EGSA Meeting 23 October 2012 Minutes:

CRITTER CARE

* New incentive to help with critter care volunteering!
  + Each time you do a week of critter care, your name will be entered into a drawing for a $25 gift card to a location of your choice
  + Will happen once per semester
  + Dung beetles are new; don’t worry about them, Erica Smyers will take care of them

SOCIAL EVENTS

* November 16th, 6:00pm @Gabe and Sheena’s House **Thanksgiving Potluck**
* December 1st, 6:00 pm also @ Gabe and Sheena’s House (thanks guys!) **Beer Tasting Party**
  + Everyone bring a six-pack or large bottle (two people can also team up to buy a six-pack or large bottle to share)

EGSA-sponsored travel award

* Our profits from the insect fair this year, and years past were excellent and we want to spend some of the money we have earned in giving back to grad students
* Travel award will be geared towards conferences and workshops that are not otherwise funded by the few awards available on campus
* We are still discussing the following issues:
  + How often it will be awarded
  + How many people will get it – one big award or smaller ones spread over several applicants?
  + Eligibility requirements: will include participation in things such as EGSA, outreach, GIF – but we still need to discuss how exactly this will be quantified/qualified
* Need to establish some crosstalk with the awards committee on how to make this happen

TEACHING

* The student-developed track courses are approved and if you are interested in designing and teaching a half-semester track course for Entomology (will be paired with other track courses in the semester such as 313) please let Gabe know
* Teaching Retreat
  + Date still has not been set
  + Issues to discuss:
    - The several collections that everyone is required to do for various classes and for graduation: ways to streamline this process and eliminate redundancy
    - More communication between faculty who teach core courses in order to eliminate redundant material