GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION (GPSA)  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
Monday, June 6, 2011 – 10 a.m. - Student Union Room 224

I. Call to Order: President Michael Gordon called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.  
Announcement: President Gordon called for a moment of silence in memory of Sam Harr, a graduate assistant with the English Department who also worked in the Graduate Lounge and was a friend to many. Sam Harr passed away on June 1.

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

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<tr>
<th>COLLEGE OF BUSINESS</th>
<th>Cesar Valdez Hughes</th>
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<td>COLLEGE OF EDUCATION</td>
<td>Kyle Kaalberg</td>
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<td>COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS</td>
<td>Lauren Adkins</td>
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<td>COLLEGE OF HOTEL ADMINISTRATION</td>
<td>Xi (CeCe) Leung (arrived at 11:15 a.m.)</td>
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<td>COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS</td>
<td>Sharon Young</td>
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<td>COLLEGE OF SCIENCES</td>
<td>Melissa Schaar (arrived at 10:10 a.m.)</td>
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<td>COLLEGE OF URBAN AFFAIRS</td>
<td>Monika Bertaki (summer rep)/ Kurt Easley (fall-PUA rep)</td>
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Executive board members in attendance: President Michael Gordon, Vice President Thomas Bussey, Secretary Carol Servino.

Colleges/Schools whose representatives were absent: College of Engineering (Bartosz Kajak); College of Health Sciences (vacant position); School of Law (vacant position). Newly appointed Treasurer George Molnar was absent due to illness.

Others in attendance: Graduate College Senior Associate Dean Kate Korgan and Geoscience Assistant Professor Adam Simon, as faculty advisors; Susan Van Beuge, an assistant professor in the School of Nursing, Rohne D’Errico and Kristen Guthrie, graduate assistants, as guest speakers; Douglas Hanks, student visitor; Haley Etchison, Rebel Yell news editor.

III. Approval of Minutes — President Gordon asked for a motion to approve the May meeting minutes. Cesar Valdez Hughes (College of Business) motioned to approve. Lauren Adkins (College of Fine Arts) seconded. Asking for corrections or additions and hearing none, President Gordon said that a number of budget items reported at the May 2nd meeting were not reflected in the written minutes. He requested that the following items from the May budget report be added:

- $1875.00 for the GPSA Awards were given at the March 26th Research Forum;
Operating expenditures were the usual routine monthly expenses: Xerox machine, postage and telephone costs.

Items to point out were under office supplies: $499.95 of the $1283.75 were gifts purchased for the faculty judges at the research forum the remaining amount was for routine office supplies.

$816.32 was for printing expenses for the handbills printed for the budget.

In-state travel expenses were for President George's Board of Regent's meeting trip and his trip to Carson City for the March 21st budget rally.

GPSA also had $153.70 in hosting for replenishment of snacks in the GPSA lounge/study facility and water purchased for the bus trip to the Carson City Budget Rally.

With no further additions or corrections, the motion to approve the May 2 meeting minutes with the additions noted above passed unanimously.

IV. Guest Speakers — Susan Van Beuge, an assistant professor in the School of Nursing, and program director of the campus’ Tobacco Free UNLV campaign introduced herself and two graduate assistants involved in the grant funded program. They explained the program’s purpose, highlighted key points, answered questions, and provided handouts about the tobacco-free policy project that has been adopted by more than 240 colleges and universities. Its main goal is the comprehensive removal of tobacco from UNLV’s campus and they requested GPSA’s support through an official letter of support indicating the association’s support of the initiative.

V. Executive Board Appointments — President Gordon announced that Thomas Bussey was appointed Vice-President and George Molnar was appointed Treasurer.

VI. Executive Board Budget Report — President Gordon presented the budget report and explained that student wages for the month of May are reflected in the budget report and brings the total spent this year to $45,648.77. Operating expenditures are the usual routine monthly expenses: Xerox machine, postage and telephone costs. Items to point out are under Books & Periodicals this $1856.90 amount is for the fall and spring book scholarships. 20 were awarded at $100.00 a piece. $243.82 was spent on routine office supplies. $354.90 was for the GPSA Mentor Awardees and plaques for the outgoing E-board members. Printing expenses were for business cards for Carol Servino and Michael Gordon. We also had $3,374.74 in hosting for the luncheon purchased for the students that took the bus trip to the March 21st Carson City Budget Rally. Down at the bottom of the page total revenue collected to-date is $321,903.52.

Melissa Schaar, (College of Sciences) motioned to approve the budget report as presented; Kurt Easley (Urban Affairs) seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Committee Reports —

GPSA Activities – Michael Gordon noted that we do not have a summer activities chair. He noted that we could do a group activity rather than a campus-wide summer event. Sharon asked if GPSA normally hosts an activity before school begins. President Gordon spoke about having an involvement fair prior to first day of classes and a social activity on the first Friday after school starts. Kate Korgan announced that the Graduate College is making changes this year to its orientation session and she hopes to coordinate Graduate College efforts with GPSA’s planned orientation activities. She invited anyone with ideas for activities to send her an email. President Gordon said the first meeting will
be a social but that the board hopes to avoid equating social events with “the bar scene.”

- GPSA Grants – Michael Gordon, who served as interim chair of the committee after the resignation of the vice-president, reported that the committee met last Tuesday for three and a half hours to consider and award $2,950 to 10 applicants, bringing the remaining total of available grant funds to $5964.70 for the year. He said that funds not spent this year will carry over into next year’s budget. Thomas Bussey, who served on the Grants Committee and now heads the committee as GPSA Vice President, thanked Sharon Young and Lauren Adkins and Cesar Valdez Hughes for their work and asked to meet with them briefly today after the meeting to discuss future plans.

- GPSA Publications – Carol Servino said the first GPSA newsletter for the upcoming semester is being planned for August and will also be distributed in print version to be sure that students whose only contact with GPSA are able to take something with them to refer to later. She discussed ideas for inclusion in the newsletters, such as dates for grant applications, the research forum, activities, brief bios and headshots of reps and officers, etc. She invited others to send ideas to her via email.

VIII. Old Business —

- Update on NSHE Budget Cuts and Board of Regents – President Gordon spoke about the meeting held June 15 & 16 on the UNR campus in Reno, that a 13% tuition increase is likely, and that it may be a one time, rather than a two- time increase. He urged everyone to attend President Smatresk’s Town Hall on Wednesday at 3 p.m. in the ballroom on the budget and its effect on UNLV.

- Update on Food Bank – President Gordon spoke about office space across the street donated by Michael Saltman for operating a food bank. Meetings to figure out the details will be held. GPSA has access to the space for one year, until the end of April next year.

IX. New Business

- Goals — President Gordon suggested that the group divide into smaller groups to answer the following three questions:
  1. What are you most proud of (regarding GPSA)?
  2. What is the one thing, regardless of money, that you would change about GPSA?
  3. What is the one thing you want us to tackle this year?

Group answers are indicated in the table below.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Group 1</th>
<th>Group 2</th>
<th>Group 3</th>
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<td>Q 1. What are you most proud of (regarding GPSA)?</td>
<td>How hard the GPSA works to protect graduate students; special recognition to Kyle George, last year’s GPSA President</td>
<td>Food Bank</td>
<td>GPSA’s involvement and activism with budget cuts; recognition of Kyle George.</td>
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Q 2. What is the one thing, regardless of money, that you would change about GPSA?

- Make rallies more effective; put a footprint on campus so graduate students are more visible; closer collaboration with Graduate College.
- Reaching all graduate students; some may be alienated by political views; some may not embrace the way that some students feel about the way the association is moving forward.
- Make presence known more widely; a lot of grad students don’t know they can come to us.

Q 3. What is the one thing you want us to tackle this year?

- Have graduate student research highlighted, have departments talk about student publications, students' outstanding achievement on teaching; more recognition of graduate student work, yearlong recognition of students' work.
- Do more family outreach: daycare in the area; consider needs of graduate students (ie. Healthcare), services provided; what are we getting for our fees?
- A disconnect exists between CSUN and GPSA; official line of communication should be implemented.

President Gordon called the meeting to order again at 11:09 a.m. to hear the groups explain their answers. Faculty Advisor Adam Simon said as he left the meeting that this groups’ mission and purpose is to try to aim to include all those diverse populations of students.

Faculty Advisor Kate Korgan said the Graduate College recently lost three key staff members after losing six others earlier. She said that the Grad College needs to hire additional student workers, undergrad and graduate students at 10-20 hours per week at $10 per hour. She invited interested students to contact her at kate.korgan@unlv.edu and to attach resumes. The commitment should be for a year and the GC will work around the students’ schedules. Because the GC uses student workers as co-employees, students must be reliable, professional, and detail oriented; work will involve scanning, coding, admissions work, GA programs, and special projects. In response to a question about who will do the work Eric Lee in graduate financial services did for graduate assistants, she said it could be any one of the remaining employees. She also said that Dr. Harriet Barlow’s position is not being replaced, but that dissertation and theses requirements are being simplified; details are to be posted on the website by June 15.

President Gordon said the Summer Council will put together three or four pages of goals to determine what is feasible, what’s important, what we want to do, and what we really can achieve. Recommendations will be taken to council in September as goals for next year.

**X. Public Comment** — There were no public comments.

**XI. 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.