



The UNLV Graduate & Professional Student Association

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

NOTICE OF PUBLIC

MEETING

GPSA COUNCIL MEETING 43-09

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST, 2024

5:30 PM

HYBRID PUBLIC MEETING:

Minutes for approval

IN PERSON: University Gateway Building (GTW)

Second floor, Gather Meeting Room

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

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

ID: 7028952261

Passcode: 88429386

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 2nd floor.

Public Comment may be submitted via email to 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. Copies of any such materials will also be made available at 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 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 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 x	Evan Falkenthal x	Teresa Marie x	Aliciah Carr x

2023-2024 COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

College	Department	Name	Attendance
Lee Business School:	Accounting	Omgema Dut Ayai	x
	Business Administration	Alejandro Rodriguez Lombeida	x
	Economics	VACANT	
	Management, Entrepreneurship & Tech.	Amber Upton	x
Dental Medicine:	Dental Medicine	Tyler Pisciotta	x
College of Education:	Counselor Ed, School Psych., & Human Serv.	Carli Barnum	x
	Early Childhood, Multilingual & Special Education	Elena Mendoza	a
	Teaching & Learning	Claudia Chiang-Lopez	a
	Educational Psychology & Higher Education	Jennifer Fletcher	x
College of Engineering:	Civil & Environmental Engineering	Gabson Baguma	a
	Computer Science	Sai Phani Krishna Parsa	x
	Electrical & Computer Engineering	Daniela Nikoloska	a
	Mechanical Engineering	Devin Krystek	x

College of Fine Arts:	Architecture	VACANT	
	Art	Karla Lagunas	x
	Film	Victoria Marshall	x
	Music	VACANT	
	Theatre	Leah Procita	x

College	Department	Name	Attendance
College of Hospitality:	Hospitality Management	Jaimi Garlington	x
	Hotel Administration	Mana Azizsoltani	a
Integrated Health Sciences:	Health Physics & Diagnostic Sciences	Gregory Gill	x
	Kinesiology & Nutrition Sciences	VACANT	
	Physical Therapy	VACANT	
	Brain Health	VACANT	
Boyd School of Law:	Law	Blanca Peña	x
College of Liberal Arts:	Anthropology	Emily Edmonds	x
	English	Carlos Tkacz	x
	History	Tyler Rodney	x
	Political Science	Devin Lopez	x

	Psychology	Richard Chang	x
	Sociology	Drue Sahuc	x
	World Languages & Cultures	VACANT	
School of Medicine:	Couple & Family Therapy	Melissa Ceballos	x
	Medicine	Stephanie Wang	a
School of Nursing:	Nursing	Kevin Dangler	x
School of Public Health:	Environmental & Occupational Health	Emylia Terry	x
	Healthcare Administration & Policy	Ernest Cornejo	x
	Epidemiology & Biostatistics	Amruta Godbole	x
	Social & Behavioral Health	VACANT	
College of Urban Affairs:	Communication Studies	VACANT	
	Criminal Justice	Jordyn Sanders	x

College	Department	Name	Attendance
	Journalism & Media Studies	VACANT	
	Public Policy & Leadership	Kaylee O'Donnell	a
	Social Work	Emily Arriviello Proxy: Meagan Evans	x
College of Sciences:	Chemistry & Biochemistry	David King	x
	Geoscience	Sierra Ramsey	A
	Life Sciences	Thomas Crippen	x
	Mathematical Sciences	Keoni Castellano	x
	Physics & Astronomy	VACANT	
Interdisciplinary Programs:	Integrated Health Sciences	Katie Bricarell	x
	Data Analytics & Cybersecurity	VACANT	

*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:

Meagan Evans, Social Work
Lila Hearn, Political Science
Penny Wolkiewicz, Emergency Crisis Management
Dionne Stanfill, Law
Amrit Shahi, Civil & Environmental Engineering
Burak Sahin, Teaching & Learning
Ravi Batra, Environmental & Occupational Health
Amber Ciravolo, Geoscience
Joseph Cadiz, Nursing
Ryan Rezaei, Hospitality Management
Joseph Noce, History
Francesca Howard, Nursing
Susan Dakwa, Social & Behavioral Health

Members of the Public Present:

AGENDA

1) CALL TO ORDER

2) PUBLIC COMMENT INFORMATION ONLY *(See foregoing notation regarding public comment)*

ROLL 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 November 2023 Council Meeting as emailed out and posted to the public [GPSA Drive](#). *No minutes for the December 2023 Council Meeting, as that meeting was cancelled.*

ii) Motion by Devin Lopez

iii) Second Tyler Rodney

▪ *Minutes approved.*

4) REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS INFORMATION ONLY

4a) GPSA Executive Board & Committees

• **President**

○ [Written Reports](#)

- Recovery and Safety after December 6th- Campus Safety Committee and Updates
- Housing Study Updates/ Tutoring Program Updates

- *Welcome from gpsa president.*
- *We follow Nevada open meeting law.*
 - *We try to be more chill sometimes we get in trouble for it.*
 - *Campus safety committee has been established.*
- *Chris will be graduate student rep on this committee.*
- *Meeting will be twice a month on Fridays.*
- *Updates are coming on beam hall.*

- Extended hours for security at BEH due to student safety concerns
- Course evaluation- mandatory evaluation seem to be working.
 - Feedback was not more negative due to the mandate.
 - There will still be and opt out option.
 - There will be a soft lock out (instead of not allowing student to access their canvas courses).
 - Question-David Thomson
 - Will there be an evaluation for courses that have more than 1 instructor?

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- Answer:
 - Unknown
- Tutoring program –
 - We (GPSA) are hiring!
 - 3 stats
 - 2 for grant
 - 1 research design
- We may be using the canvas course developed by a graduate student here for statistics- but this will only be a general statistic course not one specialized for any program.
 - We still need 1 to 1 tutor.
- Because we don't pay into the academic success center fee Grads are not able to receive tutoring services from the ASC like undergraduate students
 - (Comment- Devin Krystek)- the engineering department has someone who can help with technical writing.
 - They (the engineering department) are asking for grad student tutors as well, but we don't know if they are teaching grad students.
- We hope to get this jump started by the end of the semester.
- We are looking for graduate students within the UNLV NSHE system.

• Vice President

- Sponsorship Committee Updates
- Workshops are available.
 - Let us know email gpsavp@edu or the general gpsa email.
 - Operating policy changes only went through by about 60% on the sponcership website.
 - Some of the elements are updated incorrectly.
 - Some students were going off old information.
- Last submission appeals will be waived until the end of February.
- Turn the faculty enrolment of for a while.
- Numbers
 - 189000 has been given out – last semester.
 - 175000 for the year next year
 - This funding is likely to only go down.
 - We will likely run out of money.
 - We need to find other sources of funding.
 - We will have to be stricter with decision if we are unable to do this.
 - We hope to do some fundraising.
 - VP as some experience in this
 - Sponsorship budget needs to be restructured.
- (Comment -Ernest Cornejo) – healthcare admin): we already knew this – but we will likely have to start eliminating things.
- (Response-President Thomas) we will likely see a fee increase in GPSA – we haven't had one in

- over 5 years for this organization.
- The amount we have given is no small feat.
- (Question- David King -Chem department): Where does this money go to?
- (Response-President Thomas): In the future if we run out of money, we will use this year information to determine how much we can give out.
 - Prioritize individual based on tiered priorities.
 - We will need to formalize this process.
- (Comment Karla Lagunas- Art Department): Interest in fundraising – experience with the barrack museum fundraising operations
- (Comment Carlos Tkacz English department): English department must travel – thank you to Evan (GPSA VP) and the sponsorship committee.

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- President Thomas:
 - We are currently funding 70% of application as opposed to 40- 50%
 - A huge portion of this was with emergency funding.
 - Great things cost lots of money.

• Treasurer

- Budget Report – expenditures and revenue
 - See budget here: [budget sheet](#)
 - Our budget this year was bigger because of covid shut down- lots of roll over. • Another graduate appreciation event coming soon.
 - Partnership with athletics has come through.
 - They are now paying for our food sponsorship.
 - Yay free canes!
- Campus Committee Updates
 - Dining services is revamping.
 - People are not happy with airmark.
 - UNLV contract is great in comparison to their contract with other university.
 - Starbucks is being moved.
 - Admin stud is being relocated.
 - Soho burrito is moving to diversity area.
 - New smoothies place
 - Shake n stake is our chicken guy in
 - New halal
 - Getting a Robarts salad
 - Subway will now be Panera.
 - Community market on the science side
 - No Einstein's- more smoothie at recenter
 - Let us know if you have any thoughts.
 - In and out will parking lot will know be a garage
 - Interest with accessible areas – increase
 - Call for grad appeals call for members.

• Secretary

- Welcome to New Council Members & Members-at-Large
 - If you want your photos on the website, send me an email.
 - The largest part of your job is to relay on information that you get here at these meeting to your departments.
 - To do so you'll need a way to get information to them.
 - If you need an email list or Listservs

- **Chief of Staff**

- Challenge Coins

- Not as high on the priority
 - We would like to outsource the design of these challenge coins.
 - If you want to help with this let us know

- **Engagement & Outreach Director**

- GPSA 26th Annual Research Forum- call for department involvement

- Reach out to your professors.
 - Giving abstracts as well as presentations
 - We need department diversityyyy
 - It okay if you aren't ready yet come volunteer.
 - Help us with grading criteria.
 - Everyone should be volunteering and or presenting.
 - Saturday April 6th Please Come!

- Potential 5K dates to reschedule for Fall 2024

- Date TBD

- **Operations Director**

4b) GPSA Business Manager & Advisor

- Call for faculty judges and abstract submission for 2024 Research Forum

- It will be fun!
 - Volunteers sign up is coming.
 - Will be ready by Monday.

4c) UNLV Campus-Wide Committees

(Representatives serving on any external committee on GPSA behalf may use this time to provide updates)

4d) UNLV Departments/ Other Units

- Updates from Graduate College

- Check grad rebel gateway.
 - You have 2 weeks to accept offer letters.
 - Scholarship and fellow ship portals are open.
 - You can apply on grad rebel gateway.

- Department/ College Updates

- None

- NVGSW Updates

- We are still doing what we are doing.
 - Website: (<https://nvgradworkers.org>)
 - In contra with UAW- united auto workers
 - The goal is to get as many people as possible with unionizing.
 - Large meeting on March 6th
 - Many emails coming.

- They also have socials (<https://www.instagram.com/unlvgradworkers/>)

- Email Carlos Tkacz for more information

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.

5a) Appointment of Election Commission Members for 2024 Executive Board Elections (For Possible Action)

President Thomas requests time for the discussion and approval of three (3) nominees to serve on the Elections Commission for the 2024 GPSA Executive Board elections. This committee is established by the GPSA Bylaws and is composed of GPSA Council members or Members-at-Large, with one member from each internal GPSA committee. Those who wish to serve on the committee may not intend to run in the 2024 Executive Board election.

- Motion to open item: Tyler Rodney

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- Seconded by Ernest Cornejo

- We need three people – you can't be running or attended to running for the elected positions.
- We need to vet people.
- This must be done for the interest in the student body- not for just a

- Volunteers

- Drue

- Tyler

- Blanca

- David

Move to approve election commotion Teresa Marie

Seconded by Devin Krystek

Doodle pole for a meeting date coming soon.

5b) Discussion of GPSA Annual Awards & Potential Establishment of Ad Hoc Awards Committee (For Possible Action)

President Thomas requests time to discuss the process of the GPSA Annual Awards. If the Council deems appropriate, members of GPSA may be appointed to serve on an Ad Hoc Awards committee, which will work to review current award language, establish a new rubric for scoring the awards, and score the eventual applications.

Motion David King
Second Devin Lopez

List of individuals on those committee:

Carlos Tkacz
A'liciah Carr
Devin Lopez
Jaimee Garlington
Chair- Nicole Thomas

Motion to appointer: Theresa Marie
Seconded by: Drue Sahuc

Approved

5c) Approval of Childhood Development Center Funding (For Possible Action)

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President Thomas requests time for the discussion and approval of \$5000 to be allocated to the Childhood Development Center, where funds will go to assist graduate and professional student parents with childcare costs. Funds are to be encumbered from the FY2024 GPSA General Budget.

Motion: Drue Sahuc **Seconded Tyler Rodney :**

- A very needed service
- Motion to approve – Devin Lopez
- Second by Teresa Marie
- Approved

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) Discussion and Approval of Increased Ways & Means Funding for Graduate Registered Student Organizations (For Possible Action)

Treasurer Marie requests time for the discussion and approval of funds not to exceed \$7000 to be reallocated to the GPSA Ways & Means Committee's Graduate Registered Student Organization budget. Funds are to be encumbered from the FY2024 GPSA General Budget.

Motions: Drue
Second by Tyler:

We should establish an appeal system- student orgs didn't get their full funding.

(Question Ernest Cornejo) - Do orgs with undergrads get money?

(Answer- Treasurer Marie)

- They are funded by CSUN.
- GPSA only funds graduate student organization
- David King- where does the funding go?
 - o The money goes toward the organization.
 - o Point of clarifications – GRSO get stipends.
- Move to approve President Thomas
 - o Seconded by Karla Lagunas
 - o Approved

6b) Preliminary Discussion of GPSA Fees for Fiscal Year 2026 (Information Only) GPSA Manager & Advisor requests time for the discussion of the budget outlook and potential programming changes for the 2025-2026 academic year. Time for discussion will be allotted to discuss the potential of changing the GPSA student fee in the 2026 fee cycle.

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Postponed

7) ANNOUNCEMENTS INFORMATION ONLY i) Research Forum Saturday, April 6th, 2024! All

research and creative work welcome) Elections are opening soon! Feb 11th

iii) Next grad appreciation night Feb 17th

- @ Thomas and Mack
- There will be food.
- Still go if it's not a grad Rebel night you still have a free ticket and additionally discounted tickets.

iv) Cap and gown program is opening.

- Tams are getting changed to red to match gowns.

8) PUBLIC COMMENT INFORMATION ONLY (See foregoing notation regarding public

comment)

No further comments

(Question: David King)I've been struggling with a way to figure out how To facilitate involvement between departments and graduate college?

(Answer GPSA Manager Nia Smercina)

- We can help you plan for mixer in the graduate commons space.
- We currently have space in the budget for this.

9) ADJOURNMENT FOR POSSIBLE ACTION i) Meeting adjourned 7:28 pm

