GPSA: The Year 2010
by Surbhi Sharma

The GPSA has had a fun-filled, outstanding year 2010, full of accomplishments. Thanks to the passion of the executive board and council members serving on committees campus-wide, the GPSA has definitely become more visible on campus in the recent years. The GPSA council meets once each month to discuss the status of its goals, and to reinforce their commitment to better serving the voice of graduate and professionals across campus. The Rebel Yell has been covering these meetings and maintains a blog of the meetings, which can be accessed in the multimedia section online: (http://unlvrebelyell.com/category/multimedia/).

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The Graduate & Professional Student Association has been actively involved in fighting Budget Cuts to higher education. GPSA endorsed and participated in the Budget Cut Rally on January 22, 2009, and the UNLV Walkout on Feb. 9, 2010.

The budget cut rally observed 5000 people. Students and faculty across the state also signed a higher education pledge, promising to cast their vote to protect education funding in the state. GPSA Executive Board members and council representatives traveled to the State Assembly in Carson City to lobby against budget cuts and were featured in all the local dailies of Nevada. GPSA also organized letter writing campaigns to help convince legislators to protect NSHE’s budget. Thanks to the lobbying efforts, the budget cut was reduced from 36.5% to 12.5% last year and from 22% to 6.9% this year.