

**GPSA Council Agenda**  
**Saturday / 17 Nov 2012 / 9:00 a.m. - 12:00**  
**p.m.**  
**Domenici Center West 2112**



**GPSA @ UNM**  
Graduate And Professional Student Association

- I. Roll Call
- II. Opening Business
  - A. Approval of the November agenda
  - B. Approval of the October minutes
  - C. Media & Gallery
- III. Officer Reports
  - A. President's Report
  - B. Council Chair's Report
- IV. Action Items
  - A. Standing Committees
    - 1. Legislative Steering Committee
      - a. LSC Report
    - 2. Legislative Finance Committee
      - a. LFC Report
      - b. LFC Business**
        - i. FA-12-012: Political Science Graduate Student Association (1)
        - ii. FA-12-013: Political Science Graduate Student Association (2)
        - iii. FA-12-014: Anthropology Graduate Student Union
        - iv. FA-12-015: Teacher Education Graduate Student Association
        - v. FA-12-016: Women Empowerment: Developing Global Leadership
    - 3. Executive Appointment
      - a. Lobby Committee Co-Chair: Erin Muffoletto (Management)
  - B. Emergency Item
    - 1. FR-12-002: Diversity Curriculum Resolution
- V. Discussion Items
  - A. LSC: Bylaws Revisions (up to 10 minutes)
  - B. Unionizing (up to 20 minutes)  
*Discussion times may be extended by vote.*
- VI. Executive Committee Reports
  - A. Grants: Stephanie Sample
- VII. Closing Announcements
  - A. Women in the Academy
    - 1. November 27: Women in Leadership
    - 2. January or February: Women in STEM
- VIII. Upcoming Meetings
  - A. December 8: SUB - Fiesta A&B
- IX. Adjourn

# **Legislative Steering Committee**

## **November Business**

## LSC Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: 11/5/2012

Meeting came to order at 1305 hrs.

1. Agenda approved unanimously
2. Tabled approval of the minutes
3. Reviewed and Revised GPSA bylaws.—Unanimous Pass 3.a.b.c
  - a. Struck Code II, Section 6 on pp. 9 – 10—Sections A.1.a. and A.1.b
  - b. Fixed the language in Code V. Section 1.A.3 on p. 15
    - c. Fixed the language in Code V.1.B.1—used the language recommended by the Kris Miranda
4. Revisions to Code IX and Code II have been tabled until the registrar is able to provide guidance and clarification.
5. Collaboratively drafted a resolution in support of the Provost Diversity Curriculum Committee's diversity course recommendation for all undergraduate curriculums. The resolution will be sponsored by Michael Howland-Davis, SGSA, and will be introduced as an emergency resolution at the GPSA meeting on November 17, 2012.
6. Meeting adjourned at 1500 hrs.



**MEMORANDUM FROM THE DESK OF THE COUNCIL CHAIR**

**TO:** Timothy Sipp and members of the Legislative Steering Committee  
**FROM:** Kris Miranda, GPSA Council Chair  
**DATE:** November 1, 2012  
**RE:** GPSA Bylaws Review

In the spring 2011 semester, under the leadership of 2010-2011 Council Chair Megan McRobert, a committee of GPSA Council representatives wrote a new GPSA Constitution. This document was approved by the graduate and professional student body in the 2011 GPSA election, and made into GPSA law in fall 2011 by the Board of Regents. During summer 2011, another committee was convened under the leadership of 2011-2012 Council Chair Megan O’Laughlin to write new bylaws for this constitution. The resulting document was eventually approved by Council and University Legal Counsel.

As the 2011-2012 Council session proceeded, various points of confusion in the new governing documents came to light. These were simply growing pains to be expected. To address them, Council created a working group that would review the GPSA Constitution and Bylaws for consistency, loopholes, and other errors, and report its findings to Council’s Legislative Steering Committee (LSC).

Some of the recommended bylaws changes have been returned to Council by Legal. I am requesting that LSC reexamine the codes outlined below:

- In the code on representation, specifically on pages 5 and 6 of the attached document (using the page numbers on the document itself, in the bottom right corner, not Word’s page counter), there is reference to “programs,” in addition to departments and colleges. The 2011-2012 LSC intended this to refer to interdisciplinary majors that don’t appear to be officially housed in single departments, like Nanoscience and Microsystems. The Student Activities Center has expressed concern that this may complicate the disbursement of Pro-Rated Benefit Funds, or cause students in such programs to be counted more than once toward departmental representation in Council, and the Office of the Registrar has not been immediately able to clarify the matter. Student Activities would like clarification on the intent and expected implications of this amendment.
  - The primary contact point on this is Matthew Rush, a previous LSC member. He can be reached at [mrush@unm.edu](mailto:mrush@unm.edu). This is not a particularly time-sensitive issue, and I do not expect a revision in time for the November 16 Council meeting.

- Throughout Code II, section 6 (pp. 9-10 in the attached document), on Presidential approval or veto of legislation, the phrase “final approval” appears. Legal has recommended clarification on what this means, specifically as regards the stipulation that legislation shall not be forwarded to “external parties” before final approval. The apparent conflict is that due to the New Mexico Open Meetings Act and other sections of GPSA governing documents, all legislation, once proposed and put on a Council agenda, may be requested and viewed by any member of the public.
  - I believe “final approval” simply refers to the President’s signature (or the automatic approval of legislation if it is left unsigned and un-vetoed for five days).
  - My understanding of the “external parties” stipulation is that resolutions would not be forwarded to other University offices or other recipients mentioned in a resolution’s final clause, until signed or automatically approved. The issue is not secrecy, but being clear that until approved, legislation is not officially the voice of GPSA. (Similarly, unsigned bylaws or Constitutional documents would not be forwarded to Legal.)
  
- Code V has at least two sections in need of rewriting for clarity.
  - V.1.A.3 on page 15 would be more clearly rendered as, for example, “Representatives need not be officers of their RDSAs,” unless the LSC believes that the sentence as it currently exists should be interpreted in some other way.
  - V.1.B.1 is grammatically sloppy. My own interpretation is that it should read something like: “In addition to duties outlined in the GPSA Constitution, Representatives serve as a link between their RDSAs, students, and chartered student organizations, as sponsors of legislation and advocates in Council. Council may assist RDSAs, students, and chartered student organizations with the drafting of legislation.” Correct comma placement seems to me to be the key.
  
- IX.3.A on page 48 should also probably be rewritten.

I encourage LSC members to look for other points of confusion in the bylaws if they wish, but these are the only sections that have been highlighted by Legal as particularly problematic.

I will be unable to attend the November 5 LSC meeting, but can answer questions through correspondence.

Please let me know if I can provide you with any further information. I thank you for your diligence.

# **Legislative Finance Committee**

## **November Business**

Chair's Summary of Appropriations Requests - November 2012 - Prepared for Council Meeting

Political Science Graduate Student Association

	Request	EFC Recommendation	Rationale	LFC Recommendation	Rationale
Food and Refreshments	\$435.00	\$217.38	As per standing rules	\$217.38	As per standing rules
Foundation Surcharge	\$0.00	\$1.00	0.0025% Total - Standing Surcharge	\$1.00	0.0025% Total Standing Surcharge
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$435.00</b>	<b>\$218.38</b>	Change incorporates EFC recommendations	<b>\$219.00</b>	Rounded to nearest whole dollar

Political Science Graduate Student Association

	Request	EFC Recommendation	Rationale	LFC Recommendation	Rationale
Food and Refreshments	\$72.46	\$72.46	As per standing rules	\$72.46	As per standing rules
Honorarium	\$2,000.00	\$250.00	Reduced per standing rules	\$250.00	Reduced per standing rules
Foundation Surcharge	\$0.00	\$1.00	0.0025% Total - Standing Surcharge	\$1.00	0.0025% Total - Standing Surcharge
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,072.46</b>	<b>\$323.46</b>	Change incorporates EFC recommendations	<b>\$324.00</b>	Rounded to nearest whole dollar

Anthropology Graduate Student Union

	Request	EFC Recommendation	Rationale	LFC Recommendation	Rationale
Honorarium	\$250.00	\$250.00	No change	\$250.00	No change, per standing rules
Advertising	\$230.00	\$230.00	No change	\$230.00	No change, per standing rules
Food/Refreshments	\$176.00	\$176.00	No change	\$176.00	No change, per standing rules
Foundation Surcharge	\$0.00	\$2.00	0.0025% Total - Standing Surcharge	\$2.00	0.0025% Total - Standing Surcharge
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$656.00</b>	<b>\$658.00</b>	Incorporates EFC recommendations	<b>\$658.00</b>	Rounded to nearest whole dollar

Teacher Education Graduate Student Association

	Request	EFC Recommendation	Rationale	LFC Recommendation	Rationale
Registration Fee	\$95.00	\$95.00	No change	\$95.00	No change, per standing rules
Travel-Mileage (939 miles roundtrip)	\$469.50	\$469.50	No change	\$469.50	No change, per standing rules
Travel-per diem (5 days)	\$375.00	\$375.00	No change	\$375.00	No change, per standing rules
Foundation Surcharge	\$0.00	\$3.00	0.0025% Total - Standing Surcharge	\$3.00	0.0025% Total - Standing Surcharge
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$939.50</b>	<b>\$942.50</b>	Incorporates EFC recommendations	<b>\$943.00</b>	Rounded to nearest whole dollar

Women Empowerment

	Request	EFC Recommendation	Rationale	LFC Recommendation	Rationale
Advertising	\$133.96	\$133.96	No change	\$133.96	No change
General Operating	\$31.57	\$31.57	No change	\$31.57	No change
Food and Refreshments	\$1,080.00	\$0.00	Strike	\$0.00	Strike
Food and Refreshments	\$280.00	\$0.00	Strike	\$0.00	Strike
Food and Refreshments	\$405.00	\$0.00	Strike	\$0.00	Strike
Food and Refreshments	\$0.00	\$200.00	Bundled/Reduced, per standing rules	\$200.00	Bundled/Reduced, per standing rules
Foundation Surcharge	\$0.00	\$1.00	0.0025% Total - Standing Surcharge	\$1.00	0.0025% Total - Standing Surcharge
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,930.53</b>	<b>\$366.53</b>	Incorporates EFC recommendations	<b>\$367.00</b>	Rounded to nearest whole dollar

			<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,511.00</b>	

## **Other November Business**

## **GPSA Resolution In Support of the Provost Diversity Curriculum Committee's Recommended 3-Credit Hour Course Requirement for Undergraduates at the University of New Mexico**

**Whereas:** The University of New Mexico Graduate and Professional Student Association honors and values the students of UNM and their diverse cultures, perspectives and backgrounds, and

**Whereas:** The vast majority of universities in the southwest require a 3-credit hour class as a requirement for undergraduate students, and

**Whereas:** The University of New Mexico is the largest R-1 university with the Hispanic Serving Institution designation in the country and serves a state with a population that is 46 percent Latina/o, and

**Whereas:** The benefits of diversity have been shown to positively impact all students regardless of their race, class, gender, sexual orientation, disability status, veteran status, and religion, and

**Whereas:** The GPSA recognizes the proposed curriculum change as part of the university's comprehensive diversity plan, and

**Now therefore be it resolved:** The GPSA of the University of New Mexico supports the Provost Diversity Curriculum Committee's proposal for a 3-credit-hour class requirement for graduation for undergraduate degrees as part of UNM's comprehensive diversity plan.