WEB/SCHED Platforms 2014

Tad Spencer

Hi, my name is Tad Spencer, I am a sophomore and I'm studying computer science. I have been in MERT since second semester of last year, and I am an 803. I am also currently enrolled in the EMT class and hope to become an 802 in the spring.

I am currently the Coding Projects Coordinator and have worked with Abhishek, the current Webmaster/Scheduler, to update the website and start developing a mobile app. I am interested in becoming Webmaster/Scheduler because I want to have more involvement in MERT and help to make the organization ever better. Out of all of the E-Board positions, I think I could make the biggest impact as Webmaster/Scheduler because of my background and experience with computers and web design. When I was in high school, I helped set up and maintain the website for my school's newspaper. I'm also currently taking web programming, which is CSC 210. HTML, CSS, PHP, and Javascript are several of the languages we are learning. Here are my goals and ideas for the coming term:

- 1. Develop a mobile app for scheduling, making it easier to sign up for last minute shifts.
- 2. Make a mobile version of the website to allow it to be viewed better on mobile web browsers.
- 3. Digitize forms including new member applications and 802 applications to allow applications to be submitted online.
- 4. Minor website tweaks, including embedding new video on front page.
- 5. Add to text dispatch system so 801s and 802s know if there is already a crew on so they know whether or not they need to take the call.
- 6. Create a new award for each 803, 802, and 801 that takes the most shifts each month.
- 7. Work with QA/QI to organize and compile statistics to display on the website. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Porter Ladley

Hey everyone. My name is Porter Ladley and I am running to be your Webmaster/Scheduler for the coming year. I am a sophomore and have been an active member of the organization since the fall of my freshman year. I am currently a crew chief trainee, a CPR instructor, and I work very closely with our Webmaster/Scheduler as the Standby Coordinator to help organize our day shifts and standby shifts.

Working as the Standby Coordinator has given the chance to work very closely with Eboard over the past year. I have been able to work under three different Webmasters, and this experience has allowed me to formulate a lot of ideas concerning the use of our website and how we fill shifts. Our new website has really opened up our capabilities online immensely. In addition to the improvements Abhishek has made, I would hope to work on computerizing many of our different training presentations, including NMOP and in-services, so that they could be accessed at any time. I would also hope to create a more centralized system for viewing a schedule of PR events, so that members could get a clearer idea of when and where these events are occurring.

Along with working on the website, scheduling is a very important part of the position. Working as a scheduler is a deceivingly difficult job, something I have had the pleasure of noticing over the past year. On the scheduling side of things, I would look to create an easier way to monitor the status of a given shift, whether its via email or text alert, so that members don't need to be constantly checking the website to see if their shift has been filled. A big issue we have been running into recently is the inability to fill day shifts and, in some cases, night shifts. The canceling of a night shift is a pretty scary prospect, and if elected Webmaster I would certainly make this issue a priority. I would hope to be stricter with regards to shift requirements for all members. I would like to more closely monitor the number of shifts taken by all of our members, 801s, 802s, and 803s, to make sure all requirements are being met accordingly. In the same breath, I would like to see our SOPs with regards to taking day shifts and standbys change, so that they are required every month instead of just an extra shift one might pick up.

Finally, the text dispatch system developed this year has allowed our 801s and 802s greater coverage of day calls than ever before. These calls are becoming more and more a part of our routine and I believe getting 803s involved with these calls would be an excellent way to provide more experience for our members. Creating a sort of "on-call" system during the day for those 803s who are interested in responding to day calls would be one idea for trying to expand the number of members involved in the day call system.

The many different experiences I have had with MERT over the past year, whether as an 802 or the standby scheduler, have allowed me to see both the good side and the bad side of many different things we do. This experience has inspired me to work that much harder to make MERT the best organization that it can be. Thank you very much for listening!