I. Call to Order: President Michael Gordon called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. Noting that the guest speakers had not yet arrived, President Gordon announced a few changes to the order of business on the agenda. He recognized a speaker in the audience and said he would take Public Comment at the beginning rather than the end of the meeting.

II. Roll Call: Colleges with representatives in attendance were:

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<th>College / School</th>
<th>Representative</th>
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<tr>
<td>SCHOOL OF ALLIED HEALTH</td>
<td>Aaron Andersen (Health Physics)</td>
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<td>COLLEGE OF BUSINESS</td>
<td>Cesar Valdez Hughes (Business Administration)</td>
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<td>SCHOOL OF COMMUNITY HEALTH SCIENCE</td>
<td>Jeremiah Todd (Health Care Administration &amp; Policy)</td>
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<td>Jennifer Pharr (Public Health)</td>
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<td>COLLEGE OF EDUCATION</td>
<td>Diana Chacon-Pote (Education &amp; Clinical Studies)</td>
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<td>Kimberly Florence (Educational Research, Cognition and Development)</td>
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<td>Kyle Kaalberg (Teaching and Learning)</td>
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<td>COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING</td>
<td>Mehdi Khalili (Civil &amp; Environmental Engineering)</td>
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<td>Kimberly Hammer (Mechanical Engineering)</td>
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<td>COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS</td>
<td>Lauren Adkins (Art)</td>
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<td>Jared Goode (Film)</td>
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<td>Jonathan Baltera (Music)</td>
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<td>Brandi Blackman (Theatre Arts)</td>
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<td>SCHOOL OF LAW</td>
<td>Benjamin K. Reitz</td>
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<td>COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS</td>
<td>Sharon Young (Anthropology)</td>
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<td>Kathy Anders (English)</td>
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<td>Ilvia Uribe (Foreign Languages)</td>
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<td>Kenneth Retzl (Political Science)</td>
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<td>Kerri Schafer (Psychology)</td>
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<td>Candace Griffith (Proxy for Sociology)</td>
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<td>COLLEGE OF SCIENCE</td>
<td>Sarah Wood (Chemistry)</td>
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<td>Jonathan Baker (Proxy for Geoscience)</td>
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<td>COLLEGE OF URBAN AFFAIRS</td>
<td>Monika Bertaki (Communication Studies)</td>
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<td>Erin Swallow (Environmental Studies)</td>
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<td>Joey Shea (Crisis &amp; Emergency Management)</td>
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<td>Jennifer Liese (Journalism &amp; Media Studies)</td>
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<td>Nannette Fader (Marriage &amp; Family Therapy)</td>
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<td>Cassandra Diaz (Social Work)</td>
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<td>Jung Eun Song (Workforce Development)</td>
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Executive board members in attendance: President Michael Gordon, Vice-President Thomas Bussey, Treasurer George Molnar, and Secretary Carol Servino.

Others in attendance: Guest speakers UNLV President Neal Smatresk and Law School Dean John
Valery White; Dean White’s assistant, Dianne Fouret; Graduate College Senior Associate Dean Kate Korgan; GPSA Manager Becky Boulton; CSUN Student Body President Sarah Saenz; and CSUN Senator Mark Ciavola.

**Colleges/Schools/others absent:** School of Allied Health: Kinesiology and Physical Therapy (vacant positions); College of Business: Accounting, Economics, and management Information Systems (vacant positions); School of Community Health Sciences: Health Promotion (vacant position); College of Engineering: Computer Science (vacant position); College of Fine Arts: Architecture (vacant position); College of Hotel Administration: Xi (CeCe) Leung (Hospitality Administration); College of Liberal Arts: Jacob Cassens (History); College of Science: Mason McElroy (Mathematical Sciences); College of Urban Affairs: Jeremy Waller (Criminal Justice) and Curt Easley (Public Administration); and GPSA Faculty Advisor Adam Simon.

**III. Approval of Minutes** — President Gordon called for a motion to approve the minutes from the November 7 meeting. Joey Shea (ECEM) motioned for approval of the minutes and Jared Goode (Film) seconded. Asking about corrections or additions and hearing none, President Gordon called for the vote, which was unanimous to approve.

**IV. Public Comment**

- Mark Ciavola, a CSUN Senator, said he wished to comment on the project that would digitize the Rebel Yell. He said that President Gordon regularly attends CSUN meetings and said that it would probably be a good idea for CSUN to attend GPSA meetings regularly. He said CSUN is supporting the Rebel Yell digitization project with $15,000 (of the estimated $35,000 total needed) but thought that GPSA should be more supportive and should “put their money where their mouths are.” Ciavola noted that he opposed the CSUN vote to approve the expenditure, which was passed by the CSUN senators, and that he objected to the way GPSA President Gordon spoke to the undergraduate body and characterized it as “guilting them” into supporting the measure. Ciavola said some students opposed the project because current students are spending money for something that “will not benefit students who are here now.” He said he “did not think this was a good time to take this project on.” He anticipated CSUN being approached again for more money if others don’t come forward “to share in the cost of this project,” adding, “If it benefits anyone it benefits everyone” and suggested that GPSA’s contribution should be increased in proportion to CSUN’s contribution based on total budgets.

- Sarah Saenz, CSUN Student Body President thanked Mark Ciavola for his thoughts about this issue. She said the CSUN vote was postponed for one week so she could talk to library staff for more information before the vote to approve was taken. She added that because there were concerns about current students bearing the cost of the project benefitting others, the CSUN Senate today would be voting on transferring the money from a reserve budget so it does not just come from the budget of the funds paid by current students. Addressing Ciavola’s concern that CSUN would be asked again for more support, she said “because CSUN’s name is on the project, more people will be likely to support this project, and now they can go to other outlets” with funding requests such as the Alumni Association.

**V. Budget Report** — Treasurer Molnar presented the budget report. Kyle Kaalberg (Teaching & Learning) motioned to approve the budget report; Joey Shea (ECEM) seconded. Treasurer Molnar referred to the printed report provided to all representatives and said that there are just a few operating expenses for the month of November. The report shows routine office supplies at $480.04, the
monthly Xerox maintenance, postage, and telephone costs. Expenses for President Gordon's trip to the National Association of Graduate & Professional Students were $115 for his conference registration and $288.85 for his car rental and lodging. Photo service for the GPSA Council picture taken last month is $80.00 (this includes the photographer's services, a copy of the photo and the image for the website). A total of $90 was spent on the rights for the PHD Movie, which will be offered again at an encore viewing on January 25. Hosting for the month included: $78.22 for refreshments for the PhD Movie, $182.36 for pizza & drinks (61 attendees) for the Grant Writing Workshop; and $263.14 for the replenishment of snacks in the GPSA Lounge. Revenue to-date is $135,990.30. The balance forward is $178,959.94 with a balance of $77,358.95.

After a call for the vote, Council unanimously approved the budget report as presented.

VI. Committee Reports —

- **Board of Regents and NSA Meetings** – Regarding the Regents’ meetings, President Gordon said graduate students got a 5% increase this year with another 5% increase for the 2012-13 year, whereas undergrads got a 13% increase this year. The 8% increase that was approved will only affect undergrads, so we will NOT be getting an 8% increase on top of the 5% increase we will already be getting next year. He also said:
  - Housing and Residential dorm fees will decrease up to $1,000 in some cases, depending on location. Tonopah is premium; further away is less expensive; food prices will go up 4% next year;
  - Differential tuition rates were approved for graduate Urban Leadership & Social Work programs;
  - GPSA’s financial audit “went through without a hitch;”
  - UNLV NOW got a 180- day extension;
  - Chancellor Klaich’s contract was extended until 2017;
  - Low Yield programs will prompt only a review, not a deletion; and
  - UNLV Athletics are in NCAA compliance.

- Reporting on Nevada Student Alliance meetings, President Gordon said discussions included:
  - Voting registration drives on campuses;
  - A survey on access and affordability targeting parents of current high-school children is available on the NSHE/Regents’ website [http://system.nevada.edu/Nshe/index.cfm](http://system.nevada.edu/Nshe/index.cfm) (or [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2CQKZ2G](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2CQKZ2G));
  - Annual report of the NSA chairperson;
  - Statement of delay for tuition increase;
  - Lifetime transcript fee (students currently pay $10 each time; the proposal is to pay a one-time fee for students to get free transcripts for life).

President Gordon suspended the remaining Committee Reports to accommodate the guest speakers, who arrived during the Committee Reports. He then introduced UNLV President Neal Smatresk, the first guest speaker.

VII. Guest Speakers – President Neal Smatresk’s remarks were centered on UNLV’s next steps, including a “solid hiring season” and his direct orders to the deans that “We make hires that put classes in place that clear the bottlenecks, that maintain our research and scholarly environment, and that expand GA funding.” He explained that in terms of numbers of hires, he’s looking at new Gen ED and 1st year programs next year. He said “those things will impact grad students.” He said UNLV is again
investing in maintenance and infrastructure; money that had been deferred for computer expenditures has been “put back in play” and those funds will help students in labs with better quality work, he said. Expenditures are to be authorized next week.

Referring to the expenditures, President Smatresk said that $500,000 in stimulus money is available in a similar way that it was available three years ago as seed money or starter grants, and it is “not a lot of money considering how many faculty we have,” but he said that faculty sometimes need “small chunks of money” for trips to complete research, or to publish a book to get promoted.”

Regarding the status of the stadium project, President Smatresk said “We have hired possibly the best stadium consultant in the country,” an endowed chair in Michigan that he knows from his early days in academia in Arlington, TX. He said UNLV has been working to “get back out in front” and to “have financial viability” and that he is “increasingly confident” that with the university’s partners on the Strip that UNLV is in control of the project. Much needs to be worked out (how big is the stadium? where is the village? how many boxes?). Regarding campus housing, he said that UNLV prepared a bid to obtain Vegas Grand, the real estate property on Flamingo Road near DRI now consisting of apartments that were to have been condos but is part of a bankruptcy settlement. He said UNLV has been trying to buy the property “for pennies on the dollar” (16 acres for 21 million) that would be well-suited for faculty and grad school housing if the land acquisition is successful.

In response to questions and comments from:

- Kimberly Hammer (Mechanical Engineering) about the location of the stadium, President Smatresk said it would be on campus, surrounded by University Village, which would “make our campus more desirable for residential students.” He said it also would mean that more students would stay here for social and recreational events.

- Jennifer Liese (Journalism & Media Studies) about the NFR (rodeo) being courted by others and the loss to UNLV if we lose that, President Smatresk said “if we lose that we probably lose football, and we can’t afford to lose those events.” He said if a competitive arena moves into town, we’ll lose the NFR, adding that “somewhere along the line we will have to refurbish Thomas & Mack” due to fear of loss of revenue.

- Rohne D’Errico (Nursing) about students giving campus tours to business leaders and members of the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce, President Smatresk said he is now on the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce Board of Trustees, which passed a resolution that said they would support higher education instead of cutting higher education. “By putting our best and brightest here, we diffuse those ideas,” the President said. The idea is to get legislators and business leaders to say, “We’ve got to support this; UNLV has to be the heartbeat of a new economy.”

- Kenneth Retzl (Political Science) about the retention of current professors, President Smatresk said that when faculty reach a certain level of prominence, everyone is trying to lure them away, but that “an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure,” and that “We are keenly aware that we need to stop the bleeding.” UNLV is suffering because the benefits reduction is “horrid.” He said he is leading the charge, working at the system level, and planning to make “high impact or strategic hires” such as those at Stanford, for a research track not a teaching track. Concluding his remarks, President Smatresk said “Even in these tough times we’re building; we need to be a more focused research university.”

President Gordon, in the interest of time, told Council Representatives that if they have more questions, they may email them to him and he will follow-up and get them answered. Thanking President Smatresk, he then introduced the next speaker, Dean White, who is Dean of the UNLV Boyd School of
Law, and chair of the Executive Vice President & Provost search. He said that the committee is comprised of an elected member from each college, the alumni association, from both GPSA and CSUN, and of representatives from the Foundation, the Board of Trustees, the classified association and the professional association. Among the key points he wanted to communicate, Dean White said,

- He hopes to have candidates on campus by March around spring break. He asked for assistance. He asked students to “go to forums, listen to their presentations and record your reactions.” He suggested that students use the surveys and make comments in related blogs because during the last provost search, the President “wanted to read all the comments.” He encouraged students to make candid comments.

- The administrative process includes a search firm. A firm “will reach out and convince people to apply.” A “robust pool” would have 100 applicants. First, a committee screens the first group of candidates. Some six to eight candidates would fly to McCarran Airport for a screening interview, which means they would fly in and out without coming to campus to ensure the “confidentiality of their candidacy.” The president would use the committee’s feedback to invite three to five candidates on campus.

Dean White said “the provost is easily the most important role on campus” because the position is that of the chief academic officer, the provost or head of academic affairs, who coordinates the curriculum and the direction of the school as well as research and teaching and service projects.” At UNLV the position is executive vice president and provost. When the president is unavailable, the provost is the person who would act in his stead; among the vice presidents, “the provost is the leader among equals.” He said UNLV faces two main challenges: “difficult financial circumstances and the way it has been reported in the Chronicle.” Dean White favors using an executive search firm for higher level positions such as this one because although searches cost money, he says “a search firm brings confidentiality.” Noting that a firm often has a relationship with candidates, he said he hopes that confidentiality will be maintained. A search also “takes a lot of time,” but since “diversity is a substantial goal in this search, whatever doom and gloom is associated with this university is dispelled” in the process.

Representatives asked the following questions:

- Joey Shea (ECEM) asked about the anticipated hire date, and Dean White said he is focused on having candidates on campus before spring break, about the first week of April. He said candidates would need to be on campus by the end of March. Key dates are first week of February, he said, adding that he is “not going to drag it open, keep it open, and do a bad job.” He said it would be ideal to have the person start during the summer, but he said the ideal candidate might not be able to start until December or January because of circumstances. He explained that a typical candidate comes from:
  - the “universe of deans” who hope to move up someday;
  - from “sitting provosts” (but different schools have different missions, and the nature and scope will be bigger and more broad); or
  - a vice-provost who was a researcher who became vice-provost for academic affairs.

- Jennifer Liese (JMS) asked who someone might contact for more information about the position. Dean White said he is the one to contact.

Dean White said Presidential terms tend to be five years; for deans with no contract, the terms are about three years. He said a Provost may serve at pleasure of the President so he can be fired
if it is not working out; the job of President has grown and that UNLV needs a Provost who will work well with the President. He guesses this position to be a year-to-year contract and for the position to pay between $200,000 and $275,000, depending on experience.

After thanking Dean White, President Gordon returned to the Committee Reports portion of the meeting and recognized GPSA Activities Committee member Nannette Fader (Marriage & Family Therapy), who announced the following upcoming events:

- Thursday’s documentary movie about domestic human trafficking;
- the “end of semester party” planned for 5-8 p.m. on Friday at Macayo’s;
- Free coffee and bagels during finals week (10 a.m. to 4 p.m. or until gone) in the lounge.

- **GPSA Community Service** – Kyle Kaalberg (Teaching & Learning) said that the Community Service Committee Food drive would be held at Student Union from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday. He asked for food items to be brought to the social as well.

- **GPSA Grants** – Chairperson Thom Bussey said there were 100 applications requesting $96,259.73 and $18,086.70 in emergency grants for November. He said GPSA is able to fund up to $45,000 in spring grants, and he asked representatives to inform grant applicants that they will know their grant status during finals week; Dec. 12 is the grant committee meeting where decisions will be made. The remaining award amount is $91,325. Thom also reminded everyone that the Research Forum is set for March 17, 2012, adding that anyone who received GPSA funding during the year needs to present their research at the forum. Lunch is provided and awards are made. He said students present in an academic environment to faculty and community. Judges are needed; if you know someone who would be willing to judge please let them know they should contact Becky. In response to a question about whether anyone can present, Thom said anyone can “present as a way to practice” but they can “apply as well.”

- **GPSA Student and Faculty Awards** – President Gordon said the Awards Committee’s deadline is tomorrow and that the application is online. Two student awards (merit and service) each carry a $300 amount. Information about these awards and the faculty award are available on the GPSA website or by emailing President Michael Gordon or Manager Becky Boulton.

**IX. Old Business**

- **GPSA Bylaws Articles 7, 8, and 9 – action item** – President Gordon recognized Ilvia Uribe (Foreign Languages) of the Bylaws Committee and invited her to review information presented at the last meeting as an information item. Copies of the committee’s proposed changes were distributed to council representatives in advance of this meeting in compliance with current bylaws. In Article 7 the committee recommends adding the number 4 to the word “four;” in Article 8, Grievances and Removal Procedures, the committee recommends deleting the entire section 1a. through 1g. and replacing it with Article 4 of the GPSA Constitution; in Article 9, Section 1e., the committee recommends language be revised so that representatives of Recognized Student Organizations should be encouraged to attend GPSA meetings. Joey Shea (ECEM) motioned to approve; Jared Good (Film) seconded. President Gordon called for discussion; hearing none, he called for the vote; council representatives voted unanimously to approve the revisions as presented.

- **Dental chairs – information item** – President Gordon said he was hoping for good news but said “we’re not at the finish line yet.” Noting that some issues still need to be resolved, President Gordon said, “I hope during my tenure we can say we put in dental chairs.”

- **Fall stipends – action item** –President Gordon asked for a motion to approve $5,200 for the fall stipends. Kyle Kaalberg (Teaching & Learning) motioned to approve and Cassandra Diaz (Social Work) seconded. Hearing no discussion about the motion to approve fall stipends for $5,200,
council representatives unanimously approved the expenditure. President Gordon said “If you have direct deposit, you will be paid at end of month; if you do not have direct deposit, checks will need to be picked up.”

X. New Business

- **Funding Formula – information item** – President Gordon said the Funding Formula is “not easy,” but he has read a lot about it and he knows about work of the funding formula committee. He said “they need to write a report by June 30” and that they have five more meetings for a total of six meetings. Probably the end of March beginning of April, he will rally GPSA members to attend. Higher education with graduate programs cost more than educational programs without graduate programs. GPSA needs to come up with a statement possibly proposing that we need two formulas, one for universities and one for community colleges, he said. President Gordon asked if anyone had questions.
  - Ben Reitz (School of Law) asked about the likelihood of getting help at UNLV. President Gordon said the makeup of the committee is a split with six in the north and six in the south, with 2 of the 3 regents living in Las Vegas and “friends of the university.” He said their support is split between universities and community colleges, but that UNLV produces 44% of all the degrees of all the higher education institutions in the state. In all those categories we’re ahead, he said.
  - Kathy Anders, (English) commented about the intricacies of such information. President Gordon said he would share information as it is available.

- **GPSA Bylaws Articles – information item** – Articles 2, 3, 4, and 6. Citing the time constraints imposed on GPSA’s monthly meetings not to exceed 90 minutes, President Gordon postponed this item until February’s meeting.

XI. Announcements

- Rebel Yell is looking for a new editor;
- The encore presentation of the PhD Comics movie is set for Jan. 25 at 7 p.m. in the SU Theater;
- The GPSA Study Lounge is moving from 3rd floor to the 2nd floor – construction begins soon and over winter break for the move next year;
- President Gordon said he attends CSUN meetings; when asked for his opinion, he tells them what he thinks.
- Cesar Valdez Hughes, who is graduating, was thanked by President Gordon for his work on the Food Bank, where he “stepped in and has done a phenomenal job.” Cesar said his position (accounting) is opening up at OIT, is classified, and it pays $17 per hour. Anyone interested should contact him.
- Dr. Kate Korgan said that GA positions are open for next summer and next fall and that applications are available now; the scholarship applications deadline is Feb 1; the Graduate College is receiving one of the one-time time grants ($20,000) to create and embed instructional videos in its web pages by next summer. She said there is “informal casting,” students are invited to participate, and she joked that “You will be on there forever.” She also said that graduation ceremony practice is on Dec. 15.

XII. Adjournment — President Gordon called for a motion to adjourn. Cesar Valdez Hughes (Business Administration) motioned; Rhone D’Errico (Nursing) seconded. By council’s unanimous vote to adjourn, the meeting ended at 3:30 p.m.