### ROLL CALL

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<th>College of Engineering (cont.)</th>
<th>School of Nursing</th>
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<td>Electrical &amp; Computer Eng.</td>
<td>Nursing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vacant</td>
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<td>Amanda Gentry</td>
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<td>Economics</td>
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<td>Javier Hernando</td>
<td>Amanda Kidman</td>
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<td>Stephanie Resnick</td>
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<td>Jeffrey Wan</td>
<td>Lenna Shulga</td>
<td>Cheryl Anderson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Educational &amp; Clinical Studies</td>
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<td>President</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dominique Tetzlaff</td>
<td></td>
<td>Surbhi Sharma</td>
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<tr>
<td>Educational Psychology &amp; Higher Education</td>
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<td>Vice President</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rebecca Gates</td>
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<td>Meghan Pierce</td>
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<td>Teaching &amp; Learning</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daniel Murphy</td>
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<td>Ariel Rosen</td>
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<td>Computer Science</td>
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<td>President</td>
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<td>Patrick Daleiden</td>
<td></td>
<td>Surbhi Sharma</td>
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<tr>
<td>Civil &amp; Environmental Eng.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Vice President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kishor Shrestha</td>
<td></td>
<td>Meghan Pierce</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Others present: Associate Vice President for Student Wellness Dr. Jamie Davidson, Vice President of Government Relations, Diversity Initiatives and Compliance Luis Varella, Graduate College Dean and GPSA Faculty Advisor Kate Korgan, GPSA Faculty Advisor Peter Gray and GPSA Manager Rebecca Boulton.

The meeting was called to order by President Sharma at 2:02 pm.

Those schools/departments needing to leave early: History will leave at 3:00 pm.
1. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Maegan Poland, PhD student, Department of English, spoke. She is writing a creative dissertation. Most graduate students are required to write a theses/dissertation as part of the degree requirement and submit their final work to ProQuest. She continued that it is up to each individual university to decide limitations of embargo. UNLV only allows 3 years of embargo. For students submitting creative scholarly work Ms. Poland feels is definitely not enough time to get their work safeguarded. She added that to further her career, she won’t have an opportunity if ProQuest publishes her work first. It is not advantageous for everyone to have their dissertation/thesis published on Proquest. Ms. Poland stated that she feels having your work go public before you are ready can be detrimental to you. She said she and 2 of her colleagues were present at today’s Council meeting to state their concerns. She said they are advocating for a permanent embargo option. She will share information with a document to be included in today’s minutes. History asked if there is a way to get a longer embargo, not just 3 years, what are the concrete steps forward? MP: You can work with the company, but it is iffy. We can only work with the options within the university’s set parameters. We need to communicate with faculty who will communicate with administrators. Ms. Poland provided her email: poland.unlv.nevada.edu and added that they’ve created a Facebook group as well. She concluded saying that to feel free to email her with any questions or concerns or if you want to stay updated. Law School asked Ms. Poland, “What is the university’s reasoning? MP: I can only speculate, I do not have access to that information. The language of Authenticate and TurnItIn has the have intellectual rights to your property. Assistant Graduate College Dean Kendall stated that the rationale for not having a permanent embargo is that public institutions and the knowledge you are generating should be shared or publicly available. A permanent embargo is another step. He added that he was aware that Dean Korgan is committed to looking at the issue more closely. For Authenticate, we now have licenses for everyone. TurnItIn has a database, but Authenticate does not, you are not submitting your work in the same way. Law: Please keep us informed, I am happy to introduce a resolution from GPSA, just keep us informed in the future.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Request is made for approval of the December 7, 2015 Council Meeting minutes. President Sharma asked for a motion to approve minutes. Motion to approve was made from Anthropology and second from Geoscience. With no discussion the minutes were approved unanimously. Motion carried.

3. SPEAKER(S)

- Dr. Jamie Davidson, Associate Vice President for Student Wellness (Ms. Lorraine Brown, Assistant Business Manager, Student Wellness Center did not attend due to illness) – Dr. Davidson informed the Council that 40 years ago our health insurance was an all voluntary plan and that there was also an unusually high loss ratio. For every dollar the insured collected they were paying out free. As a strategy to keep costs lower, the university started moving to a mandatory plan with the support of the GPSA, we implemented that with the graduate and professional student body and consequently the rates went down and our loss ratios are far better. Dr. Davidson continued that his office goes out on a regular basis to get the best price possible for students. He stated that students can waive out of the mandatory plan if you have an existing plan, and if not you have a plan that is at a very low rate. The university’s insurer, Aetna, has given a special deal, if you use the Student Health Center, you are reimbursed 100 percent. It provides convenient health care and is a great resource. The requirement is for full time students with varying credits. The waiver process is online with immediate feedback. If a student is denied the waiver, an appeal process is in place with a committee established that has a GPSA rep sitting on it. By combining all students into one pool you get the best possible rates for everyone. Dr. Davidson stated that currently there are 2400 students on the plan. The goal for a plan is a 70-80 percent utilization ratio. Which would provide better long term pricing stability, and avoid adverse risk, and allows access to more insurance carriers? Treasurer Thomas: What asked what would happen if CSUN approves the mandatory for undergrads? Dr. Jamie Davidson: It’s likely that the fees will go down. By history, other universities typically you can see 10-20 percent reduction in fees. The ideal for everyone is that we are on that mandatory plan with a waiver out. Public Health: How would that affect the Health Center? Wouldn’t there be a lot more students utilizing that resource? Long wait times? Dr. Jamie Davidson: He stated it is a concern. There is a potential, but expected it would go up slightly but not by a huge amount. He stated that in the long run he feels it would help students with finances. It can go on students’ financial aid if it is a mandatory plan. Sociology: What is the credit quota for undergraduates to maintain to opt into this? Dr. Jamie Davidson: That would be debatable, probably 15 or 12, we would look to CSUN to make a recommendation, although the university would push for 15. We would work with them to set levels. Sociology: Adverse effect with students taking less credits to get out of health insurance? Dr. Jamie Davidson: We certainly hope not, possible, but I think very few. They can put it in their financial aid. Everyone should have insurance. Sociology: If I’m a student on a budget, I would drop to 9 credits to avoid an additional fee. A lot of undergrads think they do not get sick. Dr. Jamie Davidson: It is federal law that you are supposed to have health insurance that is under the ACA and there are more reprimands for not doing so. We
have proposed with CSUN to get a fund to apply for. Ed Psych: With expanding the pools, is there a possibility of expanding services? Dental and health center? Dr. Jamie Davidson: Yes, it is possible and we would like to work towards that. We are under talks trying to get some of that done. We are also trying to work with the School of Medicine; it is something we are advocating.

- Vice President of Government Relations, Diversity Initiatives and Compliance Luis Valera – went over the basics of the State Legislature. (This Legislative Popcorn Session is available on the GPSA website). The NV legislature is currently not in session. Late summer, early fall of this year when legislative drafts are submitted. Students used to be proactively involved. Because the budget cutting cycles are over, Mr. Valera continued, higher education (UNLV) needs a more challenging argument about expansion. The argument higher education receives is that K-12 funding, and additional services for seniors need funding. These are examples from the budget cut battles higher ed has had to weigh against in the past. The push for more funding needs to be made with tangible facts concerning the budget and the impact the funding brings for economic diversity. UNLV’s Medical School was half funded last cycle, as well additional funds were received for the Hotel College and Law School. Mr. Valera said that Graduate Assistantships are a huge issue, and it’s an issue that needs emphasizing. Educational Psychology and Higher Education asked if there is traction coming from the Lincy Institute about having separate governing boards. Luis Valera says he does not know that statewide change is coming. Treasurer Thomas: asked what we can be doing now with students to start preparing for next year. Luis Valera replied to figure using your zip code find out who are your representatives and specifically target those individuals by contacting them. Register to vote if you haven’t already. Geoscience asked if there is another passionate way to get thoughts across instead of travelling to Carson City show support. Mr. Valera replied that there are not budget cuts set for the near future, but that we should consider conveying the message of economic impact because it gets a large response out of legislators. You need to ask what does my college or field contribute to the economy. Hospitality asked if it is reasonable to ask for funding for research from the legislature? Mr. Valera replied that this is an issue that is already being considered, seeing that research is the main component of Tier One. Treasurer Thomas: Once you find out who your legislators are, how do we approach them? Mr. Valera: Advised the Council to visit the State Legislative website, you can find out who your legislator is and their contact information. He stressed that it is critical to make sure you are a registered voter.

- Graduate College Dean Korgan: Stated that funding in critical in the Tier One efforts. (PPT slides included in minutes), UNLV’s goal is 1.2 million by 2025, with 75 patents per year, 200 doctoral graduates, etc. In doctoral productivity, she continued, UNLV is in middle of the road relative to other aspirational peers. GA stipends, every academic program has a CIP code, which is used for tracking and reporting. Doctoral students now get a minimum stipend, but now based on department. It is a market-based differential stipend by discipline. The increases go into effect this Spring, so doctoral students will get half of the difference, seen on the first paycheck on March 1st. Other goals include raising the Master’s stipend past poverty level wages, summer research support, and additional GA positions. Grad Rebel Gateway basic (graduate student portal) functionality is up and live. Chemistry: How are the aspirational peers selected? Dean Korgan replied that the selection process is based on a couple things, i.e. must be in the same category, only public institutions, based in the Southwest, etc. We have a longer list of 12 that we use, and the list evolves. It is all data-driven. Mechanical Engineering: What about quality, when we increase students, will quality go down? As far as standard of requirements for admission? Dean Korgan replied that Top Tier won’t be achieved with more bodies and less quality. At the graduate level, admission requirements by each department are vetted. She continued stating that a rigorous set of checks and balances are in place. Political Science: With regards to quality, students apply elsewhere, and some students get better funding packages and we lose them. How can we be more competitive? Dean Korgan noted that doctoral stipend increases are significant in recruiting quality students as well as other factors, i.e. departments only offer funding for a year, and one of the things in the Gateway is linking admissions and financial offerings together. Departments are being encouraged to offer students’ longer funding, multi-year packages is encouraged.

4. **BUDGET REPORT**

   **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

   Treasurer Thomas: Noted that a hard copy of the budget report was available at the sign-in table. She reported that the December & January student wages are listed at $10,000. $4800 of that expenditure was for the Fall 2015 GPSA Council stipends and the remaining amount, $5200, is for the student staff in the Graduate Student Commons. Operating expenses for the 2 months (listed in the monthly expenditure column): Routine postage and telephone costs. $238.00 for the NY Times newspaper, new printer purchased for the Grad Commons and $80 for the GPSA Council photo. Hosting expenses for the 2 months is $763.13: end-of- the semester bagels & coffee offered in the Graduate Student Commons as well as the replenishment of snacks sold in the facility. Revenue from student fees brought in for Dec. & Jan was $122,438.00, $579.68 was brought in for the sell of snacks in the Commons. This brings the revenue total for the fiscal year to $255,573.69. The balance forward is $138,748.52 with a balance of $116,437.21. President Sharma asked for a
motion. Motion to approve the budget was made from Educational and Clinical Studies and second from Educational Psychology and Higher Education. With no discussion the budget was approved unanimously.

5. GPSA / CAMPUS-WIDE COMMITTEE REPORT

- Board of Regents / Nevada Student Alliance: Next meeting March 3 and 5 at Nevada State College. NSA last meeting was in January and nothing pertaining to GPSA was discussed.
- GPSA Activities / Community Service: Saturday 2/27 we want to do the color run to support three squares. Come and participate for a good cause! It is $39.99, and the idea is to get sponsorships. We will have fliers by the end of the weekend, and it is really fun! This is the only fun run that did not conflict with the GPSA events. If anyone wants to go, tell me through email and we can put the account under your name which would be the GPSA. Also, the GPSA Domestic Violence spring event is 4/15 4-8 pm at the Stan Fulton lounge, fliers will be handed out at the next meeting. We will have speakers, a donation box, it is free, and there is a cash bar and appetizers. Talks are 30 minutes or less. It is a fun event.
- GPSA Awards: Awards committee met on 1/6 and recipients have been notified and will be receiving awards during research forum in March. Names are posted on GPSA website.
- GPSA Bylaws: Met 1/26, reviewed bylaws and we will discuss amendments under new business.
- GPSA Elections: Chair of the Election Committee Laura Gryder announced E-Board elections are coming up for the positions of: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, deadline 4/1. All election materials accessed from GPSA website under News and Events. Candidates will speak 4/1 council meeting. Ballots counted by Elections Committee afterwards, we now have electronic voting in addition to physical copies.
- GPSA Government Relations: Met 1/20 to discuss possible meeting in Carson City, particulars are still not in place, we have a tentative itinerary but it all hinges on getting the date through the governor’s office. Also working to get a GPSA Day at the legislative session in 2017.
- GPSA Publications: Articles in process.
- GPSA Research Forum: Research forum dates for abstracts is 2/5, this Friday. 3/12 from 8 am to 2 pm. We will need volunteers to help run the forum. If you are on the committee please sign up for a time period to help out. There is a great free lunch and breakfast! Anyone can help out, contact Megan.
- GPSA Sponsorship – spring 2016 Award $59,575.56; 112 applications submitted – 110 awarded; a submitted Sponsorship modification application was approved: Emergency cycle apps for January reviewed after this meeting.
- Search Committee for Executive Vice President and Provost: Last meeting was 12/18, prepared report on the four candidates and submitted it to President Jessup.
- Top Tier: Doctoral stipend increases went into effect this spring.

6. OLD BUSINESS - none

7. NEW BUSINESS

- GPSA Bylaw revisions:
  - Article V, Section V (page 10 of the Bylaws): c) Mandatory Research Sponsorship Progress report – required that recipients of research awards submit online progress report each semester until funds are depleted. - information item
  - Article VI, Section V (page 15 of the Bylaws): e) add agenda posted on GPSA website (http://www.unlv.edu/gpsa/agendas) - information item
  - Article VIII Section V (page 18 of the Bylaws): Change UCCSN System to NSHE – information item
  - Article II, Section V (page 14 of the Bylaws) – Revision in GPSA Representative Stipend payment- action item
    - UNLV’s Human Resources is implementing a new “WorkDay” system which now requires that student government representatives be receive their stipend monthly instead of at the end of our semester. Language has been amended to incorporate that change.
  - Article VI, Section IV and VI (page 15 of the Bylaws) – Revision in GPSA Executive Board Stipend payment- action item
  - Motion to approve Article II and VI, motion to approve from Educational and Clinical Studies, Second from Art. No discussion, no abstentions, the motion carries. Law: What happens if they don’t do it for Article V, Section V? Manager Boulton: If individuals don’t follow the process, it can affect their opportunities for future GPSA funding. President Sharma: We will incorporate that language in the bylaws.

- GPSA Stipends – $5300 – action item
  - Motion to approve from Sociology, second from Economics, no discussion, no abstentions, and motion carries.
• NSA Resolution HR 3403: To approval of a resolution to encourage members of Congress to oppose passage of House Resolution 3403. Congressman Matt Salmon introduced H.R. 3403 on July 29, 2015 to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to protect victims of sexual violence. The proposed resolution opposes H.R. 3403 on the grounds that it would prevent campuses from investigating allegations of sexual assault if the alleged victim does not agree to have the allegations investigated by the local law enforcement agency.
  • Discussed at December council meeting, NSA wants to vote against this resolution.
  • Motion from Educational Psychology and Higher Ed, second from social work, no discussion, no abstentions, and motion carries to oppose NSA Resolution HR 3403.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

8a. INFORMATION ONLY
• GPSA E-Board Elections, April 4th – 9th Declaration of Candidacy application deadline: April 1, 2016.
• Graduate & Professional Student Research Forum will be held on March 12, 2016. Online registration deadline is February 5, 2016
• A Celebration of Graduate & Professional Student Research: Inspiration, Innovation, Impact – Friday, March 11th held in the Student Union from 4:00 – 6:00 pm.
• GPSA Spring 2016 Workshops – register online @ http://www.unlv.edu/gpsa/development
  o Friday’s workshop is offering the many ways for students to incorporate Google Tools in their academic pursuits.
• UNLV Dining announces the launch of the app “Tapigo” (download today!) – order ahead with this app for the campus locations of: Starbucks, Subway (Student Union), The Coffee Bean, Taco Bell and Tea Leaf.
  o Kaiyang Wu, Economics representative and the Dining Committee’s GPSA representative, shared with he Council that the Tapigo App now enables student to preorder their food/drinks and the app will let you know when your order is ready for pick up! You can use credit card or Rebel cash. Mr. Wu also informed the Council that the PODs are now serving food which offers dietary restrictions.
• GPSA Spring 2015 Workshops – register online @ http://www.unlv.edu/gpsa/development
• GPSA Summer Sponsorship deadline March 15, 2015 – funding for research and conference, externship, etc. travel
• GPSA Emergency Sponsorship applications for funding research and conference travel are due the 20th of each month. Applications must be submitted prior to travel. More information available on the GPSA website.

8b. INFORMATION ONLY
• Treasurer Thomas reported that there is a workshop offering information about the presidential caucus. It will be held from 3:45-5:45ph in Philip Cohen Theater, with featured speaker from the Progressive Leadership of Alliance of NV.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT - none

10. ADJOURNMENT

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION
President Sharma asked for a motion to adjourn the February 1, 2016 Council Meeting. Motion to adjourn was made from Sociology and second from Foreign Languages. With no discussion the motion to adjourn was approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.
GRADUATE STUDENT HEALTH INSURANCE

Dr., Jamie Davidson, Associate VP, Student Wellness
Lorraine Brown, Associate Director Insurance and Business Operations

srwc.unlv.edu    702-895-3370
History of the Mandatory Insurance Requirement

- Concern for the rate at which premiums were increasing and the need to keep premiums affordable for students

- Wells-Fargo advised UNLV of the movement of carriers away from voluntary plans
History of the Mandatory Insurance Requirement

- Rate proposals presented to UNLV which included a HWM option.
- GPSA opted in 2013 to move forward with a resolution to require graduate students to have insurance as a condition of enrollment.
- The Board of Regents supported this resolution at their June 2013 meeting.
- Implementation of the policy started July 2013.
History of the Mandatory Insurance Requirement

- Requirement for mandatory insurance fee
  - Full-time, degree seeking graduate student taking 9 credits
  - Full-time law student taking 12 credits
  - Graduate Assistants taking 6 credits

- Waiver process
  - On-line submission with immediate results
  - Must have insurance coverage by the start of the term
  - Appeal process for denials
  - Waivers granted during the academic year only good for that year, must renew each year

srwc.unlv.edu       702-895-3370
Advantages of a HWM policy

- Larger pool creates better stability in claims experience by spreading risk.
Advantages of a HWM policy

- Larger pool creates better stability in claims experience by spreading risk

Comparison of loss between two subgroups covered by UNLV Student Health Insurance

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>NSC Enrollment (Voluntary)</th>
<th>Medical Loss Ratio</th>
<th>SDM Enrollment (HWM)</th>
<th>Medical Loss Ratio</th>
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<td>2010/11</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>314%</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>91%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011/12</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>152%</td>
<td>252</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012/13</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>148%</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>75%</td>
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Taken from 11/21/13 presentation by Wells Fargo to UNLV SHI Advisory Committee
Advantages of a HWM policy

- Larger pool creates better stability in claims experience by spreading risk.
- Provides better long-term price stability
Advantages of a HWM policy

- Larger pool creates better stability in claims experience by spreading risk.
- Avoids adverse risk
Advantages of a HWM policy

- Larger pool creates better stability in claims experience by spreading risk.
- Provides better long-term price stability
- Avoids adverse risk
- Allows access to more insurance carrier options
Experience Report - Trendline By Month

University of Nevada, Las Vegas - Graduates (Net Premium) - Hard Waiver

Premium vs Losses

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<th>Premium</th>
<th>Loss</th>
<th>Loss Ratio</th>
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<td>2013-14</td>
<td>$1,592,906</td>
<td>$1,230,338</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>$1,610,567</td>
<td>$1,434,355</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>$815,943</td>
<td>$155,439</td>
<td>19%</td>
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Experience Report - Trendline By Month

University of Nevada, Las Vegas - Graduates (Net Premium) - Voluntary

Premium vs Losses

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Policy Year</th>
<th>Premium</th>
<th>Loss</th>
<th>Loss Ratio</th>
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<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>$106,656</td>
<td>$198,550</td>
<td>186%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>$93,425</td>
<td>$269,432</td>
<td>288%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>$33,572</td>
<td>$11,626</td>
<td>35%</td>
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Data as of 10/31/2015
*This report reflects Net Premium
Experience Report - Trendline By Month

University of Nevada, Las Vegas - Graduates

Premium vs Losses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy Year</th>
<th>Premium</th>
<th>Loss</th>
<th>Loss Ratio</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011-12</td>
<td>$913,868</td>
<td>$1,279,975</td>
<td>140%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td>$980,336</td>
<td>$1,441,046</td>
<td>147%</td>
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<td>2013-14</td>
<td>$1,699,563</td>
<td>$1,428,888</td>
<td>84%</td>
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<td>2014-15</td>
<td>$1,703,993</td>
<td>$1,703,787</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>$849,515</td>
<td>$167,066</td>
<td>20%</td>
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Data as of 10/31/2015
*This report reflects Net Premium.
Expectations for 2016/17

- Proposals will be received on 2/23/16
- Medical inflation has generally been up to 10%

- Potential increase in premiums, not sure how much
  - Trend for Graduate Students (which includes voluntary component)
    - 2015/16 $2,246.14 (2% increase from previous year)
    - 2014/15 $2,205.86 (7% increase from previous year)
    - 2013/14 $2,069.00 (8% increase from previous year)
    - 2012/13: $1,923.00
2016/17 Insurance Renewal Timeline

- Proposals solicited in January 2016
- Student Health Insurance Advisory Committee meets February 2016
- Revised proposals received in March 2016
- Staff recommendations heard at June 2016 Board of Regents meeting
- New rates (and benefits) effective August 15, 2016
QUESTIONS
Graduate College Update to GPSA

Advancing Top Tier Graduate Education & Research

February 1, 2016
TOP TIER GOALS & METRICS:
RESEARCH, SCHOLARSHIP & CREATIVE ACTIVITY

UNLV will foster a climate of innovation in which faculty and students produce high-quality, widely disseminated, and influential research, scholarship, and creative activities.
Top Tier Research Metrics

- **Research Expenditures**: $120,000,000/year by 2025
- **Doctoral Graduates**: At least 200/year by AY 2024-25
- **75 Patent Applications**: filed during FY2025
- **Research Staff**: 120 by 2025 (non-fac. Res. Staff & postdocs)
- **Space Efficiency**: $300/sq. ft. by 2025
- **Research Space**: 474,162 sq. ft. by 2025
- **FY2015**
  - Research Staff: 68 in FY2014
  - Research Space: 223,760 sq. ft.
  - 47 Patents filed
  - $192/sq. ft.
- **FY2025**
  - Research Staff: 149 (AY 2014-15)
  - Research Space: 474,162 sq. ft.
  - 75 Patents filed
  - $300/sq. ft.

**Current (2015)**: 68 Res. Staff in FY2014, 223,709 sq. ft. in FY2015, 47 Patents in FY2015

**2022 Goal**: 149 (AY 2014-15)

**2025 Goal**: 474,162 sq. ft. at $300/sq. ft.
Doctoral Graduates by Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Research Doctorates</th>
<th>Other Doctorates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2010</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>47</td>
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<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2014</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Doctoral Degrees Awarded

*Excluding DDM, JD, MD

Fiscal Year

*No. of Doctoral Degrees Conferred
TOP TIER GRADUATE IMPLEMENTATION: R2PC & GAs
Top Tier GA Initiatives

- Fall 2015 GA Stipend Plans
  - OK State & Other Discipline Specific Data
  - Top Tier & GCEC & GC Cmte Review
  - Market-based Differential MFA & Doc Stipends
  - $2m New Investment Starting Now
    - State GAs
    - Externally Funded GAs
    - Both State + Externally Funded GAs
    - Non-Academic Units
Top Tier GA Initiatives

- Next GA Goals
  - Masters Stipend Increases
  - Summer Research Support
  - Better Tuition/Fee/Health Insurance Support
  - Additional GA Positions
    - State Funded Growth
    - Externally Funded Growth
    - CGRAs
    - Endowed Development GAs

State Funded Growth

Externally Funded Growth

CGRAs

Endowed Development GAs
TOP TIER INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT:
The Graduate Rebel Gateway
Grad Rebel Gateway: Stage 1

- Marketing Cloud for Graduate Recruitment
  - Recruitment: Prospect, Inquiry, Applicant
  - Prospect Mining
  - Ticklers & Drip Campaigns
  - Prospect Portal & Single Log-in

- Integrated Admissions, GAs & Awards
  - Admissions Lifecycle & Funnel
  - Dynamic Applicant Portal
  - Status-based Ticklers & Drip Campaigns
Grad Rebel Gateway: Stage 2

- Advanced RPC Tracking, Communication & Data
  - Milestones
  - E-forms & Routing
  - Track Successes & Accomplishments
  - Warning Indicators
  - Faculty Mentorship
  - Professional Development Tracking
  - Communications w/ Students
Questions & Conversation
Why do we need to submit our theses or dissertations to ProQuest at all?

Universities traditionally keep records of the research done through their graduate programs. Before digital options were available, these records were kept as microfilm. Access to a thesis would require a person to retrieve the physical media it was located on; any copies would be made through photocopying the microfilm or photographing the microfilm reader’s screen.

As these records accumulated, digital storage became a sensible alternative to microfilm. ProQuest is able to offer a digital solution to universities that allow them to maintain these records with low overhead. However, Universities' microfilm holdings wouldn't count as a publication, simply internalized records. ProQuest primarily sells subscription access to databases and to unaffiliated individuals.

In offering a digital solution to this records keeping process, ProQuest becomes the publisher of the work. The FAQs section of their website includes the following explanation:

Primarily ProQuest is an archiving and dissemination partner for more than 700 institutions worldwide, enabling the works of their graduate students to become part of the larger scholarly record. Authors retain the copyright to their work, inclusion in ProQuest is non-exclusive, and we offer a number of options, including Open Access. Because ProQuest assigns ISBNs to dissertations, inclusion in the database could be considered to represent a form of publishing. However, dissemination via ProQuest complements and is in no way a substitute for monograph or scholarly journal publishing.

This is a long way of saying yes-- they are publishers of dissertations, going so far as to assign ISBN numbers to your work. Because students are required to submit their theses and dissertations to ProQuest in order to graduate, this means that your work will be published upon graduation whether you’re ready to publish or not.

What happens once ProQuest archives and disseminates/sells my dissertation; what sort of compensation do I receive for my work?

Once published, anyone with a subscription to the database has access to your article. For $38 dollars individuals can buy access to an electronic copy of your work. For $39 they can buy an unbound physical copy. For $72 they can buy a hardbound version.

These prices reflect the gross revenue generated by your work. ProQuest's current royalty program offers authors 10% of the net revenue for their sales. Net revenue is the revenue generated after discounts, And this makes it tricky-- despite ProQuest's claims to serve graduate students, they don't offer transparency in how that process works.

ProQuest’s current royalty program (and this could change at any time) offers payment once royalties reach $25 dollars. It doesn’t quantify how it calculates royalties-- specifically whether users receive royalties for access through libraries or only through individual sales. ProQuest hasn’t provided a clear system for how royalties are quantified. And without knowing the net revenue generated from each sale, it’s impossible to figure out what percentage authors actually receive from ProQuest.

What we do know is that you’ll need to format your thesis or dissertation to submit to the university, and that file becomes the pdf sold by ProQuest with little additional work on their end. If 6 individuals purchase
that pdf of your dissertation (for $38 each, or a total of $228), despite having written the material and having formatted it for publishing, ProQuest owes nothing to the author.

**But I trust my University, why should I be nervous about their decision to partner with ProQuest?**

You shouldn’t be nervous-- overall, the databases offered by ProQuest are incredibly useful.

The underlying issue isn’t about the University or ProQuest; it’s about your right to control how and when your work is published. Without the option of a permanent embargo, you lose control over how your work reaches the community.

ProQuest describes themselves on their website primarily as a service to archive and disseminate information, but in doing this they position themselves as gatekeepers and have functioned as such in the past.

**RSA Access issue**

When the Renaissance Society of America tried to renew their contract with ProQuest, they were originally denied access. According to statements from the RSA, the reason for this was that its members accessed too many articles for the company to turn a profit on their subscription.

After the RSA publicly announced that their subscription would be terminated and that its members would no longer be able to access the Early English Books Online (a necessity for many Renaissance scholars), ProQuest published a strange sort of apology that made it sound like ProQuest blamed RSA members with the not-quite-an-apology of "We're sorry for the confusion RSA members have experienced about their ability to access Early English Books Online (EEBO) through RSA." However, the executive committee of the RSA had been negotiating the group's contract with ProQuest before making the announcement, making it unlikely that the collection of scholars were confused about what their ability to access a database they'd worked with throughout their careers.

Dr. Bethany Nowviskie of the Digital Library Foundation and a Digital Humanities scholar explains the bigger, connected issue that this bring up:

"It's a clear reminder that the private companies to which we have ceded control of our shared cultural heritage do not have scholars’ best interests at heart," she said in an email to The Chronicle.

When academics use privately held databases, she added, the texts that they’ll find depend on the terms of their subscription. If two academics run an identical search, they might get different results.

"Your database subscription level, and all the invisible machinery between you and what should be public-domain information, determines what you can see, and therefore what you can say about the past," she said.

**Rights Ownership**

ProQuest can sell the rights to other companies, making it virtually impossible for you to have any control over your work. For example, TurnItIn, a partner of ProQuest (and a holding of iParadigms LLC, the
company that also owns iThenticate and Plagiarism.org), requests a "non-exclusive, royalty-free, perpetual, world-wide, irrevocable license to reproduce, transmit, display, disclose, and otherwise use your Communications on the Site or elsewhere for our business purposes."

**How does this impact me as a Creative Writing graduate student and why isn’t the 3-year embargo enough protection?**

Most students pursue a MFA in creative writing with the intention of publishing. Throughout their education, they work towards producing a polished manuscript. However, once this manuscript is submitted to ProQuest, the author loses the ability to publish this work (in whole or in part) in a traditional forum like small presses, literary journals, or online magazines.

Nearly every publisher (and many contests) ask for you to give them some variant of first serial rights (these guarantee that a text has never appeared online or in print). Once you submit your thesis or dissertation, you've given away the first serial rights to your work.


Anytime you see the phrase “accepts previously unpublished work” in a submission call, they're asking for first serial rights. Nearly every press requires you to give them first serial rights. Even if you alter our thesis publishers are less likely to pick up the manuscript.

First book contests also serve as a launching pad for many new writers. But, again, these contests almost universally ask for first North American rights— the same rights you've already given away to ProQuest during the graduation process.

Additionally, publishing moves slowly and 3 years isn't much time. At one point Paris Review had a 3-year backlog of poetry it planned to publish.

**What do we need?**

Minimally, we need the University to offer us the ability to enforce a permanent embargo on our work in ProQuest.

Ideally, we also need a documented procedure in place for how to remove your work from ProQuest and to protect ProQuest from selling/giving the work to other parties.