



GPSA Council Meeting Minutes

May 01, 2021 10:00 am – General Meeting

Zoom Meeting Link: <https://unm.zoom.us/j/95881054635>

1. Call to Order – 10:03 am
 - a. Confirmation of Quorum
 1. Stegink (Music)
 2. Gerstner (Biology)
 3. Olofinsao (Economics)
 4. Von Haas (History)
 5. Cowan (OILS)
 6. Birdwell (Physics and Astronomy)
 7. Rodriguez (Psychology)
 8. Kenneth (Public Administration)
 9. Pena-Parr (Spanish and Portuguese)
 - b. UNM Land Acknowledgement Statement
 - c. Adoption of Agenda
 - Motion to adopt by Gerstner
 - Seconded by Von Haas
 - 7y, 0n, 0a
2. Opening Business
 - a. Approval of April 17, 2021 Meeting Minutes
 - Gerstner: Amendment on line 104. Strike the sentence starting “passing a resolution”.
 - Motion to approve as amended by Gerstner
 - Seconded by Stegink
 - 8y, 0n, 0a
 - b. Media & Gallery - *comments related to agenda items*
3. Guest Speaker
 - a. Aaron Cowan – Council Chair Elect
 - Cowan: Thank you to council chair for all your work. Plans for the upcoming semester. Creating an open, friendly, and fun environment is imperative. Working in close collaboration with the administration. Plans to work with everyone to have everything work seamlessly. Also looking to streamline processes. Any changes are not criticisms of the past but differences with the times. Too many changes too quickly can lead to confusion. We need to add to our electoral code to make things fair. Increase the top end of the money. The addition of mini grants to be given on an emergency basis. Requests that RDSAs be open about issues that are important to the individual RDSAs.



- b. David Saavedra – President Elect
 - Saavedra: eager to work hard next year to give back to the community. Student fees will be important topic of discussion for next year. The University works slow, and change takes time. Focusing on changing the things that are important but also manageable. Working on closing the initiative of closing the gap between north and main campus.
 - Questions/Discussions
 - Stegink: what is your position on the recent efforts on the graduate students organizing with the Union?
 - Saavedra: supports the union and plans to continue.

- 4. Officer Reports
 - a. Council Chair's Report
 - Council Chair Sylla: the food budget responses have been collected and funds will be sent out. Working on wrapping things up to pass over to Aaron. Work to pass on information for the next RDSA. Graduating this year.
 - b. President's Report
 - President Reddy: We completed most of our legislative agenda. There are some issues with the election that need more attention. Our amendments are approved by students and the board of regents. Able to change our logo and accomplish many other things this year. Some changes from this year will happen next year.
 - c. Election Chair's Report
 - Election Chair Mandela: All of the elections have been certified. There may be the addition of special elections. Everything has run smoothly, and the next academic year could lead to some changes to benefit everyone.
 - d. Media & Outreach Chair's Report
 - Not present.
 - e. Program Chair's Report
 - Not present.
 - f. Student Support & Advocacy Chair's Report
 - Not present.
 - g. Finance Chair's Report
 - Finance Vice-Chair Rodarte: 7 student organizations requested and received funding within the fiscal year. The total disbursement was \$4,375. We came in under budget by \$21,802.
 - Aaron Moore: How will this get spent?
 - Finance Vice-Chair Rodarte: it will rolled over as it always does to be use for the next academic year.
 - h. Grant Chair's Report



- Read by David Saavedra: grants were accepted, scored, and awarded. The scholarships site went live. The grants we offered during the Spring 2021 cycle. 96 students applied and 75 were awarded. Only 1 was denied. There were no appeals.
 - i. LSC Chair's Report
 - LSC Chair Cowan: productive this semester. Able to hold 10 meetings with numerous legislations.
 - j. Court of Review
 - Chief Justice Martinez: two complaints towards the end of the semester. These were consolidated into one complaint and a hearing was held. Extensive hearing that lasted all day. Upon review, the complaint didn't rise to a level 2 to invalidate the election.
- 5. Action Items
 - a. Bill 2021-09
 - Motion to open by Gerstner
 - Seconded by Pena-Parr
 - 8y, 0n, 0a
 - Questions/Discussion
 - Cowan: based on discussion, people were hesitant to adopt language that is this brief. Suggests starting over.
 - Motion to fail by Gerstner
 - Seconded by Von Haas
 1. Stegink (Music) –n
 2. Gerstner (Biology) – y
 3. Olofinsao (Economics) – y
 4. Von Haas (History) – y
 5. Cowan (OILS) – y
 6. Birdwell (Physics and Astronomy) – y
 7. Rodriguez (Psychology) – y
 8. Kenneth (Public Administration) – y
 9. Pena-Parr (Spanish and Portuguese) – nv
 - 7y, 1n, 0a, 1nv
 - Bill Failed
 - b. Bill 2021-10
 - Motion to open by Gerstner
 - Seconded by Cowan
 - 7y, 0n, 0a
 - Questions/Discussion
 - Gerstner: amendment to un-strike lines 37 through 44. Un-strike 112 through 120.
 - Motion to adopt as amended by Von Haas
 - Seconded by Gerstner



1. Stegink (Music) –y
 2. Gerstner (Biology) – y
 3. Olofinsao (Economics) – y
 4. Von Haas (History) – y
 5. Cowan (OILS) – y
 6. Birdwell (Physics and Astronomy) – y
 7. Rodriguez (Psychology) – y
 8. Kenneth (Public Administration) – y
 9. Pena-Parr (Spanish and Portuguese) – y
 - 9y, 0n, 0a
- Bill passes as amended
- c. Bill 2021-11
- Motion to open by Gerstner
 - Seconded by Von Haas
 - 7y, 0n, 0a
 - Questions/Discussion
 - Gerstner: this bill is for equity. Organizations should keep their PB funds for FY21 with a sunset clause to revert at the end of next year. Designed as a treatment for Covid-19.
 - Council Chair Sylla: on line 28, should that be 2022?
 - Gerstner: this is for a 2021 revision. The wording is to keep 100% of funds allocated and this is the naming of the provision.
 - Motion to adopt by Gerstner
 - Seconded by Stegink
 1. Stegink (Music) –y
 2. Gerstner (Biology) – y
 3. Olofinsao (Economics) – y
 4. Von Haas (History) – y
 5. Cowan (OILS) – y
 6. Birdwell (Physics and Astronomy) – y
 7. Rodriguez (Psychology) – y
 8. Kenneth (Public Administration) – y
 9. Pena-Parr (Spanish and Portuguese) – y
 - 9y, 0n, 0a
- d. Resolution 3 and Resolution 4
- Motion to open by Gerstner
 - Seconded by Von Haas
 - 5y, 0n, 0a
 - Questions/Discussion
 - Gerstner: question for the individual who introduced this bill. Who authored these resolutions?
 - President Reddy: this came from a committee discussion from when they worked on this matter.



- Stegink: in line with the faculty senate resolutions. Why is language not included from the leaf demands?
- President Reddy: there was no specific reason. This is going to be a joint resolution.
- Motion to approve both resolution 3 and 4 to be signed as a joint resolution by Gerstner
- Seconded by Cowan
 1. Stegink (Music) –y
 2. Gerstner (Biology) – y
 3. Olofinsao (Economics) – y
 4. Von Haas (History) – y
 5. Cowan (OILS) – y
 6. Birdwell (Physics and Astronomy) – y
 7. Rodriguez (Psychology) – y
 8. Kenneth (Public Administration) – y
 9. Pena-Parr (Spanish and Portuguese) – y
 - 9y, 0n, 0a
- Resolutions 3 and 4 passes as is via block vote
- 6. Council Announcements
 - a. Public Comment – *Comments not related to items on the agenda*
 - Council Chair Sylla: Thank you for all your hard work this semester. I wish you all the best and I’m sure I’ll see you around.
- 7. Upcoming Meeting
 - a. Upcoming meeting – TBD
- 8. Adjourn – 11:09 am