UPDATE
The EFRT has had an incredibly busy start to the Winter Term, with a heavy emphasis having been placed on responder training and skill development. Our 11 rookies successfully completed their Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) certification course, the 9 sophomores became certified in International Trauma Life Support (ITLS), and the entire team has been busy practicing for their Mid Year Evaluations.

SERVICE USAGE
Call volumes have been similar to previous years in recent months, with the exception of November being on the lower end. The majority of calls remain in the areas of Musculoskeletal Injuries, Soft-Tissue Injuries, and Alcohol/Drug Related calls, although there appears to be a notable decrease in the number of Alcohol/Drug Related calls on typically busy shifts. First aid courses in the new year have been in high demand, and there remain opportunities to expand with additional instructors and courses.

PAST EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES
January has been a busy month for responder training, with the rookie responders having completed their EMR certifications and the sophomore responders having completed their ITLS certifications within a short few weeks. Training quotas for responders had
been reduced during exam time for our volunteers to focus on academics, and training has since escalated throughout the month of January in preparation for Mid Year Evaluations. These evaluations are a series of scenarios facilitated by the executives where responders must succeed in order to be eligible for on-call shifts. This is to ensure that all responders are able to maintain our standard of care in challenging situations, as well as to challenge responders to improve their own personal skills. Responders who are unsuccessful are each paired with an executive to receive focused training and prepare to re-do their evaluations before actively responding to calls.

UPCOMING EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES
Following Mid Year Evaluations this weekend, the executive team will be primarily focused on supporting responders in need of further practice, as well as addressing any training discrepancies with the team as a whole at our upcoming February Training. The National Conference for Campus Emergency Responders (NCCER) is quickly approaching with only three full weeks remaining until the start of the conference. A second promotional video has been released and the NCCER Planning Committee will be starting to release speaker bios leading up to the conference. With one week left until the registration deadline, we currently have 80 responders registered from other campus response teams, along with our 35 responders and 20 alumni coming to help for the weekend. A detailed report on the challenges and successes of NCCER will be provided after the conference. Coming up at the end of February is the National Collegiate Emergency Medical Services Foundation (NCEMSF) conference in Baltimore, which will be an excellent conference showcasing incredible speakers and interactive workshops for the 14 responders who have registered to attend. Early hiring of the 2017/2018 EFRT Program Director has provided the opportunity for an extended transition period, and the coming months will include a number of formal and informal transition opportunities to ease the new PTM into their role for the new year. Lastly, the executive team would like to place an emphasis on volunteer recognition as we start to approach the end of the year, especially following the challenges of Mid Year Evaluations and hosting NCCER.

BUDGET
The EFRT budget is being maintained in a similar manner to previous years’ spending, and is on pace to meet the budgeted increase in first aid course revenues. Monthly revenue in December was quite low due to exams, but demand for courses has risen quite drastically since the start of the Winter Term. A report of our summer expenses was submitted to the university for approval, and we will be receiving our summer funding once a few loose ends are taken care of. Upcoming spending is primarily related to the NCCER conference, and a full breakdown of these expenses will be provided following the conference.
VOLUNTEERS

The EFRT volunteers have been quite busy this month preparing for their Mid Year Evaluations, and individual responder skills have improved quite clearly over the course of the month. Responders have been quite receptive to the support that they have received from the executives in preparing for their Mid Year Evaluations, and are quite happy with the overall atmosphere surrounding the team. As always, our volunteers can never be thanked enough for their efforts both on and off call!

CURRENT CHALLENGES

With the recent closure of MACycle, bike maintenance has become more of a challenge for the EFRT. While we have wanted to switch to a maintenance system at Pierik’s Cycle for quite some time now, it is logistically much more difficult to seek maintenance off-campus. Bike replacement has been delayed due difficulties maintaining communication with representatives from Pierik’s Cycle, and we are hoping to address this issue by meeting with representatives in person. Lastly, Mid Year Evaluations have been a difficult time for the entire team, through the hours responders spend practicing on their own and with the executives.

SUCCESSES

All of our rookie and sophomore responders were successful in obtaining their EMR and ITLS certifications, respectively. The executives have been working tirelessly to ensure that Mid Year Evaluations lead to the development of better overall responders, and although it has been challenging at times to accomplish this, it is reassuring to see our efforts paying off through improved responder performance.