I. Call to Order: President Michael Gordon called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. He introduced GPSA Treasurer George Molnar, who was ill and unable to attend the June meeting, as well as Benjamin Reitz, the School of Law’s council new representative.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COLLEGE OF BUSINESS</th>
<th>Cesar Valdez Hughes</th>
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<tr>
<td>COLLEGE OF EDUCATION</td>
<td>Kyle Kaalberg</td>
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<tr>
<td>COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING</td>
<td>Neveen Shlayan (missed roll call)</td>
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<tr>
<td>COLLEGE OF HOTEL ADMINISTRATION</td>
<td>Xi (CeCe) Leung</td>
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<tr>
<td>COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS</td>
<td>Sharon Young (missed roll call)</td>
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<tr>
<td>COLLEGE OF URBAN AFFAIRS</td>
<td>Monika Bertaki</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCHOOL OF LAW</td>
<td>Benjamin Reitz</td>
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Executive board members in attendance: President Michael Gordon, Vice President Thomas Bussey, Secretary Carol Servino, and Treasurer George Molnar.

Colleges/Schools whose representatives were absent: College of Fine Arts (Lauren Adkins); College of Health Sciences (vacant position); College of Sciences (Melissa Schaar).

Others in attendance: Graduate College Senior Associate Dean Kate Korgan as faculty advisor; Crystal Jackson as guest speaker, and Becky Boulton, GPSA manager.

III. Approval of Minutes — President Gordon asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the June 6 meeting. Cesar Valdez Hughes (College of Business) motioned and Kyle Kaalberg (College of Education) seconded. Asking for corrections or additions and hearing none, President Gordon called for the vote, which was unanimous to approve.

IV. Guest Speaker — Crystal Jackson introduced herself as a graduate assistant with the Jean Nidetch Center on campus, a graduate student in the sociology department, and a former GPSA representative. With regard to interpersonal violence protocol training, she said that UNLV has policies in place, and that the Nidetch Center is offering one-hour training sessions on the topics of sexual assault, domestic or dating violence, and stalking. The training covers responding to
and reporting of disclosures of interpersonal violence; informational materials – a handbook, protocols, ideas on what to say – are available. Saying that “crimes do affect the well being of the UNLV community,” Ms. Jackson added that other items such as safety response cards, magnets, and resource guides, also are available. She invited faculty, staff, and students who are interested in spreading the word to contact her for more information. The best way is by email at crystal.jackson@unlv.edu.

V. Executive Board Budget Report — Treasurer Molnar reported that this is the last month of fiscal year 2011. Revenue to date is $317,972.06. Expenditures for the month of June consisted of the following:

- Student wages ($6,872.50) comprised of the student workers in the GPSA office located in the Lied Library and the spring stipends and awards for the Council members.
- General operations expenses ($7,951.10) were: mainly routine expenses. Notable were charges for the use of the Student Union ($211) and A/V equipment ($916) for the annual Research Forum; also $5216.30 for the rental of the buses that drove the students to Carson City for the March 21st budget rally.
- In-state travel costs include those of Kyle George's May 18th trip to Carson City for the students' Sandoville Tent City, as well as travel expenses that include Michael Gordon's June Board of Regents' meeting held in Reno, NV.
- Hosting costs for the month of June totaled $843.25. Expenses included: $447.60 for the food at Macayos for the "Cinco de Mayo" end-of-semester event. Michael Gordon as Acting Grants Committee chair provided pizza for the committee members at the two meetings, totaling $60.36. Snacks were replenished in the GPSA Lied Library facility and totaled $335.29. Year to date revenue is $317,917.76.

Ben Reitz (School of Law) motioned to approve the budget report as presented; Monika Bertaki (Urban Affairs) seconded. After hearing no discussion, the vote to approve was unanimous.

VI. Committee Reports —

- GPSA Activities – Michael Gordon said that the first social for the coming year is being planned for September 2, the first Friday after classes begin, at the Stan Fulton Building on campus, if it is available.
- GPSA Grants – Thom Bussey said that the committee met on June 14 and 16 and awarded $500 in Emergency Summer grants, $17,950 in Fall grants, and $800. in Fall Emergency grants.
- The committee will meet again on July 12 at 5 p.m. He invited representatives to determine if their respective departments/colleges have events coming up that require funding to contact him.
- GPSA Publications – Carol Servino said there has been discussion about electronic versions of the GPSA newsletters as a more sustainable distribution method, but that some want to see a print version for August so that students at orientation are able to take something with them for reference later. She is working on brief bios and headshots of the E-board and wants to include photos of representatives in future issues. She invited those with ideas and suggestions to send them to her via email at carol.servino@unlv.edu.
• Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents – Michael Gordon reported the following key points:
  o The School of Law will see an increase of 24% for 2011-12; the UNLV Dental School will have an increase of 11% in 2011-12 and 3% in 2012-13.
  o UNLV graduate students will see a 5% increase in FY2012 and again in FY2013 with 25% set aside for financial aid available only to graduate students. UNR is setting aside 15% for financial aid.
  o UNLV will see a 2.5% salary cut for all employees with an additional 2.3% salary reduction from six furlough days.

VII. Old Business —
• President Gordon said that the executive board met on Friday and discussed the request from the guest speakers last month about a letter of support regarding a smoke free-tobacco free campus. He said he would like to defer more discussion on this issue until the September meeting for consideration by the larger council membership. Vice president Bussey explained his idea of drafting a letter to ensure a more focused discussion on what the GPSA is or is not supporting. This would guide representatives to be able to vote on a specific object rather than an idea, he said. A draft of the letter will be sent out in advance for consideration; ideas or concerns should be directed to him.

VIII. New Business
• Goals — President Gordon said that he sees GPSA’s three main purposes as grants, advocacy, and activities. He said he has a whole list of goals and that the E-board is meeting every Friday for one hour to determine which goals are worthy of presentation to the GPSA membership. Regarding the major area of grants, President Gordon and Vice President Thomas Bussey, current Grants Committee chair, said that:
  • The Grants Committee Interest Form is being circulated for those who wish to serve. Even those who have served before will be asked to reapply.
  • The committee is functioning well, and the intent is to have the committee’s business transparent to everyone, not just committee members. Meeting dates, process information, and outcomes will be made public. All is now available on the website, including a letter that includes information about the committee looks for when making decisions. Additional items are being added to the site and will include examples of good grants, budgets, etc., an updated checklist for regular and emergency cycle grants to remind applicants of all materials to be submitted, a scoring rubric, sample cover letter, explanation of activities, and example of a high quality letter of recommendation.
  • Vice President Bussey said that 20 points total are possible and that the committee will institute a change to the rubric to include standard deductions for tiered scoring reflecting Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 level applicants.
  • The committee is planning grant writing workshops that covers GPSA grants and others as well. Ideas are welcome and should be directed to Vice President Bussey.
  • Grant awardees will be listed on the GPSA listserv on a regular basis and will include the name of the students, their college or school, as well as the names of
their advisors, which may encourage more faculty buy-in due to positive recognition. This process was initiated in June and the announcement also included the total amounts awarded in the groups of grants. During regular grant cycles the announcements will occur two times per semester. An effort also is being made to encourage non-traditional schools and departments to apply for grants.

- In response to a question, VP Bussey and Business Manager Boulton GPSA has historical data about who has received funding; they noted that some colleges require that students apply for grants, and that the association is looking to expand to those who have not used GPSA grants as a resource.

Dr. Korgan commended those involved in the Grants Committee and process for their “leadership and finesse and for the positive changes” that have been made and appear to keep happening and that include incentives for students and faculty who mentor those students who will apply.

- In response to other questions about deadlines, VP Bussey said deadlines are set and they are listed on GPSA website. They also will be sent out on the listserv, but Council Representatives also will help advertise grant information and deadlines. “The more students know about, the better,” he said.
- In response to a question about committee composition, VP Bussey said the committee is comprised of six (6) people, and that four (4) are needed for a quorum. He added that one person from each college is needed. “We try to be objective and use a democratic process; we discuss and vote,” he said.
- President Gordon said he knows that some students who did not get funded have been frustrated and wondered how their applications were scored. He and VP Bussey said they believe more transparency and new processes will eliminate the “mystery” and that VP Bussey is available to speak with people and provide feedback that should help.

- NY Times and USA Today – President Gordon said that CSUN has asked GPSA for a financial contribution to pay for newspapers that are dropped off on campus as a free service for students. He asked if that is something the GPSA would like to support, explaining that in the past, CSUN and the Provost’s Office have paid for the papers, but that the Provost’s office is no longer able to support it at the level it did before.

Discussion included topics such as about online access, sustainability, jobs for two students who would distribute the papers around campus, the possibility of papers being available in the GPSA Grad Lounge and in the School of Law, as well as questions about who actually benefits from the current arrangement, how many papers are delivered, if GPSA can afford to pay and how much support would be appropriate. Comments ranged from GPSA being better off supporting research than supporting a paper delivery job, to advocacy and quality of student life also is important. President Gordon said he needed to bring this issue to a vote because he is continuing the discussion with CSUN Student Body President Sarah Saenz. A suggestion also was made that if the association funded it
this year, it could survey students, get more information, and change support or transition to an online subscription in the future.

Cesar Valdez Hughes (College of Business) motioned to cancel the paper and Kyle Kaalberg (College of Education) seconded. Asking for discussion, President Gordon recognized Xi (CeCe) Leung (College of Hotel Administration) who said she supports Cesar Valdez Hughes’ motion; she also said she does not see graduate students using the papers. VP Bussey commented that if GPSA votes not to support the paper it appears that the papers are not a valued resource to our graduate students. Ben Reitz (School of Law) said that the papers are available at no cost online.

President Gordon called for the vote and reminded representatives that voting in the affirmative is a vote to cancel the papers. The vote was five (5) YES and four (4) NO, with one abstention.

- New Graduate Student Orientation on August 26th – President Gordon told Council Representatives, “If you belong to an organization, we want you to have a table” at the Graduate Involvement Fair following the New Grad Student Orientation. He said GPSA will have a table at the Fair, but that with thousands of students and their parents expected to attend the day’s events, help is needed and requested. Events begin with a Welcome BBQ hosted by President Smatresk for graduate and undergraduate students and their families from 12 to 2 p.m.; Orientation is set from 1 to 3 p.m.; the Graduate Involvement Fair will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. and is a “way to introduce yourself to new grad students,” he said.

- Graduate College Changes – Dr. Korgan said that with the many personnel changes that have occurred, the Grad College is “in transition” and that some processes also have changed. This year, Graduate Assistants’ Contract Signing Sessions will begin July 26th and she asked Council Representatives to “urge your peers to not wait (to sign up for a contract signing session) because it will result in them not getting paid on time.” She explained that after applying online through the Graduate College’s online Apply Yourself (AY) system for a Graduate Assistant position, applicants must go back in and click and accept the offer from their respective departments/schools. After that, Graduate Assistants receive an invitation (via email) that allows them to register for a signing session. The process “guarantees you a seat.” Graduate Assistants must print and bring their own appropriate documents to the session they register for; if they do not, they may be asked to reschedule a session and their paychecks will be affected/delayed.

IX. Public Comment — There were no public comments.

X. Adjournment — Cesar Valdez Hughes (College of Business) made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Kyle Kaalberg (College of Education) seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 11:29 a.m.