



**GPSA COUNCIL MEETING
SATURDAY OCTOBER 27, 2012 9:00 AM
DOMENICI CENTER 2112**

Meeting called to order – 9:17am

II. OPENING BUSINESS

- Motion made by Representative Thomas Maguire to approve the Agenda with the amendment of including ‘3. Executive Appointments’, seconded by Representative James Davenport. **Motion passes unanimously.**
- Motion made by Representative Michael Howland-Davis (Sociology) to approve Minutes from September 29, 2012, seconded by Rep. T. Maguire. **Motion passes unanimously.**
- **No Media & Gallery**

III. GUEST SPEAKERS

- **Student Regents Finalists:**
 - Nas Manole (Medical – 3rd year) speaks to his application for the Student Regent position.
 - Q&A:
 - **Q:** How are you going to take a new approach to get all TA positions across all departments on campus better pay?
 - **A:** Manole: When you approach the administration with these issues they seem to point out that this covers part of your tuition, but this seems to be a round about way of getting out of the question. But we should break down the TA pay and see where the money is really going. It’s important to talk directly to the administration, talk directly about breaking down the budget and re-assess the notion that this type of pay is actually covering tuition. I would be very direct with them about how much this type of pay matters to student
 - **Q:** Do you plan to also engage the College of Education students who are “working for” APS who do not receive any pay?
 - **A:** Manole: That is something I would be glad to bring it up. I hadn’t thought about that issue but I feel the same way as a Medical students. The administration seems to use the excuse that

“well, you’re learning, this is part of your education”, but you are a full time employee essentially. People seem to just accept this “free” work and that is not necessarily ok. We would like to be paid for all that hard work.

- **Q:** You mentioned an open door policy, what are you going to do to engage graduates and also importantly, undergraduate students.
 - **A:** Manole: Current Student Regent Jake Wellman has endorsed and used the town hall style meetings and I like that form. I would be happy giving out my phone number, I’d rather do that then emails. I’d rather have people bring me their issues as they come up. I don’t want to have to wait for emails essentially. I’d be glad to meet in person, continue the town hall meetings, give out my cell phone number and really engage people that have issues.
- Alejandro Mendiaz (Public Administration- beginning in Spring 2013) speaks to his application for the Student Regent position.
- **Q&A:**
 - **Q:** You mentioned that you wanted a solution for the lottery, what new ideas might you offer?
 - **A:** I think increasing the GPA requirements is a possibility. I believe that if we ask a little more then students will do a little more. Also increasing the required amount of enrollment hours, 15 instead of 12. Which isn’t unreasonable because you can only receive the scholarship for 4 years but you cannot necessarily graduate in 4 years only taking 12 hours a semester. Also, if the state legislatures see that students are working harder then they may be willing to put more money into the scholarship. People have also suggested a need-based, or merit-based award.
 - **Q:** I have worked with the College of Education before, there’s a shortage of teachers in the US and NM, going back to the Lottery Scholarship, with raising the GPA, I’m finding that a lot of people are thinking this is unfair, and if students are not prepared well enough in high school... would you be for possibly using some of the Lottery Scholarship to make sure students can come in to college ready for it, with possibly a merit-based option for the scholarship?
 - **A:** Yes I’ve heard that approach before. It may be better if you have to do a little bit of community service to keep the scholarship. And that can involve students more on campus, which has the possibility to help with retention and graduation rates.
 - **Q:** Besides TA positions, are you also thinking of endorsing compensation for internships outside of campus also? Because the College of Education, similar to the Medical school, does not have the option of TA positions really.
 - **A:** I would have to look more into that. I’m open to taking in suggestions about how this could be done. I would advocate for the

fact that if you are doing work for the institution then you should at least be compensated in tuition.

- **Q:** What are your plans to engage students in the campuses outside of Albuquerque?
- **A:** That's a hard question and I thank you for it. I've spoken to some students at branch campuses and all I've heard is that "oh yeah, main campus basically ignores us." I hear the same from students and administrators really. As far as outreach, I would make myself visible to these students and administrators. I would make sure that people on campus here and at branch campuses know what the Student Regents actually does. Visibility and outreach are important, and we need to make sure to include our branch campuses. There's this culture that they are just left out there, but I would increase visibility to make sure they know what we do.
- **Q:** Engaging distance students is hard, and I've heard from the branch campuses that connecting is the hardest. A solution that was suggested was to have a high school style yearbook online, as a way to make the students at all the campuses more visible, so that you can find who your classmates are in ITV classes. How would you, or would you approach the idea of having this networking online?
- **A:** I do like this idea of connection. The internet is very useful and is related to how we stay connected these days. This seems like a good idea and I'd be happy to engage students and administrators about it. Networking is important to all of us, and that suggestion seems like a good way to connect students.

- Heidi Overton (Medical – 2nd year) was unable to be here this morning so Marisa spoke on her behalf. Please email Marisa if you have any questions about this candidate's position on issues.

IV. OFFICER REPORTS

- **Council Chair's Report** - GPSA Council Chair Kris Miranda gave the Council Chair report.
 - If you need to get in contact with GPSA stop by our office on the bottom floor of the SUB, call us at 505-277-xxxx, and you can email Kris at kris.gpsa@gmail.com. Check out our website at unmc.edu/~gpsa. Also on Facebook at facebook.com/unmcgpsa, and Twitter - @gpsaunmc.
 - ASUNMC is working on a new committee to work on/change the teacher evaluations and the teacher evaluation forms. If you have any questions or would like to possibly be involved in this you should email Kris.
 - The Graduate Resource Center (GRC) holds a Graduate & Professional conference in the Spring semester, this is our 2nd year of the conference, and we are working to open it up to all G/P students throughout the whole state. We have Planning Committee meetings every-other Friday from

2pm-3pm in the GRC, and the sub-committees meet during those other Fridays. If you would like to get involved come to the Planning Committee meetings. Stop by the GRC or email us if you have any questions. The conference theme is *New Mexico Research* and it is April 16th, 17th, and 18th, 2013. We are still working on the complete composition of the conference.

- If you have any issues with how the LFC or LSC meetings are being run, just let Kris or Marisa know.
- I would like to suggest that Council look at the finance codes in the Bylaws and Constitution changes made last year.

- **President's Report** - GPSA President Marisa Silva gave the President's report.
 - Go to the Faculty & Staff Club Happy Hours on Thursdays and Fridays from 4pm-7pm!!
 - One thing that we've really been working on lately has been selecting the Student Regents candidates.
 - There are still some vacancies on Committees across campus that the GPSA President appoints Graduate/Professional students to. Normally you are the only student voice on these committees, which are mainly made up of administrators and staff. Please look on the GPSA website to find the vacancies and apply. They are available for all degree-seeking Graduate and Professional students.
 - President Frank spoke about the Wellness Center last month and UNM's approaches to what to do with our current center and/or build a new center. I have been visiting a number of regional universities wellness centers. We are compiling data from these visits such as cost of those rec. centers, average income of the state, and so for. You can find this data on the GPSA website. Please look at this information and be a part of this discussion. Mention it to your constituents and groups as it is most likely to come to actual fruition soon and it will have a huge impact on this University.
 - The UNM budget committees are underway. If you have questions or suggestions about Marisa's input as the GPSA President and representative on these committees, please contact her.
 - The Student Fee Review Board (SFRB) is getting underway also. This committee is made up of GPSA and ASUNM members and makes suggestions/decides how to spend the student fees across campus. If you have questions or suggestions about Marisa's input on this committee, please contact her.
 - There are 75 student tickets that are available for the official inauguration of President Bob Frank on November 18, 2012 at 2pm.

V. ACTION ITEMS

A. Standing Committees

1. LEGISLATIVE STEERING COMMITTEE (LSC) BUSINESS

- **A. Legislative Steering Committee (LSC) Chair report** given by LSC Chair Rep. Timothy Sipp.
- **B. LSC Business:**
 - **i. FR-12-001: Chicago’s Teachers’ Union strike** – motion made by Rep. Michael Howland-Davis to approve the LSC recommended resolution with amendments, seconded by Rep. Daniel Ebbs. **Motion passes. 4 abstentions (TS, SS, SG+proxy).**
 - Motion made by Rep. Michael Howland-Davis to amend the resolution to include the “neo-liberal education” clause that was removed by the LSC, seconded by Rep Chris Galanis. **Motion passes. 1 nay, 1 abstention (T.S.)**
 - Motion made by Rep. Grey Gustafson to include citations along with the ‘neo-liberal’ clause, seconded by Representative Saheb Saini. **Motion passes, 1 abstention (T.S.)**
 - Motion made Rep. Michael Howland-Davis to include the language “Be it resolved that the Graduate and Professional Student Association of the University of New Mexico supports the Chicago Teachers Union and teachers unions throughout the country in their fight for equitable pay and equal educational opportunity” to replace the first operative clause, seconded by Rep. Galanis. **Motion passes. 2 abstentions (T.S. and C.G.)**
- **C. LSC Appointments:**
 - Motion made by Rep. James Davenport to combine and approve the LSC appointments of Ilse Biel and Michael Howland-Davis, seconded by Rep. Laura Perlichek. **Motion passes. 1 abstention (TS).**

2. LEGISLATIVE FINANCE COMMITTEE (LFC) BUSINESS

- **A. Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) Chair report** – unfortunately LFC Chair Rep. LisaMarie Turk was not able to be here today.
- **B. LFC Business** –
 - Motion made by Rep. Howland-Davis to bundle and approve the appropriations with the LFC recommendation, seconded by Rep. Elaine Abrams. **Motion passes. 3 abstentions (SJ, SS, SG, TB)**
 - Motion made by Rep. Ryan Brown to amend appropriation *FA-12-010: Association of Geology Graduate Students* back to \$1,000 with \$50 per-diem for 4 students for 5 days, seconded by Rep. Saheb Saini. **Motion passes. 2 nay.1 abstention (SJ)**
 - Motion made by Rep. Grey Gustafson to include a suggestion that the Association of Geology Graduate Students submit another appropriation for the additional \$500 that may be needed, seconded by Rep. Chris Galanis. **Motion passes. 1 nay. 1 abstention (SJ)**
 - A Call to Question was made by Rep. Howland-Davis, seconded by Rep. Orlando Ramirez. **Motion passes. 1 nay.**
 - A Call to Question was made by Rep. Howland-Davis, seconded by Rep. Orlando Ramirez. **Motion passes. 1 nay.**

- A Call to Question was made by Rep. Howland-Davis, seconded by Rep. Orlando Ramirez. **Motion passes. Division was called. 20 yes, 6 nay, 0 abstentions**
- **C. LFC Appointments** – A motion was made by Rep. Howland-Davis to bundle and approve the LFC appointments of Dennis Flannigan and Talal Saint-Lot, seconded by Rep. Daniel Ebbs. **Motion passes. 1 abstention (D.F.).**

3. EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS

- **A. Lobby Committee Co-Chair: Briton Hagan** – A motion was made by Rep. Daniel Ebbs to approve Briton Hagan as the Lobby Committee Co-Chair, seconded by Rep. Howland-Davis. **Motion passes, 1 abstention (B.H.).**

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS: - none

VII. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS – none

VIII. CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS – none

IX. UPCOMING MEETINGS – the next meeting is on November 17, 2012! Same time, same place.

X. ADJOURN - Meeting adjourned at 11:56am

Submitted by Heather Berghmans, Council Clerk, 29 October 2012

Approved by Kris Miranda, Council Chair,