I. Roll Call

President George called the meeting to order at 2:00pm. President George introduced Diane Owen as the GPSA’s executive board’s new secretary.

II. Approval of Minutes

President George asked if there were any corrections to the meeting minutes from October. After hearing no corrections, Jason Baker (PHYSICS) made a motion to approve the minutes. Brenda Argueta (SOCIAL WORK) seconded the motion. With no objections, the motion passed unanimously.

III. Speakers

Phil Burns, Director of Office of Student Conduct discussed with the council the Student of Concern (SOC) program. He explained that there are issues of mental and psychological health arising on UNLV’s campus. The Office of Student Conduct put together the SOC program to create useful processes in order to connect a student of concern to help and resources that he/she may need. Phil Burns distributed a guide, “How to Help a Student of Concern: A Guide for Faculty and Staff,” to each representative. Mr. Burns explained the program’s intent is not to get someone in trouble, but to identify someone who is a concern to themselves or others and to give them support before something could happen. He also expressed a desire for the campus to become more aware of these issues and told the representatives if they think...
their department could use the hour long SOC training, to contact Phil Burns.

IV. Budget Report

Treasurer Gordon reviewed the October budget. He showed that there are now three columns instead of two in order to show the amount estimated to spend for the year. November 1st was the last day to drop classes so we do not yet know the exact figure for tuition and fees collected because of students who have not paid yet or those who have dropped their classes. President George’s BOR trip has posted, showing expenses for his car rental ($83.71), airfare ($269.40) & lodging ($127.12). Student wages for the month were $4,344.75. Kenneth Retzel (POLITICAL SCIENCE) made a motion to approve the budget. Megan Wolff (MGMT INFORMATION SYSTEMS) seconded the motion. With no oppositions, the motion carried.

V. Committee Reports

GPSA Activities
Cesar Valdez Hughes (BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION) gave the update. The committee is planning the December social in downtown Las Vegas. They are waiting for an email confirmation to finalize the plans.

GPSA Ad Hoc Awards
No updates

GPSA Community Service
Treasurer Gordon explained that the Community Service committee would be merging with activities. He discussed doing a November community service event Nov 17th in conjunction with an active shooter presentation on how to protect self and students; the Jean Nidetch Women’s Center has been invited to participate as well. The details are still being finalized. President George talked about how campus safety is in the limelight due to the Virginia Tech shooting as well as other instances of violence on campuses. The purpose of this activity would be to show how to recognize when someone is not acting quite right because the police department can’t be there at all times, so it is up to students to be able to recognize this kind of behavior.

GPSA Grants
E/Fall grants September cycle award amount $5,474.00, October cycle award amount $6,238.00. Vice President Gutierrez commends the grants committee for being very active this year. He discussed the Grant Writing Workshop, which went really well with 29 people in attendance. The committee will be planning another workshop for the Spring, but there are no details available yet. The two emergency grant cycles were very successful; they awarded an estimated $11,000 in emergency grants. He also stated that Fine Arts and the Professional Schools (law and dentist) are now able to receive grant money through GPSA. Melissa Schaar (GEOSCIENCE) asked if the workshop will be online. Carin Wallace stated that the powerpoints are available online, but there is no video available. Vice President Gutierrez would like for the GPSA to make a bigger push for the next workshop with the hopes of getting a bigger turnout and more support.

GPSA Publications
Secretary Owen thanked Surbhi Sharma (ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES) and Jared Goode (FILM) for putting the newsletter together and reminded the representatives to pick up a copy before they left and to post it in their departments. The newsletter will also eventually be available on the website and Carin Wallace will send a PDF file via email so each representative can forward it to their departments. Another newsletter will be put out at intercession.

President’s Advisory Council
President George explained the concerns brought forward to the PAC, for example, civility on campus. He also discussed
setting up a food bank on campus for hungry students on campus, looking at ways of making food bank available, which is still in the early stages of planning. Treasurer Gordon asked for the council’s thoughts. President George briefly described how the food bank would work and opened it up to the council to ask questions. The following suggestions were made:

- The PAC should look into working with 3 Square as well as starting a 3 Square Student Organization at UNLV.
- There may be a way of donating funds via RebelCard and giving students in need RebelCash rather than collecting non-perishable food.
- Student Organizations should be involved as much as possible.
- Community partners, like Walmart, may be willing to donate.

When asked what the need was for hungry students, President George stated that formally no one has identified need, it’s been purely anecdotal, but the idea isn’t just for grad students, there are classified staff members living in their vehicles, especially after the latest budget cuts. He doesn’t know the extent of problem, but we need to identify that there is a need, because we would hate for a need to go unmet. Will continue to discuss the possibilities in PAC.

If there is ever a concern that needs to be brought to PAC, email President George at Kyle.George@unlv.edu.

NSHE Tuition and Fees Committee
President George stated that the Board of Regents (BOR) is moving forward with differential tuition. BOR meets in December in DRI, Dec 2nd and 3rd. President George will email the agenda when it is available. If you would like President George to speak on your behalf, let him know via email. He would like to let BOR know that differential tuition is unfair when it comes to stipends.

VI. Old Business

Voter Registration/Early Voting/Education Counts
President George stated that elections take place tomorrow (Nov 2nd) and state legislature believes students do not vote so they must not care. President George has found a way to identify how many UNLV students have voted and will be taking those numbers to the legislature to show them that UNLV is a “powerhouse” in politics. President George described the Get Out to Vote efforts. He went class to class and collected 2,000 pledges to vote. 1,623 people voted at the polls at UNLV the previous week. President George encouraged the council to vote as well as encourage family, friends, students, and colleagues to vote. He stated that he will report the number of UNLV students who voted at the next meeting. Kenneth Retzel (POLITICAL SCIENCE) asked why the faculty and staff were not included in the number of UNLV votes. President George stated that he would need a list of faculty/staff information to look that up, but will look into doing so. Vice President Gutierrez pointed out that even if you do not have a sample ballot you can still vote.

Email list of graduate students
President George asked representatives to check that their email is correct and updated with Carin. He explained that he now has a list of every graduate and professional student’s email; email kyle.george@unlv.edu in order to receive an email list of everyone in your program. Brenda Argueta (SOCIAL WORK) asked if they can use staff in their program to disseminate information. President George replied that they should do whatever is the most effective. Cesar Valdez Hughes (BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION) asked if we had the contact information for the law and dental schools. President George responded that we do. Carol Servino (PUBLIC ADMIN) asked if there was a way to keep the list current each year with students who had graduated or left. President George explained that this is the most up to date list and in the future students will be able to unsubscribe.

Climate of Civility on campus
President George explained that UNLV has changed their tailgate policy: outside alcohol is no longer permitted, but alcohol can be purchased in the tailgate area. The hope is that by doing so it will limit excessive inebriation and belligerent behavior. Tailgate attendance was low at the last game, but there is a hope that numbers will go back up.
President George talked briefly about the incident at Rutgers University and stated that President Smatresk came out with a video speaking on inclusion and civility. President George encouraged council to view the video on youtube: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zKg8j7w9jgU. President George stated that this video came about because of the GPSA discussion and expressed thanks to the council for that discussion. Carol Servino (PUBLIC ADMIN) is pleased that the President takes time to do these videos and things like the Rebel Roundtable, makes her feel safe on campus. President George stated that if there is a topic you would like to see the President address in one of these videos, pass it along to President George.

UNLV Friendly update
Secretary Owen described the UNLV Friendly project which will involve contacting local businesses and developing a comprehensive list of those businesses and what discounts they offer to UNLV students. President George added that the businesses will be identified by a sticker on the door to their business as a reminder to the students to use their discount and also as a badge to show they are a member of the UNLV community. Anyone interested in helping Diane on the UNLV Friendly project, email her at diane.owen@unlv.edu.

VIII. New Business

Removal of “Interim” status of President Smatresk—information item
President George explained: President Smatresk was previously made full, or permanent, President by a vote from the BOR, but since has had his interim status replaced because it has come to light that a national search is needed to appoint a president as per the bylaws. Chancellor Klaich then sent out an email stating he wished to suspend the code and make Smatresk the full president. This means that the rule of having a national search will be lifted and the BOR will vote on whether or not to elect Smatresk as UNLV’s permanent president. UNLV’s Faculty/ Senate feels the suspension of the code is a serious issue. Chancellor Klaich will be speaking to faculty, professional staff, classified staff, grad students, undergrads, etc to evaluate President Smatresk’s performance so far. President George asked for feedback on Smatresk from the council to pass on to the Chancellor and BOR. The following feedback was given by the council:

- There are two separate issues, (1) if this is the president we want to represent us in the legislative session and (2) does having a president outweigh the conflict of suspending the code.
- The council felt that their feedback should be given on both issues not just for Smatresk.
- From a PR perspective, doing a search does not look good for the university right now.
- In the interest if finding the best leader, there is no harm in doing a search.
- There would be no long-term harm in suspending the code.

President George asked for the council to email him additional feedback to be presented to Chancellor Klaich by November 19th.

Formation of Bylaws Committee—information item
Treasurer Gordon explained the committee’s most pertinent recommendation is increasing the representative stipends by $50 in order to increase commitment and get the “best and brightest” grad students to serve as representatives. This change will be voted on at the next meeting. Rob Bryson (LIFE SCIENCES) added that the stipend has not been increased in four years. Thomas Bussey (CHEMISTRY) asked if the budget can support this change. Treasurer Gordon replied that the exact budget for this has not been looked at, but it is estimated to be about $5,000. President George asked for the council to think about the changes and they will be discussed at the next meeting. Feedback can also be provided via email to President George.

GPSA Ad hoc Financial Aid Committee now GPSA Ad hoc Scholarship Committee—information item
The name is changing because it is a more accurate description; all encompassing.
The Health Physics Society has submitted bylaws and would like to be recognized as a student organization. Kathy Anders (ENGLISH) motioned to accept. Tyler Schafer (SOCIOLOGY) seconded the motion. With no opposition, the motion passed.

**IX. Announcements**

Revised cover page for grant application, it is on the website. Sharon Young (ANTHROPOLOGY) developed a scoring rubric for grant candidates, will be on website. The deadline is Nov 15\(^{th}\).

- November Social – Date TBA- Safety for grad students
- Friday December 3 @ 7:30pm - Holiday party at Plaza hotel

Carin Wallace explained the new website. It will go up in the next 3 weeks, after the Grant Deadline.

**X. Public Comment**

Expressed thanks to Sharon Young (ANTHROPOLOGY) and Thomas Bussey (CHEMISTRY) for their hard work.

**XI. Adjournment**

Tyler Shafer (SOCIOLOGY) motioned to adjourn the meeting. Jeffrey Lavigne (COMMUNICATION STUDIES) seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 3:28pm.