



Notice of Public Meeting

Graduate & Professional Student Association

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

GPSA Council Meeting 46-08

Wednesday, October 14, 2026

5:30 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: GTW 2-268 & 269, Gather Conference Room, Gateway Building
4505 S. Maryland Pkwy, Las Vegas, NV 89154

By Phone: +16694449171,,95454867364#

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), Graduate Commons (LLB 2141), [Nevada Public Notice](#) and [GPSA Website](#), 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 46-08)
 - (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 241.0

Attendance

Voting Members of GPSA Council

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

Fall 2026 Council Representatives

**Council Representatives not listed or appointed after this agenda was publicly posted will be recorded in the meeting minutes.*

31 Representatives appointed as of Wednesday September 2, 2026

Department	Representative	Attendance
		(P) In-Person (V) Virtual (E) Excused (A) Absent
Accounting	Vacant	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Economics	Vacant	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Finance	Vacant	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Information Systems	Shanzeh Aslam	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Department of Management and Entrepreneurship	Vacant	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Business Administration (MBA/EMBA)	Colin Covitz	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Dental Medicine	Hayden Riley	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Counselor Education, School Psychology, and Human Services	Nia Virgil	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Early Childhood, Multilingual, and Special Education	Temitope Aborishade	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Educational Psychology, Leadership, & Higher Education (EPLHE)	Kingsley Nimoh	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Teaching and Learning	Kris Miguel	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Civil & Environmental Engineering and Construction	Vacant	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Computer Science	Graham Haley	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Electrical and Computer Engineering	Vacant	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Mechanical Engineering	Vacant	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Architecture	Shawnie Thomas	Not Yet Recorded ▾

Department	Representative	Attendance (P) In-Person (V) Virtual (E) Excused (A) Absent
Art	Reese Wallace	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Film	Vacant	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Music	Vacant	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Theater	Aya Giardina	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Hospitality	Julia Chan	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Health Physics and Diagnostic Sciences	Vacant	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Kinesiology and Nutrition Sciences	Monica Enriquez	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Occupational Therapy O.T.D.	Vacant	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Physical Therapy D.P.T.	Diana Buenrostro	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Law	David Elder	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Anthropology	Cole White	Not Yet Recorded ▾
English	Vacant	Not Yet Recorded ▾
History	Vacant	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Political Science	Bianca Martins de Oliveira	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Psychology	David Vollweiler	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Sociology	Hailey Maltempi	Not Yet Recorded ▾
World Languages and Cultures	Sidney Ahles	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Psychiatry & Behavioral Health (Couple and Family Therapy, CFT)	Ivory Rowden	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Medicine	Vacant	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Nursing	Victoria Seidman	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Environmental and Occupational Health	Salome Ogbuleka	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Epidemiology and Biostatistics	"Jion" Md Maksudul Alam	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Healthcare Administration and Policy	Vacant	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Social and Behavioral Health	Rupam Mitra	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Chemistry and Biochemistry	Jedidah Ashi	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Geoscience	Alma Reasoner	Not Yet Recorded ▾

Department	Representative	Attendance (P) In-Person (V) Virtual (E) Excused (A) Absent
Life Sciences	Audrey Wetjen	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Mathematical Sciences	Chinonso Unegbu	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Physics and Astronomy	Peter Quigley	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Communication Studies	Vacant- No enrolled Students	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Criminal Justice	Vacant	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Journalism and Media Studies	Ferrari Dior Little	Not Yet Recorded ▾
School of Public Policy and Leadership	Lakiasha Hollingsworth	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Social Work	Morgan Murphy	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Interdisciplinary Graduate Programs (IGP) - Master's	Mamata Aryal	Not Yet Recorded ▾
Interdisciplinary Graduate Programs (IGP) - Doctoral	Katie Bricarell	Not Yet Recorded ▾

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 Members-at-Large

Members-at-Large serve the Association as a whole, representing the general membership by contributing to GPSA-related committees, developing initiatives, structuring events, or providing input.

**Members appointed after this agenda was posted will be recorded in the meeting minutes upon request.*

Members-at-Large are not required to attend Council Meetings.

2026-2027 President's Cabinet & Division Leaders

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

Division of Communications & Marketing	Division of Engagement & Outreach	Division of Legislative Affairs	Division of Operations	Division of Sponsored Funding	Division Leaders
Director	Director	Director	Director	Director	Attorney General
Starlisha Towers	Alexander Zafarana	Devin Lopez	Jared Desamero	Nehemiah Afam Chukwuere	David Elder
Deputy Director	Deputy Director	Deputy Director	Deputy Director	Deputy Director	Historian
Vacant	Ariadna Gutierrez	Bianca Martins de Oliveira	Gabriella Maki	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 Council Meeting 46-07 September 23rd, 2026 will be considered for approval. Minutes are uploaded to the GPSA Google Drive and are also sent to the Council.

B. MOU on GPSA Ad Hoc Committee on Governance Implementation

President Curtis-Brown announces the formation of the GPSA Ad Hoc Committee on Governance Implementation with the following Memorandum of Understanding.

C. Alicia Carr Graduate Student Research Awards Committee

President Curtis-Brown requests confirmation of Alicia Carr to the Graduate Student Research Awards Committee.

D. Jared Desamero Graduate Academy Advisory Board

President Curtis-Brown requests confirmation of Jared Desamero to the Graduate Academy Advisory Board.

E. Mamata Aryal Graduate Awards Committee

President Curtis-Brown requests confirmation of Mamata Aryal to the Graduate Awards Committee.

F. Andres Carrasco Graduate Programs Committee

President Curtis-Brown requests confirmation of Andres Carrasco to the Graduate Programs Committee.

G. MOU: College of Education Sponsorship Match

President Curtis-Brown requests Council approval to execute the Memorandum of Understanding between GPSA and the College of Education regarding sponsorship matching funds and authorization to make amendments requested by the participating college prior to execution, provided such amendments do not materially alter the purpose or financial commitment of the agreement.

[Ref. 46-020](#)

H. MOU: College of Sciences Sponsorship Match

President Curtis-Brown requests Council approval to execute the Memorandum of Understanding between GPSA and the College of Sciences regarding sponsorship matching funds and authorization to make amendments requested by the participating college prior to execution, provided such amendments do not materially alter the purpose or financial commitment of the agreement.

[Ref. 46-021](#)

I. MOU: College of Hospitality Sponsorship Match

President Curtis-Brown requests Council approval to execute the Memorandum of Understanding between GPSA and the College of Hospitality regarding sponsorship matching funds and authorization to make amendments requested by the participating college prior to execution, provided such amendments do not materially alter the purpose or financial commitment of the agreement.

[Ref. 46-022](#)

J. MOU: School of Integrated Health Sciences Sponsorship Match

President Curtis-Brown requests Council approval to execute the Memorandum of Understanding between GPSA and the School of Integrated Health Sciences regarding sponsorship matching funds and authorization to make amendments requested by the participating school prior to execution, provided such amendments do not materially alter the purpose or financial commitment of the agreement.

[Ref. 46-023](#)

K. MOU: Lee Business School Sponsorship Match

President Curtis-Brown requests Council approval to execute the Memorandum of Understanding between GPSA and the Lee Business School regarding sponsorship matching funds and authorization to make amendments requested by the participating school prior to execution, provided such amendments do not materially alter the purpose or financial commitment of the agreement.

[Ref. 46-024](#)

L. MOU: School of Public Health Sponsorship Match

President Curtis-Brown requests Council approval to execute the Memorandum of Understanding between GPSA and the School of Public Health regarding sponsorship matching funds and authorization to make amendments requested by the participating school prior to execution, provided such amendments do not materially alter the purpose or financial commitment of the agreement.

[Ref. 46-025](#)

M. MOU: School of Dental Medicine Sponsorship Match

President Curtis-Brown requests Council approval to execute the Memorandum of Understanding between GPSA and the School of Dental Medicine regarding sponsorship matching funds and authorization to make amendments requested by

the participating school prior to execution, provided such amendments do not materially alter the purpose or financial commitment of the agreement.

[Ref. 46-026](#)

N. MOU: College of Fine Arts Sponsorship Match

President Curtis-Brown requests Council approval to execute the Memorandum of Understanding between GPSA and the College of Fine Arts regarding sponsorship matching funds and authorization to make amendments requested by the participating college prior to execution, provided such amendments do not materially alter the purpose or financial commitment of the agreement.

[Ref. 46-027](#)

O. MOU: College of Liberal Arts Sponsorship Match

President Curtis-Brown requests Council approval to execute the Memorandum of Understanding between GPSA and the College of Liberal Arts regarding sponsorship matching funds and authorization to make amendments requested by the participating college prior to execution, provided such amendments do not materially alter the purpose or financial commitment of the agreement.

[Ref. 46-028](#)

5) 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. None at this time

6) New Business

All items will be for possible action unless otherwise stated.

A. Guest Presentation: Student Affairs

INFORMATION ONLY

Dr. Keith Rogers, Vice President of Student Affairs, and Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs Summer Mudd will present on how graduate and professional student fees are utilized for Student Affairs events and programming.

Time allotted for item. Ex: 20 Minutes

B. Rebel Events Board Graduate and Professional Student Director Position
INFORMATION ONLY

Senior Coordinator for Campus Activities and Spirit Events Kyla Creps, will present on this newly created position REB Graduate/Professional and Non-traditional Student Director. The role requires a weekly commitment and provides \$1,000 per semester compensation, effective January 1 through December 1.

Time allotted for item. Ex: 15 Minutes

C. Council Resolution 46-03, A Resolution to Amend GPSA Bylaw Article III
FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

Constitution & Bylaws Chair and Director of Legislative Affairs Devin Lopez present Council Resolution 46-03 for consideration. This resolution modernizes committee operations by establishing a semesterly call for committee members, setting committee size requirements, and bringing meeting procedures in-line with Nevada Open Meeting Law. It clarifies responsibilities of standing committees, repeals inactive committees, and establishes new procedures for appointing representatives to Graduate College, UNLV-wide, and search committees.

Time allotted for item. Ex: 10 Minutes

D. Council Resolution 46-04, A Resolution to Ratify Article XI to the GPSA Bylaws
FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

Constitution & Bylaws Chair and Director of Legislative Affairs Devin Lopez present Council Resolution 46-04 for consideration. This resolution creates a new Article XI establishing the President's Cabinet and five divisions: Sponsored Funding, Communications & Marketing, Engagement & Outreach, Legislative Affairs, and Operations. It outlines the appointment process, duties, and remuneration structure for appointed cabinet members.

Time allotted for item. Ex: 10 Minutes

E. Council Resolution 46-05, A Resolution to Amend the Pay Structure of Executive Officers
FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

Constitution & Bylaws Chair and Director of Legislative Affairs Devin Lopez present Council Resolution 46-05 for consideration. This resolution shifts Executive Officer funding from Graduate College scholarships to

GPSA-exclusive funding. The proposed structure adjusts compensation for each officer position and is contingent upon a Memorandum of Understanding with the Graduate College to reallocate scholarships to the Sponsorship Program.

Time allotted for item. Ex: 10 Minutes

7) **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
 - i. Including Sponsorship Committee, and Division of Sponsored Funding
- 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 Communications & Marketing, *Director*
- iv. Division of Operations, *Director*
- v. Attorney General
- vi. Historian

C. GPSA Manager & Advisor

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

D. UNLV Department or Unit Updates

Council Representatives may provide updates from their individual departments.

- i. Graduate College

E. GPSA Internal Committee Reports (standing committees)

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

F. External Committee Reports

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

G. GPSA Faculty Advisors

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

8) Announcements

INFORMATION ONLY

[Upcoming events, deadlines, etc.]

9) Public Comment

INFORMATION ONLY

(See foregoing notation regarding public comment)

10) Adjournment