



**GPSA Council Meeting Minute**

Saturday, December 8, 2018, 10:00 am

Student Union Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor - Lobo A and B

- I. Meeting called to Order at 10:06 am
  - a. Sign in sheet was passed around to all the council representatives present and voting, quorum was confirmed

Name	Department
Eliberto Calderon	OILS
Dalicia Raymond	ENGL
Trevor Jackson	Psychology
Jaimie Stephens	Physics
Gwen Peel	Span/Port
Glenda Lewis	COE
Marybeth Perdomo	English
Tanya Shaw	COE
Rose Davenport	Public Admin
Chaz Clark	LAS
Grant Heileman	ECE
Hanh Nguyen	COE
Andrea Aberta	COE
Rijaso Andrianova	COE GSLA
Texanna Martin	COILS
Naritza Diaz-Cruz	USS GSA (COE)
Daniel Beenie	Geography
Gregor Hamilton	Biology
Benjamin Morrison	Physics and Astronomy

- II. Opening Business
  - a. Adoption of Agenda: A motion to amend the agenda by Eliberto, seconded by Daniel. Agenda approved with 10 approval votes and no disapproval or abstentions
  - b. Approval of the Minutes: Minutes for November not disputed. Minutes approved.
  - c. Approval of Emergency Council Meeting Minutes: No contests, hence approved



III. Governing Rules and the Agenda

Council Chair James clarified queries from council members regarding why he had to put two agendas out, 1 agenda 7 calendar days before the meeting according to the by-laws and an updated agenda 72 hours before the meeting. The main governing documents of GPSA are open meetings act, state law, UNM policy, constitution, bylaw, standing rule and parliamentary procedure in the order of hierarchy. The bylaw under the transparency in public notice requirement states that the agenda and notice should be provided 48 hours prior to the meeting. However, open meetings act states that the notice and agenda should be posted 72 hours prior to the meeting. Since, open meeting act is higher in the hierarchy, it's given higher priority. Different other sections of bylaw are also self-contradictory. The standing rule for Finance Committee requires them to meet 5 Academic days before the meeting so an updated agenda is posted to include approved appropriations. Boney has been working on this issue looking to create more consistency and reduce contradictions as much as possible. The Agenda has been posted at different times to maintain compliances with all the governing rules that bind us.

IV. Media and Gallery: None

V. Guest Speakers:

Eliberto Calderon: This is in response to questions about OILS as a RDSA and its representation in the council per the emergency council minutes. Dr. Law could not attend due to family emergency. OILS started prior to 2012 as Organizational Learning and Instructional Technology or OLIT as a department under The College of Education. In 2012, it came under The College of University Library and Learning Sciences. In 2013/14 it was reconsolidated, reconstituted, and renamed as Organization Information and Learning Sciences or OILS. Dr. Law is the director of the program, Lionel is President, Texanna is the vice-president and Eliberto is the Treasurer for the RDSA. Its meetings are held as per the student organizations constitution. There are about 117-120 students in OILS and therefore 2 representative spots in the council as per bylaws.

VI. Officer Reports

a. President's Report

- Thanked everyone for being there and stated that each of the committee would be presenting that day. Organization Information and Learning Sciences, it speaks volumes. Always wanted to know under



which department OILS was but was very difficult to get that information. He stated that it has not been an easy journey and shared two famous quotes by Lao Tzu, “A journey of 100 miles start with one step” and “It’s not the mountain that gets you down but the pebble in your shoes.” Every month every one of us have shared our precious time to come to the meeting, the time which could have been used on something better. Thanked everyone for their helping hands, generosity and support. Volunteering without expecting anything in return. Wanted to let everyone know how much their dedication is appreciated. Looking forward to next year and wished all happy holidays and happy new year.

b. Council Chair’s Report

- James stated that earlier in the year, they had re-ratified an amendment to the bylaw which is posted but not incorporated into the by-law documents. The GPSA administration does not have an editable version of the bylaws and is trying to create a new document. So, it might take some time before it is posted. Working to make sure everything is accurate and thanked for everyone’s patience. Was making changes to credential forms to add the enrollment number of verified graduate students and get it signed by department admins. Also, reflected back on the year and told that it had been a struggle. There have been some great projects lead by graduate students and was excited about the upcoming events. Some of the student organizations have been doing great job but not many students are aware of it and encouraged people to speak about them. Thanked everyone and suggested and offered help to try and help spread the word.

VII. Committee Reports

a. Grants Committee Report

- Chair not present so Boney briefed the activities performed by Grants committee. The deadline for grant application was on 21<sup>st</sup> September. We gave away \$9000 in scholarship funds, we got 22 applications for student research grant that was \$10,909, for professional development grant we got 44 applicants and gave away \$21,142. The details will be posted later. Under the New Mexico Research grant we granted \$28,000 for general category and 24,999 for the high priority category.



- Dalicia wanted to know if the report posted online will have normalized score and Boney replied that it will contain the normalized score ranking.
  - The president reported it will also contain departmental break down. Education, Biology and Economics got more of the General Priority NM Research Grant whereas English, Occupational Therapy, Community and Regional Planning, Chemistry, Anthropology got more funds from the professional development grant. Dr. Kloppo, Anthony Barro and Grace Falstein have been helping on the website. Didn't want to disrupt the process during the grant application so the problem will be fixed now. Hopefully, Spring grant will take place successfully.
  - James had forgotten to put the discussion item on the agenda for which he apologized. Dalicia motioned to open the agenda and add discussion item after the New Business and before the Council Announcements. Grant seconded it. Motion approved with 18 votes and no abstentions or disapprovals.
- b. Finance Committee Report
- Kyla thanked all the members of Finance committee. We've had a total of 5 Finance committee official meetings. A total of 40 appropriations were recommended, have officially amended standing rule once, had received a request of \$68,173 for appropriation and Finance Committee has recommended 30,591 for appropriation. Next Finance Committee will be held on 18<sup>th</sup> of January. January appropriations will be due on the 15<sup>th</sup> of January.
- c. LSC Report
- We had one resolution from the Veterans which has been put forward. UNM Safe will revise and resubmit their resolution next month. Bylaws requested by Boney weren't in proper format, so they will be reformatted and resubmitted in the next month's meeting of LSC. The next meeting will be on January 15<sup>th</sup>. If you have any items that you want LSC to take a look please submit it at least 3 days before the meeting. Texanna, Glenda and Shrebert are writing a resolution on the comment made by the Regent about UNM not having a product which is not ready yet. She also wished everyone a happy holiday.



- d. **Lobby Committee Report**  
Marilyn has been reviewing proposals that she's received. There are 2 proposals right at the moment and they have been discussing them further. She met with Matt Munoz who is government relations manager and works closely with Lobby Committee. Wanted to make decision before that meeting however they are now talking about the ways to combine both of the proposals to get funding for both of them. Therefore, decision has not been made and she's been waiting on him to make decisions and proceed. At the next council meeting there will be presentation.
- e. **Elections Committee Report**  
Gregor stated that the dates for elections that takes place next semester have been scheduled and has been posted on the website.
- f. **Student Support and Advocacy Committee Report and Programs Committee Report**  
Brianna spoke on behalf of both the committee chairs. Joint activities will be held on Monday for the finals week. College of Education is also co-hosting the event and they've donated baked foods for the event in Zimmerman library. We are also collecting toys in the office for the toy-drive. Programs Committee is planning a Welcome Back event in January.

## VIII. Action Items

- i. **Unfinished Business:**
  - 1. **VSS Resolution sponsored by OILS Representative Eliberto Calderon**  
Eli stated that the resolution was in response to the lack of oversight in the veteran community and UNM administration changing the Veteran Student Services proposal coauthored by the Veterans leadership group from student veterans to the Veteran resource center. It is the best way to insure the veteran's voice with the administration and also keep them accountable. VSS was created because there was no orientation and other support programs in place for student veterans. The proposal was for a total of \$290,000 and covers a veteran summer bridge program, funding for the veteran retreat and ensures funding for the student veteran organizations in addition to creating 2 full time positions and a graduate assistant position. He asked GPSA to support student veterans, have a common voice on campus and have a GPSA representative to be a part of that process. The proposal went through LSC and now it was in front of everyone to vote. A motion to approve the



resolution was made by Daniel, seconded by Dalicia. Benjamin stressed that we as a GPSA council have a responsibility to stand up for the veterans and make sure the resolution gets approved. The resolution was approved with 16 approval votes, 1 abstention and no disapproval votes.

ii. New Business

1. LSC Vice Chair Approval

A motion to appoint Lionel Diaz as the new LSC Vice Chair by Dalicia, Grants seconded it. The motion was approved with 17 approval votes and none disapproval or abstention. Lionel is appointed as the Vice Chair of LSC.

2. Establishment of ad hoc GPSA veteran's student committee sponsored by Council representative Grant Heileman

Grant stated that it was a follow-up to the VSS resolution. He advocated to create an legislative ad hoc committee to serve the under-represented student veteran population and make the transition process as smooth as possible. VRC is currently managing all the veterans related funds. VRC has refused to comprehensively support veterans meaning that they will only support veterans under federal aids and there are some other avenues under which veterans can find funding and VRC has expressed that it is not under their duties to support the specific population. Consequently, veterans who are under other avenues of funding do not get comprehensive representation at UNM. So, VSS put forward by Student Veterans of New Mexico and Women Student Veterans of New Mexico was taken over and is now under the VRC which means there's a chance that those students who were supposed to be getting help from this proposal might be left out and disenfranchised. So, the proposal was to create a GPSA legislative committee that will make sure that the student veterans' voices are heard regardless of how they attend this university. Motion was made by Texanna to approve an ad hoc committee chaired by Grant and was seconded by Benjamin. The motion got approved with 17 votes and no disapprovals/abstentions. The creation of ad hoc committee was thus approved.

A motion to recess made by Dalicia and seconded by Gwen was approved by 14 members and disapproved by 2. A recess was called at 11:15 AM.

Before moving on, James reminded the council that for the ad hoc committee to be formed, it needed at least representation from 5 different



RDSAs in it. So, he called out for the names of volunteers who would serve on the ad hoc committee. The name of volunteers are:

Texanna Martin - OILS

Chaz Clark – Latin American Studies

Tanya Shaw - COE

Grant Heileman – Electrical Engineering

Eliberto Calderon - OILS

Daniel Beene – Geography

3. Appropriations

Texanna made a motion to block approve all the appropriations except a, e, j, k and n from the agenda. Dalicia seconded it and was approved with 14 votes in favor and none in abstention/disapproval.

a. F028 – Student Organization for Latin American Studies

Hailey Patrick from Latin American Studies stated the need of the fund to conduct a 3-day film festival that includes not screened and non-streamed international movies. There will be no entrance fee and a total of 5 film will be featured. She also highlighted its importance to the students and community members. The overall budget was about \$3500 and she asked for a total of \$500 from GPSA. Andrea made a motion to reopen the agenda and move it to the end of appropriations which was seconded by Merrisa. The motion was approved with 16 votes in favor and no abstention or disapprovals.

j. F033 - No one dies alone

Rachel Fleddermann from UNM School of Medicine mentioned that the need of volunteers was recognized for the patients who are in the hospital but don't have family members or friends present. The objective was to provide compassionate care and support to the patients. The organization had been chartered recently and needs funding for foods, supplies, medicines and educational materials. Eliberto made a motion to fully fund the appropriation to \$654, Daniel seconded it. The motion was approved with 17 votes and no votes for abstention/disapproval.

k. F038 – Physical Therapy Student Association

Rachel Grangow from the Physical Therapy Student Association talked about the objectives of the organization. It was affiliated the school of



medicine and was a new organization. She was requesting funding for students who were travelling to Washington DC in January to attend the annual national conference for Physical Therapy. The goal of this conference was to create an opportunity to network, get up-to-date knowledge of the latest researches and advances made in the field. The funding will help to ease the financial burden of students and motivate them to stay and make contributions in NM even after they graduate. Andrea motioned to increase the appropriation by additional \$251 per student which was seconded by Jaimie. The motion was approved with 14 votes in favor and 1 each of abstention and disapprovals.

n. F041 – Business Law Society

Representative not present. Andrea clarified that the Law Society has asked for \$300 and were recommended \$146 and were asking for additional \$144. A motion to increase the appropriation by \$144 was made by Rejosa and seconded by Jaimie. The motion was approved with 12 votes in favor, 3 non-approval votes and 1 abstention.

e. F032 GPSA Council

James presented about the financial situation of GPSA council. Didn't get funded through budgetary process, got donation for the food for the first meeting, paid for the second meeting's food out of his pocket and has been using his insurance allocated funds for these meetings and to pay the council recorder. Has been able to arrange the cheapest item on the menu. He has been recommended by the finance committee of \$165 total for food to cover the next 5 meetings, however the budget for food would be closer to \$1000 at \$200 per meeting which is a lot less than previous administration's expenses shown by the April 2018 council meeting invoice for food provided by chartwells. He has been fiscally responsible and is working to make it even less expensive. He has been officially approved to obtain catering from Satellite who have been helping student organizations and appreciated their support. He also asked for an increase in LSC Vice-Chairs' stipend to \$400 from the finance committee recommendation of zero. It's not mentioned in the bylaw, but we can make a decision to provide the stipend in this meeting. Texanna further explained the roles and responsibilities of the Vice-Chair and also stressed the importance of this position with over 20 hours of commitment over the



semester. Andrea questioned the need of insurance money when James has been already getting the insurance from being a veteran. Texanna expressed her views in favor of fully reimbursing the insurance index of the insurance money spent on paying the council recorder and on the council meetings. A motion to not approve the increase in food expenses but to approve Finance committee's recommended appropriation and an increase in Vice-Chair's stipend to \$400 by Gregor and seconded by Gwen. Jaime stated that the finance committee amade the recommendations with the expectation that council would go over each line item. The motion received 3 votes in favor and 12 non-approval votes and 1 abstention. The motion was therefore disapproved.

Finance committee was asked by andrea to go over line items in front of the council. The line items that were discussed were Advertising, Conference and Registration fees, Educational Supplies and Subscription, Food and refreshment, Office Supplies, Project Assistant Stipend, LSC Chair Stipend, Insurance and Travel.

Advertising had \$50 as requested and recommended amount. Daniel motioned to approve the line item Advertising to the full amount of \$50, Gregor seconded it. The motion was approved with 12 approval votes and 2 disapprovals.

Conference and Registration fees: Had an original request of \$400 but the finance committee recomended zero. Texanna requested the committee to provide half of the amount to the total of \$200 which will be beneficial to James. Texanna made a call to action to approve \$200 for Conference and Registration fees, Andrea seconded it. The motion was approved with 14 votes and 2 disapproval votes.

Education Supplies and Subscription: Had asked for \$350 to buy Robert's rule book and parliamentary reference materials. Finance Committee had recommended a total of \$193. Benjamin called to action to approve the line item as recommended by Finance Committee, Andrea seconded it. The motion was approved with 15 votes in favor and zero disapproval/abstention.



Food and Refreshment: Had asked \$2500 and was recommended \$165. Andrea made a motion to amend the appropriation from \$165 to \$1700 where \$700 would be for end of the year reception and \$1000 for the 5 councils meetings of the upcoming semester. Eliberto seconded the motion. The amendment could not be approved due to the lack of two-third votes. There were 8 votes in favor, 5 against and 3 abstentions. Benjamin called for action to amend Food and Refreshment line item to include only \$1000 representing \$200 of food per meeting in line with the standing rules and not approve \$700 separated for end-of-the year banquet, Rejosa seconded it. The motion was approved with 13 votes in favor and 1 disapproval votes.

Office Supplies: \$100 was requested and \$55 was recommended. Jaimie motioned to fully fund \$100 and Eli seconded it. The motion was approved with 13 votes in favor and no disapproval/abstentions.

Stipend for Project Assistant: James was satisfied with the recommended \$500. Greg motioned to approve recommended \$500 for the stipend of Project Assistant, Andrea seconded it. The motion was approved with 15 votes in favor and zero disapprovals/abstentions.

Council Chair's Insurance: James was ok with the recommended \$500. Dalicia motioned to approve the line item at \$500, Daniel seconded it. Andrea stated that it was unethical for the chair to receive cash reimbursement for the insurance money. The chair clarified that the money would be returned to the insurance index and not a monetary reimbursement. Also the chair stated that the money can only be spent on insurance and that all expenditures are public information. The motion was approved with 16 approval votes and 1 abstention.

LSC Vice-Chairs Stipend: The finance committee recommended amount was zero and had asked for \$800. Daniel motioned to approve the stipend at \$400, Gregor seconded it. The motion was approved with 14 votes in favor and 1 abstention.

Travel: Had asked \$784 and was recommended zero by Finance Committee. Eli made a motion to approve \$549 for Travel, Glenda seconded it. After discussion, Eli modified the motion to approve travel expenses at \$235 in line



with the standing rules. Chaz called to action vote on the motion. The motion was approved with 15 votes in favor, 0 disapprovals and 1 abstention.

IX. Discussion Items

- a. Eliberto stressed the importance of minutes in both council meeting and committee meetings and encouraged everyone to read and give feedbacks on it.
- b. Neritza stated that she was moving and won't be a part of council. She thanked everyone and was happy to be involved with the student government. She also wished success to everyone.
- c. Rijosa told that she was a foodie and stressed for the inclusion of better breakfast in the council meeting. James responded that the funding was limited, and he had to work with fewer number of options.
- d. Grant thanked James for working with Richard and informed the council that he had talked with new facilities manager at Electrical Engineering department who is running student safety trainings and wanted everyone to spread the message.
- e. Trevor reminded everyone that we went over our budget by \$2654 and wanted everyone to keep note of this before making decisions.
- f. Kyla mentioned that November reporting was incorrect and the council was over the old budget by \$3000 and on the new budget we were under by few hundreds.

X. Council Announcements

James requested everyone to go to the SUB and have late night breakfast on Sunday to kick off finals week from 8pm-10pm.

XI. Upcoming Meetings: The next regular council meeting will be held on January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 10:00am in SUB Lobo A and B.

XII. Adjourn – Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Grant and second by Dalicia which was approved unanimously with 15 votes. The meeting was adjourned at 1:23 pm

James Kaminsky  
President Signature

Suraj Ghimire  
Council Recorder

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_