



Notice of Public Meeting

Graduate & Professional Student Association

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

GPSA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING 46-05

Tuesday, September 1, 2026

12:00 PM

For Members of the Public

View the hybrid meeting via **live stream**:

youtube.com/@gpsaUNLV/streams

Join the hybrid meeting **in person** or **by phone**:

IN PERSON: LLB 2141, Graduate Commons, Lied Library
4505 S. Maryland Pkwy, Las Vegas, NV 89154

BY PHONE: +12532158782,,93656701031#

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

About the Agenda and Public Meeting

This meeting is held in compliance with Nevada's Open Meeting Law (NRS Chapter 241.020). The agenda was posted at least three working days in advance, no later than 9:00 AM, and includes all items scheduled for discussion or action. Posting locations include: GPSA Office (CHB-C 111, exterior public bulletin board), [NV Public notice](https://www.nv.gov/public-notice) [notice.nv.gov](https://www.nv.gov/public-notice), and [GPSA Website](http://www.unlv.edu/gpsa/agendas), www.unlv.edu/gpsa/agendas. This meeting is held to conduct the official business of the graduate student government, including governance decisions, advocacy efforts, information dissemination, and to provide the public with updates and reports related to GPSA operations.

Meeting Format & Supporting Materials

This is a hybrid meeting. A quorum of voting members shall convene in person and online via Zoom, with public remote access available via YouTube livestream or telephonic participation via Zoom dial-in. For questions or accommodations contact the GPSA Secretary at gpsasecretary@unlv.edu. All materials related to this meeting are available online or upon request from the GPSA Office. Please contact gpsasecretary@unlv.edu for access.

Submitting Public Comment

GPSA meetings are open to the public. Members of the university community and general public are encouraged to attend and participate.

GPSA accepts public comment in three formats:

- (1) Email: Submit written public comment to gpsa@unlv.edu. Subject Line: "PUBLIC COMMENT" and include the meeting type and meeting number
 - (a) (example Email Subject Line: PUBLIC COMMENT for GPSA Council 46-05)
 - (b) Emails must be sent no later than 5:00PM one business day before the meeting.
- (2) In-Person: At the beginning or end of the meeting (limit: 2 minutes)
- (3) Voicemail: Call 702-895-5674 (limit: 120 seconds)

Public comments may be read aloud or summarized at the discretion of the Chair, subject to time constraints. Public Comments must be relevant to GPSA agenda items, be respectful, and cannot contain profanity or discriminatory language. GPSA may refuse comments that are obscene, slanderous, or disruptive per NRS 241.020 and NRS 241.023.

ATTENDANCE

VOTING MEMBERS OF GPSA COUNCIL

Included in official agenda Roll Call; voting members count toward quorum.

2026-2027 EXECUTIVE BOARD

PRESIDENT	VICE PRESIDENT	TREASURER	SECRETARY
☐ Trey Curtis-Brown	☐ Nehemiah Afam Chukwuere	☐ Kalyani Ganapathireddy	☐ Rachel DeWald

NON-VOTING MEMBERS OF GPSA COUNCIL

Included in official agenda Roll Call; voting members count toward quorum.

2026-2027 PRESIDENT'S CABINET

President's Cabinet members are hired through the end of the Spring semester (May 15th).

The 2026-2027 President's Cabinet has not yet been appointed.

Division of Communications & Marketing	Division of Engagement & Outreach	Division of Legislative Affairs	Division of Operations	Division of Sponsored Funding	Attorney General
DIRECTOR	DIRECTOR	DIRECTOR	Director of Operations	DIRECTOR	AG
☐ Starlisha Towers	☐ Xander Zafarana	☐ Devin Lopez	☐ Jared Desamero	☐ Nehemiah Afam Chukwuere	☐ David Elder
DEPUTY DIRECTOR	DEPUTY DIRECTOR	DEPUTY DIRECTOR	HISTORIAN	DEPUTY DIRECTOR	HISTORIAN
☐ Vacant	☒ Vacant	☐ Bianca Martins de Oliveira	☐ Vacant	☐ Ayoola Olayinka	☐ Vacant

GPSA FACULTY ADVISORS & LIAISONS (NON-VOTING)

NOT included in the official agenda Roll Call; non-voting. May advise, provide reports, or updates.

2026-2027 GPSA FACULTY ADVISORS

- ☐ **Academic Faculty Advisor**, Dr. Bill Robinson (pending Council approval)
- ☐ **Academic Faculty Advisor**, Dr. John Colombo (pending Council approval)
- ☐ **Academic Faculty Advisor (ex officio)**, Dr. Alyssa Crittenden
- ☐ **Administrative Faculty Advisor (ex officio)**, Virginia Smercina, GPSA Manager

GRADUATE COLLEGE LIAISON

- ☐ **GA Program Coordinator & Advocate**, Dante Washington

AGENDA

1) Call to Order

2) Roll Call

[Time allotted ~5 minutes]

3) Public Comment

INFORMATION ONLY

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 comments 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.

4) Consent Agenda

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

Consent agenda items will be approved in whole unless a member objects to an item on the consent agenda, in whole or in part. Unanimous consent will be used for the approval of the consent agenda. An individual item may be pulled from the Consent Agenda for consideration by any member by request to the Chair.

[Time allotted ~10 minutes]

A. Approval of Minutes.

Minutes for Executive Board Meeting 46-03, (July 23, 2026) and 46-04 (August 7th & 8th, 2026) will be considered for approval. Minutes are uploaded to the GPSA Google Drive and are also sent to the Council.

5) Reports & Recommendations

INFORMATION ONLY

Members of the Executive Board, President's Cabinet, the Business Manager, Faculty Advisors, internal Committee Chairs, external Committee Representatives, and the Graduate College will report to the GPSA Council concerning UNLV related issues or events important to the UNLV graduate and professional student body.

Council Representatives may also present, at the discretion of the Chair, any information specific to their Department and/or Unit. No immediate action may be taken on items raised under Reports & Recommendations unless properly scheduled as an agenda item.

[Time allotted for item. Ex: 30 Minutes]

A. Executive Board

- i. President Curtis-Brown
- ii. Vice President Chukwuere
- iii. Treasurer Ganapathireddy
- iv. Secretary DeWald

B. President's Cabinet

- i. Division of Engagement & Outreach, *Director*
- ii. Division of Legislative Affairs, *Director*
- iii. Division of Sponsored Funding, *Vice President Chukwuere*
- iv. Division of Communications & Marketing, *Director*
- v. Division of Operations, *Director*
- vi. Attorney General
- vii. Historian

C. GPSA Manager & Advisor

- i. Manager and Administrative Faculty Advisor, *Nia Smercina*

D. GPSA Internal Committee Reports (standing committees)

- i. Ways & Means Committee
- ii. Sponsorship Committee
- iii. Constitution & Bylaws Committee
- iv. Rules & Ethics Committee
- v. GPSA Awards Committee

E. External Committee Reports

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

F. GPSA Faculty Advisors

- i. GPSA Faculty Advisor, *Dr. Bill Robinson*
- ii. GPSA Faculty Advisor, *Dr. John Colombo*
- iii. GPSA Faculty Advisor, *Dr. Alyssa Crittenden*

G. UNLV Department or Unit Updates

Council Representatives may provide updates from their individual departments.

- i. **Graduate College**

6) Unfinished Business

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. All items will be for possible action unless otherwise stated.

A. Constitutional Revision Review

INFORMATION ONLY

President Curtis-Brown requests time to provide an update on the ongoing review of the GPSA Constitution, including proposed revisions, feedback received, and anticipated next steps.

Ref. Council 46-005

Time allotted for item. ~5 Minutes

7) New Business

All items will be for possible action unless otherwise stated.

A. GPSA Fee Increase

For Possible Action

President Curtis-Brown requests discussion regarding a potential increase to the GPSA student fee. The Executive Board will discuss the purpose and potential impact of a fee increase, including opportunities to expand student sponsorship funding, strengthen graduate and professional student engagement and programming, and increase GPSA's capacity to directly support student-led initiatives. The Executive Board may provide feedback and direction regarding the proposed increase, student outreach, and next steps for consideration by the GPSA Council.

Time allotted for item. ~10 Minutes

B. Accessible PDFs & Website Announcements **INFORMATION ONLY**

GPSA Manager and Advisor Nia requests discussion regarding accessible PDF requirements and GPSA website announcements. The Executive Board will receive information and discuss accessibility considerations for documents published by GPSA, including PDFs and other materials posted online, as well as processes and expectations for submitting and publishing announcements on the GPSA website. Jerra Strong will be invited to participate in the discussion and provide guidance and answer questions.

Time allotted for item. ~20 Minutes

C. Council Requirements Discussion **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

GPSA Secretary Rachel requests discussion regarding GPSA Council requirements. The Executive Board will review and discuss current expectations and requirements for Council members, including attendance, participation, representation, and other responsibilities associated with serving on the GPSA Council.

Time allotted for item. ~10 Minutes

D. Sponsorship Program Matching Funds MOUs **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

President Curtis-Brown requests discussion regarding Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with UNLV colleges, schools, and other campus units to provide matching funds for the GPSA Sponsorship Program. The Executive Board will discuss current and prospective partnerships, proposed matching-fund structures, and how these agreements can expand the availability and sustainability of sponsorship funding for graduate and professional students.

Time allotted for item. ~10 Minutes

E. Town Hall on Graduate Assistant Unionization **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

President Curtis-Brown requests discussion regarding a GPSA Town Hall scheduled for September 17, 2026, concerning the ongoing graduate assistant (GA) unionization effort. The Executive Board will discuss the purpose, format, and scope of the town hall, which will provide graduate assistants and other graduate and professional students with an opportunity to receive information, ask questions, and engage in open discussion regarding the unionization effort. Discussion may also include potential participants, campus partners, event logistics, and outreach to students.

Time allotted for item. ~10 Minutes

8) Announcements

INFORMATION ONLY

[Upcoming events, deadlines, etc.]

9) Public Comment

INFORMATION ONLY

(See foregoing notation regarding public comment)

10) Adjournment