

# GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Summer Council Meeting Minutes  
Graduate Student Commons, LLB 2141  
UNLV Lied Library  
Monday, June 5, 2017, 10:00 – 11:30am

## ROLL CALL:

<b>School of Nursing</b>		<b>College of Engineering</b>		<b>Lee Business School</b>	
<i>Vacant</i>	<u>N/A</u>	<i>Vacant</i>	<u>N/A</u>	Amy Zhang	<u>A</u>
<b>College of Sciences</b>		<b>College of Community Health Sciences</b>		<b>College of Education</b>	
	<u>A</u>		<u>✓</u>		<u>✓</u>
Amro Abdalla	<u>✓</u>	Saruna Ghiimire	<u>✓</u>	Kristin Withey	<u>✓</u>
<b>Greenspun College of Urban Affairs</b>		<b>College of Allied Health Sciences</b>		<b>College of Fine Arts</b>	
Joseph Pugh	<u>✓</u>				<u>N/A</u>
<b>School of Dental Medicine</b>		Nathaniel Bodell	<u>✓</u>	<i>Vacant</i>	<u>✓</u>
<i>Vacant</i>	<u>N/A</u>	<b>Boyd School of Law</b>	<u>✓</u>	<b>Executive Board</b>	
<b>William F. Harrah College of Hotel Administration</b>		Chris Kelly	<u>✓</u>	Kanani Espinoza, President	<u>✓</u>
<i>Vacant</i>	<u>N/A</u>	<b>College of Liberal Arts</b>	<u>✓</u>	Kristyne Wiegand, Vice President	<u>✓</u>
		Katelyn Dibenedetto	<u>✓</u>	Stephanie Molina, Treasurer	<u>✓</u>
				Autumn Widdoes, Secretary	<u>✓</u>

Others present: GPSA Interim Manager Dr. Meghan Pierce and Dr. Kathryn Hausbeck Korgan, Interim Dean of the Graduate College

President Espinoza called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Roll call was taken by Secretary Widdoes.

### 1. PUBLIC COMMENT

### INFORMATION ONLY

Meghan Pierce, the GPSA Interim Manager, asked that all Summer Council members see her after the meeting if they had not yet filled out their contract.

### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

### FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

President Espinoza requested to postpone the approval of the May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 minutes as she had not yet received them for distribution. The May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 minutes will be addressed at the beginning of the July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017 meeting. There was no discussion.

### 3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

There was no unfinished business to address.

### 4. NEW BUSINESS

### FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

#### A. Discussion of GPSA Logo

President Espinoza introduced the need to change the GPSA Logo to align with the updated Rebel spirit mascot created as part of UNLV's top tier initiative. The new mascot will be unveiled June 28, 2017. The Executive Board previously discussed having a competition for graduate students to design the logo, which would then be voted on by the Summer Council. Greenspun College of Urban Affairs agreed that it was a good idea to update the logo. Vice President Wiegand introduced the idea of assigning an award of \$100-\$150 GPSA scholarship for the winner of the logo competition and voting on the logo during the September Fall Council meeting. If there are no participants, then the Council can create one without the monetary award. College of Education asked if we should wait until the mascot is unveiled at the Homecoming to match it. President Espinoza stated that the GPSA Logo does not need to match the UNLV Rebel mascot.

#### B. Discussion of GPSA Budget

President Espinoza discussed the current schedule of September to August fiscal year, which does not align with UNLV's fiscal year of July 1-June 30<sup>th</sup>. She proposed transitioning the budget to mirror

UNLV's fiscal year, rather than following a separate fiscal year. President Espinoza explained that this would be easier for the Business Manager and GPSA when it comes to expenditures because GPSA would not have to wait until September to approve a budget. The goal is to have a budget for review at the July 10, 2017 meeting. President Espinoza stated that she would also transition to a line item budget as it will reflect specific expenditures for easy approval and documentation.

Treasurer Stephanie Molina reported the GPSA June budget report, which was distributed at the beginning of the Council meeting by Interim Manager Dr. Meghan Pierce. For the expenditures for the month of May, Treasurer Molina stated that the May student wages were listed at \$4,885.00. Operating expenses for the month of May, included the Xerox machine at \$584.01, the New York Times subscription (listed as Books and Periodicals) at \$380.00, office supplies at \$746.99 and postage at \$10.49. The GPSA awarded student prizes during the month of May for a total of \$2150.00. There was also an in-state travel expense for the legislative session in Carson City, NV which totaled \$530.96. Under Hosting expenditures for the month of May, a total of \$190.75 was paid for Metro Pizza. The revenue for the month of May included \$17,870.16 for GPSA enrollment fees as well as \$216.60 for GPSA office items and snacks sold in the Grad Commons.

President Espinoza called for questions. Dean Korgan asked about the Student Wellness Center transfer item in the budget. Dr. Pierce answered by clarifying what the SWC transfer is and why it is transferred (to extend classes in the evenings). Dean Korgan then asked about the discrepancy between the projected revenue and the actual revenue. She asked what the projection was based on. President Espinoza stated that projected revenue is always based on expected enrollment totals and that there must have been a lower enrollment total. Dean Korgan stated that graduate enrollments are elevated and wasn't certain that this was the case. Treasurer Molina stated that Kathy Schreiber, interim business manager, mentioned that it would increase as people paid for their classes and that the projections were for the entire summer and not the beginning. President Espinoza moved on to 4C.

### **C. Discussion of GPSA 2017-2018 GOALS**

President Espinoza discussed the upcoming goals for the GPSA this year. She mentioned last year's GPSA goals, which included GPSA branding, community service outreach, enhancing the GPSA website, improved safety on campus, 24 dining services, mentoring programs and government relations. She called for any ideas from the Council for the upcoming 2017-2018 goals before she continued with the Executive Board's goals that were discussed in May. The first goal is involvement in the Chancellor search, which will continue for one year. The Chair of the Nevada Student Alliance will be the student representative on the committee. President Espinoza stated that the GPSA should be in direct contact with whoever becomes the Chair of this committee, so that GPSA can be represented. A second goal is to have a dedicated activity instead of random activities during the Fall and Spring semesters. President Espinoza stated that Dean Korgan raised the issue that graduate students want a formal event such as a gala or dinner at the end of the year. President Espinoza suggested a trial run of a large event where families and friends can also attend. Additionally, graduates want Graduate Commons hours to be increased because they are not the same as the library, especially during the study and finals weeks. She suggested putting together a study and incorporating it into the budget. She called for additional thoughts or input. Vice President Wiegand mentioned increasing sponsorship funding as a tangible goal. President Espinoza raised the issue of raising the GPSA fee, which is currently \$18 per semester, by \$2 to increase sponsorship funding. College of Liberal Arts asked how other peer institutions raise money. President Espinoza stated that she would research this by looking at what UNR and other institutions do. Combining the gala event with a fundraiser was suggested.

President Espinoza stated that one of the goals from last year was an increase in graduate student participation at Festival of Communities and UNLV Creates, as well as GPSA activities. She asked if the Council wanted to make this goal specific to this year, especially in light of the incoming Medical College students. She suggested combining an event such as a post-UNLV Creates BBQ to encourage student participation and sending the invitation out through each Council Representative via a mailer or postcard. Vice President Wiegand concurred. Dean Korgan brought up the Grad College's participation in UNLV Creates and the issues that occurred last year. She mentioned that GPSA should weigh in on the seating

issue and visibility of graduate students at UNLV Creates to prevent grad students from being marginalized.

President Espinoza mentioned the goal of consolidating all forms online in the Grad Rebel Gateway. In addition to this, she also mentioned a potential change in the distribution of funding, either via a check or through the students' departments which would help the business manager. The graduate students awarded funding would not need to come to the Grad Commons to sign for their funding, they would be awarded it directly once the funding is agreed upon. President Espinoza will include these as the goals for the 2017-2018 year. Dean Korgan stated that the GPSA will not be able to replicate what happens in the sponsorship committee in the Grad Rebel Gateway so the process may need to be changed.

President Espinoza stated that she wanted to have the Council review the GPSA Bylaws and Constitution. She stated that some of the bylaws hinder GPSA, in particular one related to the lack of a Faculty Staff advisor as well as funding for a GPSA Grad Faculty Fellow. These bylaws have not been changed since 2004.

Additionally, the Council does not currently have a permanent GPSA Business Manager/Advisor. The search for this position is open. President Espinoza proposed a session for the GPSA Council to meet and have a Q&A with the candidates.

#### **D. APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE SPONSORSHIP COMMITTEE**

Regarding Sponsorship, there were 7 emergency funding applications. President Espinoza asked for 3 new committee members. Vice President Wiegand explained that the committee meeting would take approximately an hour so that they could go over how to review a funding application. College of Liberal Arts, College of Allied Health Sciences and College of Community Health Sciences volunteered as committee members.

#### **5. REPORTS / CAMPUS-WIDE**

#### **INFORMATION ONLY**

Dean Korgan announced that the 50 summer fellows are currently placed and everything is operational. Enrollment is currently up and in line with the top tier goals of increasing Masters and Doctoral students by 1% per year, which is the minimum. She stated that enrollment is important as it impacts funding formulas and fees and top tier goals.

College of Liberal Arts brought up a potential bonding event for graduate students related to an outdoor adventure race or activity. President Espinoza suggested a graduate student oozeball team. A discussion ensued regarding how to connect various departments' graduate students with each other for these events.

President Espinoza brought up funding for graduate RSOs as a way of expanding sponsorship.

#### **6. PUBLIC COMMENT**

#### **INFORMATION ONLY**

#### **7. ADJOURNMENT**

#### **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

President Espinoza adjourned the June 5, 2017 Summer Council meeting at 10:37 a.m.

**GPSA Summer 2017 Council Meetings  
UNLV Lied Library Graduate Student Commons, LLB 2141  
10:00 – 11:30am**

- Monday, June 5, 2017
- Monday, July 10, 2017
- Monday, August 7, 2017