Introducing the 2014—2015 GPSA Executive Board

By Malori Monroe Clarke

President: Sharon Young

Sharon Young has been re-elected as GPSA's President. Sharon began her studies at UNLV in 2007 as an MA student in the Anthropology Department, and she is currently working on a PhD in Biomedical Anthropology. Her research focuses on material reproduction and health, investigating the growing practice of human maternal placentophagy in evolutionary and cross-cultural context. Previously, Sharon served as the Anthropology department's GPSA representative and on the GPSA Sponsorship committee before joining the E-Board. Congratulations Sharon, and thank you for serving as the GPSA President!

Vice President: Michael Alires

Michael Alires is the new E-Board Vice President. He is currently a 2L at the Boyd School of Law, and he formerly attended Lincoln Christian University, where he obtained his Bachelors degree in General Ministry and his Masters degree in Organizational Leadership. This summer, he will be working with the Legal Department at The Cosmopolitan, focusing on contracts and employment issues. After graduation, he intends to pursue business litigation and transactional law. Outside of GPSA, he serves as Vice President of the Student Bar Association and is a member of the UNLV Gaming Law Journal. As VP of GPSA, Michael hopes to work towards creating more collaborative opportunities for all departments. Congratulations Michael, and welcome to the E-Board!

The GPSA would like to extend its appreciation to the 2013—2014 Council and Executive Board for your dedication and service to the UNLV graduate and professional student body!

Congratulation 2014 Graduates!

May 17th is Spring Commencement at the Thomas & Mack Center. The two ceremonies are at 9:00am and 2:00pm. Check the Commencement website for more information http://www.unlv.edu/commencement
A New Tradition: Graduate Scholars & Scientists Reception

by Surbhi Sharma

GPSA created history March 28th, 2014, by formally inaugurating the Graduate College and GPSA Research reception that showcased the graduate research and scholarship.

The reception was held the evening before the annual GPSA Research Forum in the Student Union Ballroom. The event was hosted by the Graduate College and the GPSA. It was attended by community legislators, NSHE regents, UNLV administrators, faculty, staff and students. At the beginning of the event, guests were able to observe all of the posters presented under the following platform sessions: Science and Engineering, Health Sciences, Social Science, Hotel, Law, Education and Fine Arts.

After a marvelous opening by graduate students from the Ryan Harrison and Caleb Pickering, graduate students with the Department of Music, playing the marimbas, the five selected graduate students presented their research in a TED style format. Anthropology PhD student Michael Moncrieff presented his work on social coordination and the bystander effect. Erica Marti, a PhD student with the Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering, talk featured NDMA formation, a hazardous ozone disinfection byproduct. Carrie Sampson, a PhD student in the School of Environmental and Public Affairs, presented her work on expanding educational equity and opportunity in the Mountain West Region. Where PhD Student Juan Duhart in the School of Life Sciences’ talk featured how cells migrate, Lindsay Cunningham, a Master’s student in the Department of Music concluded the event. Her talk focused on the tradition and innovation coverage on Opera and Musical theatre. The research reception provided an excellent opportunity for the graduate scholars, and hence, the university to showcase and share the wide variety of research happening campus-wide with the Las Vegas community.

It was a beautiful evening at UNLV showcasing the graduate student research across the campus. We will continue to celebrate the event’s success, making it a standing UNLV tradition.
The Graduate & Professional Student Association and Graduate College jointly host the Graduate & Professional Student Research Forum each spring, which showcases excellence in research conducted at the graduate and professional student level. The event provides an opportunity for graduate and professional students to share their research. With over 250 students, faculty and staff, this year’s forum was held Saturday, March 29th.

For students new to presenting research, this proves an excellent opportunity to practice in a professional setting. $150,000 in funding was awarded for student research and conference travel by the GPSA during the 2013-2014 academic year. Funding recipients are required to give a poster or oral presentation at the annual forum.

For those who were unable to attend the forum and are interested in the research that was presented, a book of abstracts is available in the Graduate Student Commons, LLB 2141, and on the GPSA website: http://www.unlv.edu/gpsa/sponsorship-awards.

The GPSA extends tremendous gratitude to the supportive faculty who served as judges and provided important feedback to presenters.

We would also like to extend our congratulations to all the award-winners! A list of students recognized for outstanding presentations is available on the GPSA website: http://www.unlv.edu/gpsa/sponsorship-awards.

Mark your calendars—Next year’s Research Forum is scheduled for March 29, 2014!
Presenting at the Research Forum 2014: 
from the Perspective of a Fine Arts Graduate Student

by Shelbi Schroeder

This year the College of Fine Arts had strong representation at the Research Forum. Fine Arts students were given the option to present their works of art instead of the presentation or poster. GPSA President, Sharon Young and I modified the current judging rubric to be more relevant for art. We worked together to build a rubric that correlated with the way artists work. This was a challenge, as all artists work in different ways. We wanted to create a rubric general enough to account for different fine art concentrations but specific enough to create a standardized measure. It was exciting to see that Sharon recognized the different strategies in art and research that differ based on your outlook. As an artist, I cannot specifically give answers; I view my practice as more of a continuum of questioning and examination with the possibility that I will never have a conclusion. To be given the opportunity to share our works at the forum was a vital part in our research. Its always challenging for an artist to describe a feeling, you really just have to experience it for yourself. It was interesting to allow the faculty judges to experience the rather than having it explained to them from the perspective of the artist.

From all of us at the Fine Arts College, I want to thank GPSA for taking the initiative to change and enhance the Research Forum!

Message from the Graduate College Concerning Student Health Insurance

Dear graduate and professional students,

Domestic graduate and professional students who are admitted into a graduate or professional program, and who are enrolling in at least 9 credits, are required to have health insurance either through UNLV or through their own carrier. All graduate assistants are also required to have health insurance.

Students will be automatically billed for the health insurance but will have an opportunity to request a waiver before classes begin in August. Students who were granted a waiver in the Spring semester will have to request a new waiver for the Fall semester. Students can begin requesting a waiver on April 28, 2014.

Please watch for updates regarding the student health insurance and the waiver process during the next few weeks. Questions regarding the waiver or health insurance should be directed to insurance-waiver.grads@unlv.edu. General information about the insurance can be found at Student Health Insurance Information: http://graduatecollege.unlv.edu/current/insurance-waiver.html

This information was retrieved from: http://graduatecollege.unlv.edu/current/insurance-waiver.html
UNR is announcing the premiere of the Nevada State Undergraduate Research Journal (NSURJ). It is open to all undergraduates in all fields of research and hopes to promote civic engagement amongst students. This research journal is driven toward undergraduate researchers in NSHE to showcase the brilliance of students, the integrity of programs, and the quality of a Nevada education. Undergraduates who are interested in submitting a research paper for publication, should visit: http://nsurj.com/

Submissions must be based on research conducted as an undergraduate, and can be submitted up to one year after the completion of an undergraduate degree. All published articles will appear online and selected authors will be featured on the website. Students from all disciplines are encouraged to apply.

This journal provides a unique opportunity for graduate students. First, this allows graduate students to celebrate the accomplishments of the students they mentor. In addition, graduate students can volunteer their time in helping authors prepare and revise their papers for publication are needed. In addition, graduate students who are interested in offering expertise to review submissions should contact Alex Sunderland at asunderland@asun.unr.edu or Kristina Pomerleau at kmpomerleau@asun.unr.edu to become an NSURJ referee. Referees will be asked to review blind copies of a student’s paper and must provide comments, suggestions, and an overall assessment on whether the paper is of academic rigor and should be published.

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School of Dental Medicine Opens a Clinic on the UNLV campus for Students, Staff and Faculty and Now Offers Orthodontic Screenings

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Become a Victim Advocate!

The Jean Nidetch Women's Center is recruiting students to become certified CARE Advocates. CARE Advocates go through a 35-hour training program ranging in topics from relationship violence, consent, sexual assault, crisis intervention, effective communication, and safety planning.

CARE Advocates are trained to provide advocacy for victims, survivors, and secondary victims of sexual assault, domestic/dating violence, and stalking. CARE Advocates are also required to provide educational presentations and help facilitate conversations on a variety of topics to the UNLV Campus.

With becoming a CARE Advocate you not only learn life changing resources and invaluable skills in helping other people, but you're also given internship and job opportunities at the Women's Center.

**The next training dates are:**

**July 7- July 31, 2014; Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 4:00pm-7:00pm**

Training dates are scheduled twice a year. Spring 2015 will be when the next training is scheduled.

An application can be found on our website at [http://www.unlv.edu/srwc/groups/care](http://www.unlv.edu/srwc/groups/care)

Applications are due May 23, 2014

This information was retrieved from: [http://www.unlv.edu/srwc/womens-services/advocacy-resources](http://www.unlv.edu/srwc/womens-services/advocacy-resources)

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**Graduate & Professional Students—Don’t miss out on a great resource**

The Graduate Student Commons continues to be open during the summer months. The Commons is a study facility that was designed specifically for UNLV graduate and professional students. The Commons is located on the 2nd floor of the Lied Library and is maintained by the GPSA. It is equipped with a copier, fax, flatbed scanners, color laser printer and office supplies, 41 desktop computers, wireless access, 5 large LCD touch screen panels, whiteboards, small kitchen area and more. A small conference room is also available for meetings and study groups on a reservation basis, 702-895-2261. The facility recently added 3 MACs and 2 multi scanner feeders.

This past fall semester through the generosity of UNLV Libraries, the Graduate Student Commons has acquired a Epsom Plotter for printing posters (maximum 48" in width). Cost is $11 p/linear foot.

**Graduate Student Common Summer Hours:**

Monday—Thursday 7:30am—9:00pm
Friday 7:30am - 7:00pm
Saturday 10:00am—6:00pm
Sunday 12:00pm—9:00pm

Please note: The Lied Library is closed during the summer intersessions.

Please check the GPSA website for those dates: [http://www.unlv.edu/gpsa/lab](http://www.unlv.edu/gpsa/lab)
The UNLV Graduate College:
Be a Grad Rebel!
by Graduate College Dean Kate Korgan

The Graduate College plays an important role in recruiting top students, supporting research, and cultivating a national reputation for UNLV. In 1964, Nevada Southern officially established graduate education with the Division of Graduate Studies. Our first graduate students graduated in 1967, and we have been growing ever since.

Today, the UNLV Graduate College has more than 128 graduate programs of study, including graduate certificate, master’s degree, doctoral, professional, and dual graduate degree programs, and an active and thriving community of scholars engaged in graduate education and training. UNLV has approximately 5,000 graduate and professional students, and we have graduated more than 28,000 graduate students since 1967. Offering the largest number of high quality and impactful graduate programs in Nevada, UNLV’s Graduate College is a critical resource for the region and the state, and our graduate students and alumni are active in every sector of the economy throughout Nevada, and beyond.

Graduate school provides a life changing educational and career experience by providing in-depth and extensive training in highly specialized fields of study. Our greatest challenge is to find financial support to recruit the best and brightest students, and financial opportunities --- like graduate assistantships, scholarships, and fellowships --- to help our admitted graduate students advance in their scholarly and research endeavors. Please contact the Dean of the Graduate College, Dr. Kate Korgan, or the UNLV Foundation, if you would like more information about how you can help support our outstanding graduate students and the impactful work that they are doing under the advisement of our stellar UNLV graduate faculty.

The Graduate College is located on the 3rd floor in the Flora Duncan Building

SUPPORT A GRAD REBEL:
Fund a UNLV Graduate Student,
Make an Impact on the World

Graduate Assistantships, Scholarships, and Fellowships support our graduate students to success, and make possible their innovative and impactful research. For more information about how you can support graduate education at UNLV, please contact the UNLV Foundation, or the Graduate College Dean, Dr. Kate Hausbeck Korgan, at 702.895.0446. Your donation will change a life and make a difference in the world. Won't you join us and BE A GRAD REBEL?
Today  Open seats exist for GPSA’s Summer Council. Representatives are needed for the College of Allied Health, Hotel, School of Law, Liberal Arts and the School of Nursing.

Tomorrow  Spread the word that representatives are needed for summer.

April 30  GPSA Fall 2014 Book scholarship deadline: http://www.unlv.edu/gpsa/sponsorship-awards

May 5  GPSA Council Meeting in the Student Union room 208B/C, 2:00-3:30pm

May 5—8  Bagels & Coffee in the Graduate Student Commons (LLB 2141), from 7:30 until refreshments are exhausted

May 12  If graduating this May this is the last day for electronic submission of final thesis/dissertation (with formatting pre-approved by the Graduate College) to ProQuest.

May 17  Semester Ends / UNLV Commencement

May 19  Summer Session I instruction begins

June 2  GPSA Council Meeting, 10-11:30am, Graduate Student Commons, LLB 2141

June 9  Summer Session II instruction begins

July 7  GPSA Council Meeting, 10-11:30am, Graduate Student Commons, LLB 2141

July 14  Summer Session III instruction begins

August 4  GPSA Council Meeting, 10-11:30am, Graduate Student Commons, LLB 2141

Noteworthy UNLV Dates

- Information and dates of UNLV student activities can be found at: http://activities.unlv.edu/
- Attend UNLV athletic events for free: http://www.unlvtickets.com/students/

GPSA Summer Council

The GPSA meets during the summer months with a smaller Council. One representatives is selected from each College. The Council continues GPSA business, planning the goals for the upcoming academic years, has guest speakers and plans the events and activities for the year. Agendas and minutes are posted on the GPSA website: http://www.unlv.edu/gpsa/council. The meetings are open and all are invited to attend:

GPSA Summer 2014 Council Meetings
Graduate Student Commons, LLB 2141
10:00—11:30am

Monday, June 2, 2014
Monday, July 7, 2014
Monday, August 4, 2014

This final newsletter of the 2013—2014 academic year is brought to you by the Publications Committee:

- Meghan Pierce, Chair
- Shelbi Shroeder
- Mallori Monroe Clarke
- Surbhi Sharma