

# Graduate Student Association

**General Body Meeting – Monday, October 20, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.  
McCool 236**

- Rescheduled Meeting
  - Due to inclement weather last week, our meeting was rescheduled to today.
  
- Speaker
  - Dr. Ryan Akers from the MSU Community Emergency Response Team spoke about emergency preparedness. He told his own stories from the past, gave tips for emergency preparedness, and discussed how well Mississippi State University is prepared for emergencies. The CERT Team is also accepting new members, including graduate students, who are able to participate in responses to emergency situations, such as weather events.
  
- Announcements
  - Introduction of present Ambassadors.
  - Thank you to the Ambassadors and volunteers who assisted with the MSU CERT Preparathon on Saturday.
  - Our next GSA meeting will be held on Monday, November 10, 2014
  - We will be volunteering at Palmer Home for Children on Saturday, November 15. Time TBA. If you are interested in helping, please sign up. If enough people go, we will provide transportation.
  - The Three Minute Thesis competition is coming up. See the Graduate School website for more information.
  - For Academic Integrity Week, the Graduate School is holding an Ethical Conduct of Research discussion event.
  - “Like” the Graduate Student Association on Facebook, and “Follow” our Twitter page for more updates.
  
- Door prizes
  - Given out to students whose sign-in sheet numbers were randomly selected.
  
- Questions and Graduate Student Concerns
  - We are setting aside a few minutes at the end of each meeting to address concerns brought up by Graduate Students.

## Executive Board Meeting – October 7, 2014

- Last General Body Meeting
  - Food for the right number of people
  - Include a concerns and questions section at the end
  - Have an officer meeting immediately afterwards to process
  
- Events
  - Habitat for Humanity – 5 open slots for this Friday, so we will send out an email to last meeting's attendees asking for interested volunteers
  - Palmer Home – Donna requested that we come on November 15 to the Columbus campus to decorate and clean up before their open house. We do not know the time and will try to take a van with volunteers. We will probably not go to the December 4 open house.
  - CERT Fair – October 18 we will fill the 11:00-12:30 volunteer slot.
  - Integrity Week – Mrs. Margaret requested that we come to an Ethical Research Panel sometime the week of October 27-31.
  
- Ambassadors – If they do their part, we will recognize them at the banquet.
  
- Rope Course – T.J. mentioned a team-building exercise at the ropes course at Camp Seminole. It would involve the E-Board and the officers at a cost of about \$30 per person. We would prefer to go this semester, and a tentative date is the day of the Vanderbilt game.
  
- T-Shirts and Polo's – We need to order soon.
  - Volunteer shirts – Order in all sizes 65 total.
  - Design contest – We will have GSA students participate in a contest to design this year's t-shirt. The winner will receive a \$50 gift card, and the deadline will be the Monday after the meeting.
  - Polo's – T.J. will get everyone's sizes. Ambassadors will have shirts too as an incentive for participating.
  - Give-aways – We can order a few extra shirts to give to speakers if appropriate and at certain events.
  
- General Body Meeting – Monday, October 13 at 5:00 p.m.
  - Food – We will order for the number of people that came to the last meeting. We will go ahead and buy enough chips and drinks for this meeting and the next. That means 4 boxes of chips, more drinks, and a few pallets of water. We will get cookies and more plates as well. Amy will pick them up on Thursday. We are ordering pizza from Papa John's and will get 6 pepperoni, 5 sausage, and 4 veggie with no meat. Amy will place the order on Thursday, and we will pick them up before the meeting.
  - Speaker – Dr. Akers from the CERT team is coming.

- Announcements – we will do these first and check with Dr. Bruce and Mrs. Margaret about any.
  - Sign-up sheets – Palmer Home, CERT fair, and Integrity Week. We will require at least two ambassadors per event.
  
- Symposium – We will start planning at the next meeting.
  
- Give-aways – We have mugs and will give them away to those who can answer random quiz questions about the speaker. We can check for other door prizes as well.
  
- Halloween Carnival – The deadline is October 16 to submit our theme. It is Thursday the 30<sup>th</sup> and we will need to be in place by 4:30 p.m. This is an event that we want the Ambassadors to help work.
  - Candy – We want to get the good kind of candy that is separately wrapped.
  - Felt-board – We will put together a Halloween-themed felt-board with a pin-the-tail-on-the-donkey style game.
  - Toss Game – we will have soft stress balls and trick-or-treat buckets and jack-o-lanterns set up. The kids can throw the balls into the buckets to win candy.