



**The Graduate & Professional Student Association**

*University of Nevada, Las Vegas*

## **NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**

*GPSA COUNCIL MINUTES 43-05*

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

5:30-7:00 PM

### **HYBRID LOCATION**

**IN PERSON:** University Gateway Building (GTW)

2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Gather Meeting Room

4700 S Maryland Pkwy, Las Vegas, NV 89119, USA

**VIRTUAL:** <https://unlv.zoom.us/j/7028952261>

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE AGENDA AND PUBLIC MEETING NOTE:**

### **PERTAINING TO VIRTUAL MEETINGS:**

This meeting will be held via teleconference only pursuant to Section 1 of the Declaration of Emergency Directive 006 ("Directive 006") issued by the State of Nevada Executive Department. If a physical location is required for the meeting, participants may be able to access the livestream by visiting the Graduate Commons at the Lied Library 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

Public Comment may be submitted via email to [\*\*gpsapresident@unlv.edu\*\*](mailto:gpsapresident@unlv.edu).

Messages received by 9:00 AM on the Wednesday prior to the meeting, may be entered into the record during the meeting. Any other public comment form submissions and/or voicemails received prior to the adjournment of the meeting will be transcribed and included in the permanent record.

Members of the public wishing to listen to the meeting may do so via:

<https://unlv.zoom.us/j/7028952261>

### **CONTINUED:**

Below is an agenda of all items scheduled to be presented and considered at the meeting. Notification is hereby provided that items on the agenda may be taken out of the order and presented, two or more agenda items may be combined for consideration, and an agenda item may be removed from the agenda or discussion relating to an item on the agenda may be delayed at any time.

Some agenda items are noted as having accompanying reference material. Copies of the reference materials that are distributed at the meeting may be requested by emailing the Chair at [\*\*gpsa@unlv.edu\*\*](mailto:gpsa@unlv.edu). Copies of any such materials will also be made available at [unlv.edu/gpsa](http://unlv.edu/gpsa) on the "Agendas and Minutes" folder of the appropriate meeting. Reasonable efforts will be made to assist and accommodate persons with a disability attending the meeting. Please email the GPSA Manager at [\*\*gpsa@unlv.edu\*\*](mailto:gpsa@unlv.edu) in advance so that arrangements may be made.

This meeting's agenda has been posted in accordance with NRS 241.020. Agendas may also be also be available online at [unlv.edu/gpsa/agenda](http://unlv.edu/gpsa/agenda) in the appropriate session and meeting number folder.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Public comment will be taken during this agenda item. No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item until the matter is included on an agenda as an item on which action may be taken. Comments will be limited to three minutes per person. Persons making comment will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name. The Board Chair may elect to allow additional public comment on a specific agenda item when that agenda item is being considered. In accordance with Attorney General Opinion No. 00-047, as restated in the Attorney General's Open Meeting Law Manual, the Chair may prohibit comment if the content of that comment is a topic that is not relevant to, or within the authority of, the Body, or if the content is willfully disruptive of the meeting by being irrelevant, repetitious, slanderous, offensive, inflammatory, irrational or amounting to personal attacks or interfering with the rights of other speakers.

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

President	Vice President	Treasurer	Secretary
Nicole Juliana Thomas	Evan Falkenthal	Teresa Marie	Aliciah Carr

## 2023-2024 COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

College	Department	Name	Attendance
<b>Lee Business School:</b>	Accounting	<b>VACANT</b>	x
	Business Administration	<b>VACANT</b>	x
	Economics	Natalia Fonseca-Cortes	e
	Management, Entrepreneurship & Tech.	<b>VACANT</b>	-
<b>Dental Medicine:</b>	Dental Medicine	Tyler Pisciotta	x
<b>College of Education:</b>	Counselor Ed, School Psych., & Human Serv.	Carli Barnum	x
	Early Childhood, Multilingual & Spec Ed	<b>VACANT</b>	-
	Teaching & Learning	Claudia Chiang-Lopez	x
	Educational Psychology & Higher Education	Jennifer Fletcher	x
<b>College of Engineering:</b>	Civil & Environmental Engineering	Gabson Baguma	x
	Computer Science	Sai Phani Krishna Parsa	a
	Electrical & Computer Engineering	Olufemi Olubode	x
	Mechanical Engineering	Devin Krystek	x
<b>College of Fine Arts:</b>	Architecture	<b>VACANT</b>	-
	Art	Karla Lagunas	x
	Film	<b>VACANT</b>	-
	Music	<b>VACANT</b>	-
	Theatre	Leah Procita	x
<b>College of Hospitality:</b>	Hospitality Management	Jaimi Garlington	x
	Hotel Administration	Mana Azizoltani	A
<b>Integrated Health Sciences:</b>	Health Physics & Diagnostic Sciences	Gregory Gill	x
	Kinesiology & Nutrition Sciences	<b>VACANT</b>	-
	Physical Therapy	<b>VACANT</b>	-
	Brain Health	<b>VACANT</b>	-
<b>Boyd School of Law:</b>	Law	Maggie Rose O'Flaherty	a

<b>College of Liberal Arts:</b>	Anthropology	Emily Edmonds	x
	English	Carlos Tkacz	x
	History	Tyler Rodney	x
	Political Science	Devin Lopez	x
	Psychology	<b>VACANT</b>	-
	Sociology	Drue Sahuc	x
	World Languages & Cultures	<b>VACANT</b>	-
<b>School of Medicine:</b>	Couple & Family Therapy	<b>VACANT</b>	-
	Medicine	Stephanie Wang	a
<b>School of Nursing:</b>	Nursing	<b>Joseph Cadiz</b>	x
<b>School of Public Health:</b>	Environmental & Occupational Health	Emylia Terry	x
	Healthcare Administration & Policy	Ernest Cornejo	x
	Epidemiology & Biostatistics	Amruta Godbole	x
	Social & Behavioral Health	<b>VACANT</b>	-
<b>College of Urban Affairs:</b>	Communication Studies	<b>VACANT</b>	-
	Criminal Justice	Jordyn Sanders	x
	Journalism & Media Studies	<b>VACANT</b>	-
	Public Policy & Leadership	Kaylee O'Donnell	x
	Social Work	----	-
<b>College of Sciences:</b>	Chemistry & Biochemistry	<b>VACANT</b>	x
	Geoscience	Sierra Ramsey	x
	Life Sciences	<b>VACANT</b>	-
	Mathematical Sciences	Keoni Castellano	x
	Physics & Astronomy	<b>VACANT</b>	-

\*Members may have been appointed by their department between the time of agenda posting and the meeting. All other members present will be available in the Minutes and listed below.

**GPSA MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:**

- Emily Arriviello, Social Work
- Meagan Evans, Social Work
- Dionne Stanfill, Law
- Amrit Shai, Civil & Environmental Engineering
- Burak Sahin, Teaching & Learning
- Amber Ciravolo
- Stephanie Mendizabal- public health
- Alejandro Rodriguez-Lee Buisness school

**Members of the Public Present:**

# AGENDA

## 1) CALL TO ORDER

5:37pm

## 2) PUBLIC COMMENT

INFORMATION ONLY

*(See foregoing notation regarding public comment)*

None

## OLL CALL

## 3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

*Request is made for approval of minutes of previous meetings.*

### 3a) CONSENT AGENDA:

- i) Minutes for the August 2023 Council Meeting as emailed out and posted to the public [GPSA Drive](#).

## 4) REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

INFORMATION ONLY

### 4a) GPSA Executive Board & Committees

#### • President

- Welcome new Department Representatives & Members-at-Large!
  - Council Duties & Obligations
  - The is for you (council members) to be able to communicate with your department.
    - Make yourselves approachable to other students when they have any issue.
      - Not everyone is comfortable with this yet, and that's okay. You'll have ample opportunity to learn!
    - Stay involved, and on top of the information that is sent out to you from GPSA.
    - Talk to of GAs, department members, department heads.
    - Participate as much as you are able.
    - Let us know when there is any issue in the department so we can help to resolve them.
    - Goals will be announced later in the meeting.
  - Understanding NOML and Robert's Rules
    - NOML: National Open Meeting Law
      - Roberts Rules of Order

- The order that every board and government meeting follow
- Link here:  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1HfuxRaAXT-DZbvPuxHn\\_geSqhETsI6gU/edit?usp=sharing&oid=112020004329346710572&rtfpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1HfuxRaAXT-DZbvPuxHn_geSqhETsI6gU/edit?usp=sharing&oid=112020004329346710572&rtfpof=true&sd=true)
- What is for board of regents:
  - A group of 13 Elected officials who oversee all of the NSHE institutions ex: UNLV, UNR, Nevada State University, CSN ext.
  - Meeting happens quarterly All of exec board goes.
    - You are all invited as well if you would like to go in person or join online.
      - Side note\* The next two board meeting will be local, so there will be no extensive travel fees.
  - These meeting will keep you informed about what's happening within the university system.
  - We are the official graduate's student government for UNLV in the other BOR handbook.
    - This gives us voting right and a seat at the table at the BOR meetings.
- The of your roles is to connect with the other student as a representative.
  - Let us know if you need us to make you a listserv to email your department.
- Obligations for department representatives:
  - Serve on one internal or one external committee.
    - See recap email of open committee positions.
- Time for Question
  - What do we do here at GPSA?
  - We are an independent student government.
    - We have a lot of different programs.
    - We are a lobbying legislation body.
      - We lobbied in Carson City for increases in GA stipend.
    - Graduate student housing initiative is coming up.
    - Other programs include:
      - Cap and gown
      - Funding for research

- Research forum presentation (Saturday April 6<sup>th</sup>)
      - Our longest running events.
    - Also, we have socials, community events, mixers ext.
- Info for All Colleges!
  - Access to supplemental dental/vision healthcare: <https://unlvgin.myahpcare.com/>
  - There are over 5000 dentist that accept the plan
  - And a dental school who will do cleaning
- Housing Study Updates
  - We are collecting data to focus on out housing situations for our graduate and profession student
  - We are documenting the issues that are faced by our population to show the state legislature to get funding.
    - We will be doing qualitative interviews and collecting quantitative data to prove a need for more graduate student housing on or near the UNLV campus.
- Call for GPSA Director of Communications & Marketing
  - If you are interested in writing emails to the student body
  - Messaging calendar
    - Join the president cabinet!
    - The application is open and attached below
    - You will also be working a lot with our amazing Meagan
- **Vice President**
  - Sponsorship Committee Updates
    - Chair of the sponsorship committee
    - The sponsorship committee is used to help fund things during in your time as a graduate student at UNLV.
      - Overhaul of the operating policy occurred this summer.
      - The application is a lot cleaner
      - The website is currently being updated (it difficult to use at the moment)
  - Workshops posted for Fall 2023
    - Any student can come and learn how to write and apply sponsorship application
    - We've got money!
  - How do we choose who we fund?
    - There is a rubric! It can be found online [here](#)

- You need to be able to explain why your funding needs are important.
- Turn around is 4-8 weeks.
- Student should submit ASAP!
  - But no less than 60 days in advance
- We do workshops.
- Let us know if you want to host one.
- We do department specific workshop.

● **Treasurer**

- Budget Report – expenditures and revenue
  - Student fees are used to be distributed into the budget
  - Every month Teresa puts the budget into a spreadsheet
  - UNLV had an audit and changed some things around
    - We have new budget lines to ensure
- Motion by: Karla Lagunas
- Seconded by Drue Sahuc
- Budget spreadsheet linked below
  - [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1\\_l3\\_mRYzna8UTdAbpaybVQIeB29yQ-Tq/edit#gid=902221151](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1_l3_mRYzna8UTdAbpaybVQIeB29yQ-Tq/edit#gid=902221151)
- President moves to approve budget
  - Motion unanimously passed.
- FAFSA date change
  - Alternative need forms available if you are not eligible for FAFA
  - Dates for FAFSA have change to December from the previous date in October
- GPSA Tutor program to start in the spring now has a place in the budget
  - GPSA Awards
  - Gap and gown
  - Scholarship is available to compensate your time as a rep
  - Graduates' students are allowed to use the writing center
    - Do make an appointments
    - They also have asynchronous options
  - Grad rebel advantage program through the grad college is also available
- Board of Regents Updates
  - COLA- cost of living adjustments were made last year, and it put the university in a deficit.

- We receive 12% more, but it's nowhere near as much as we need to generate employee retention and recruitment.
- We need an 86% increase to meet national standards and to be competitive.
- UNLV is 400 undergrads shy 41000 students –
- Presidents want an enrollment 40,000 students by 2030
- Fees will likely be increase on student because of the COLAs.
- COLAs are not a raise; they are a necessary needed adjustment to meet an adequate standard of living.

- **Secretary**

- Recap

- Coming in the next few days

- Listserv

#### **4b) GPSA Business Manager & Advisor**

*This item will be used for updates provided by the GPSA Business Manager & Advisor. No action will be taken on these items.*

- 2023-2024 GPSA Calendars available for pick up in the Graduate Commons, LLB 2141
- Headshots – Email to [gpsa@unlv.edu](mailto:gpsa@unlv.edu) for inclusion on the GPSA Council Members webpage.

#### **4c) UNLV Campus-Wide Committees**

*Representatives serving on any external committee on GPSA behalf may use this time to provide updates.*

- Carlos Tkacz – Nevada student workers (NSW)
  - If you are interested joining the unionization efforts, contact him: [carlos.tkacz@unlv.edu](mailto:carlos.tkacz@unlv.edu)
  - He has stickers :)

#### **4d) UNLV Departments/ Units**

- Graduate College Updates – Dean Alyssa Crittenden and Associate Dean Valarie Burke
  - [My Professional Origin Story Series](#)
    - This series is open to the entire college community
    - Grad students are strongly encouraged to participate
    - Highlights faculty and senior administration
    - Join us Oct 4<sup>th</sup> in person at the Barrack auditorium.
      - President Whitfield has one posted online on YouTube (click the link above to watch)
  - Dean Alyssa Crittenden says hello.

- Late GA appointments
- Only 20% of GA were appointed by late June.
- They were supposed to be appointed in the month of June.
- Grad college is working hard to change the system so that GA are appointed on time.
- Grad college has 2 ½ people to appoint 1100 GA's ASAP
  - Grad dean apologizes for all inconveniences.
  - President Whitfield thanked GA publicly in all hand meeting.
- Floor open for questions:
  - None.
- Valerie Burk
  - Tradition keeper official passport
    - Grab one at the graduate college grad commons in the gateway building.
    - Take a photo with it at events to get stamps.
    - If you get 57 stamps you get a medallion at graduation
  - We have an upside-down flashlight.
- Drue gets the first one!
- The Grad commons in this building is open until 5pm
  - There are study spaces here.
  - Computers have the same programs as those in the library
  - Lots of snack opportunities from the business's downstairs
- Department/ College Updates
  - Emily Arriviello for social work- Practicum surveys
    - The practicum hour requirements have changed, students are not happy.
    - Brainstorming ways to help students through the use of a survey.
      - Issue may come for financial issues- 20hr requirement impedes on student ability to work paid position.
    - Hoping to hold a meeting with BSW to see how they maybe become paid or receive stipends for their time working as interns for companies.
    - Other discipline may also want to join this movement to enforce payment requirements for practicums/ internships.

## 5) UNFINISHED BUSINESS

## FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

*Unfinished Business is any motion or action item that was under discussion and was postponed or moved to this meeting at the discretion of the public body as approved by the chair.*

None.

## 6) NEW BUSINESS

## FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

*New business is any motion that is new to this meeting. All items will be for possible action unless otherwise stated.*

### **6a) Appointment of GPSA Members to External Committees (for possible action)**

President Thomas requests time for the discussion and approval of GPSA members to internal and external GPSA and University-wide committees. Vacancies will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis with approval from the respective chair of each committee and full approval by the GPSA Council. All members of GPSA are eligible to serve on an internal or external committee. Committee list is subject to change.

Current Openings:

1. UNLV Parking & Transportation Committee
2. UNLV Dining Advisory Board
3. UNLV Intercollegiate Athletics Council

UNLV Graduate College Committees ([Sign-Up link here](#)):

4. Graduate Course Review Committee (GCRC)
5. Graduate Program Review Committee (GPRC)
6. Awards2: Doctoral Awards/Faculty Awards (GAWC-2)
7. Postdoctoral Advisory Board

- Postponed due to time constraints.
- Email will be going out soon.
  - Contact GPSA President if you are interested in these committees.

### **6b) Appointment of GPSA Director of Operations (for possible action)**

President Thomas requests the discussion and confirmation of Naseem Benjelloun to serve as the GPSA Director of Operations in the President's Cabinet for the 2023-2024 school year.

- Motion for appoint by – Drue Sahuc
- Seconded by Devin Lopez
- Naseem is a rock star in the political science department.
  - Works for administration tech services at UNLV has been there for four years.
  - Also has experience in student government.
    - Has highly qualified to fill this role.
  - He lives and breathes team Dynamix (a large need)
- Vote- to appoint.
  - No oppositions or abstentions
  - Unanimously approved.

### **6c) Q&A with Tracy Johnson – Director of RPC (information only)**

The Graduate College requests time for a Q & A with the Director of Retention, Progression, and Completion, Tracy Johnson. RPC at UNLV refers to the retention, progression, and completion (or graduation) of UNLV graduate students. No action will be taken.

- Retention progression and completion
  - Team of 4 hard working individuals
- Today speaking we have Luca Graff and Carla Pablo
  - They oversee differ colleges within the university.
- Check out grad rebel gateway if you haven't already.
- This is to apply for:
  - Scholarship
  - Sponsorship
  - Graduate admissions
  - Program forms
  - Department forms
    - Contact them for any questions.
- Need to know policies:
  - You must be enrolled in a minimum of 6 graduate credits for 3 consecutive semesters or you may be separated from your program.
  - For financial aid purposes you need to be taking 9 credits to be considered full time
    - Unless you are a GA- than its 6 credits
  - Health insurance is mandatory for all graduate students.
    - There is an option to waive the fee if you have a provider already and you can show proof of coverage.
- Other information
  - Student should apply for graduation on semester prior through myunlv
  - Student can request leave of absence for up to 2 years if unable to meet continuous enrollment policy.
- Email [grad.rpc@unlv.edu](mailto:grad.rpc@unlv.edu) for questions
- Contact OISS if you have questions on F1 visas

#### **6d) Consideration and Approval of GPSA AY 2023-2024 Budget Allocations (for possible action)**

President Thomas calls for the discussion and approval of funding allocations for the upcoming year. Recommended annual budget was approved by the GPSA Ways & Means Committee. The annual budget requires approval from the GPSA Council.

#### **6e) Consideration and Approval of GPSA AY 2023-2024 Annual Goals (for possible action)**

President Thomas requests time for a presentation and discussion of the proposed annual goals for GPSA. calls for the discussion and approval of funding allocations for the upcoming year. Upcoming projects, partnerships, scholarships, grants, and lobbying efforts will be considered as items for potential funding allocation.

Postponed due to time constraints.

## 6f) Discussion of Ongoing Projects in GPSA (information only)

President Thomas will use this time to provide updates on current GPSA initiatives and to solicit feedback from GPSA Council representatives. No action will be taken on these items.

## 7) ANNOUNCEMENTS

INFORMATION ONLY

- **Upcoming Events:**

Questions? Email Meagan Evans, [gpsa.eo@unlv.edu](mailto:gpsa.eo@unlv.edu)

1. Trash Bash at Wetlands Park, Saturday 9/23! 9AM – 11AM
  - Volunteer Sign up: <https://forms.gle/S7w7EasfnVn42jm76>
  - Free GPSA Grad Rebel t-shirt for volunteers! All are welcome.
2. My Professional Origin Story Series
  - [President Whitfield @ Wed Oct 4, 2023 11:30am - 1pm](#)

### Rebel Homecoming Week GPSA Events

3. Spook-Tacular Costume Party!
  - Date and location will be shared soon!
4. Homecoming Festival Oct. 18 – Volunteers Needed
  - Homecoming Volunteer sign up:  
[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1rw6B2G5LXXTxIM\\_LfUInmP3rP78mIfSH3wd3u-lh6j8/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1rw6B2G5LXXTxIM_LfUInmP3rP78mIfSH3wd3u-lh6j8/edit?usp=sharing)
5. Treasurer Hunt – Follow GPSA on social media!
  - Find the GPSA Treasurer at home football games, win a prize bag!
6. GPSA 5K! Jan. 20, 2024
  - Registration to open early November. Open to all.

- Professional Closet available for all students – BEH 205
- “Get That Published” Cohort applications
- Call for Applications: GPSA Director of Communications & Marketing

- Application link:

[https://unlv.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_efUkWXwxGUZjIhg](https://unlv.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_efUkWXwxGUZjIhg)

- Possible grad appreciation night coming

1. Friday November 10

## 8) PUBLIC COMMENT

INFORMATION ONLY

*(See foregoing notation regarding public comment)*

*None*

