJ GSO scholarship fund to help students attend and present at ACJS. After a competitive application process $200 scholarships were awarded to Layne Dittman, Nicole Niebuhr, Alicia Jurrek, and Jessica Wells.

Lastly, the newly elected CJ GSO officers (Meghan Mitchell, Eric Cooke, and Matthias Woekener) hosted an end-of-the-year karaoke party! Thanks to all of the fundraising done during the year, we were able to give gift certificates as prizes. A special thank you goes to Dr. Randa for serving as a Celebrity Guest Judge for this event.

FOCUSING ON SERVICE

During the Spring semester, CJ GSO members hosted and participated in two service events, with great success. On April 1st, our organization helped kick off the campus wide Sexual Assault Awareness month with Walk-A-Mile in Her Shoes. Lead by Master’s student Eric Cooke, 190 students across campus participated with a large number of male students wearing high heels and making a one-mile walk around campus. As the men walked, they were quickly joined by many students around campus who wanted to be a part of this great cause. Dr. Travis Franklin even made the walk in some very stylish heels. The event hosted multiple speakers including Dr. Courtney Franklin and the SHSU counseling center. Doctoral student Patrick Brady gave an impactful speech on bystander intervention.

The CJ GSO also hosted a faculty/student bowling night to collect diapers for the Bambi Unit in Houston, a prison unit housing mothers with their newborn children. We collected over 1,700 diapers for this cause that were donated by Dr. Muftic’s Social Policy class during their visit to the unit in April.

The ‘14-’15 executive board wishes the best of luck to the incoming officers. Thank you to everyone who helped make this year a success, we truly couldn’t have done it without the professors and students who supported us.