BILL # 190111

2019 FALL SESSION

Legislative Action:
Introduced by: LSC Committee

1st Reading: Naguru Nikhileswara Reddy
Referred To: LSC Committee

2nd Reading: LSC Committee on Oct 11
Committee Action: Approved

3rd Reading: GPSA Council
Council Action:

Executive Action:
Approved  Vetoed

__________________________________ _________________________
GPSA President  Date

Unsigned by the President on this ___day of _______ 20XX. Bill automatically becomes law.

Legislative Response:
Veto override vote taken: _________________  Council Action: _________________

Be it enacted by the Graduate and Professional Student Association at the University of New Mexico that the following be amended in (Article X: Election Code, Sec. 4 and 5) of the GPSA Constitution/Bylaw.

Article X: Election Code
Section 4. Campaigning

A. Candidates shall conduct campaigns in a manner which abides by University and GPSA policies and guidelines in their pursuit of office. Members of the Elections Committee shall refrain from actions that would show favoritism for or have a negative effect against any candidate or issue that might appear on the ballot.
B. Candidates shall submit, along with the Candidacy Forms, a list of authorized campaign committee members that may act on their behalf. Any changes to this list should be updated with the Elections Committee.

C. Candidates shall sign the Campaign Contribution Statement: “All funds received and spent will be from members of the UNM GPSA and no other sources.” This form shall be submitted as part of the Candidacy Forms.

D. Candidates shall submit an itemized accounting of all expenditures incurred by the candidate in the pursuit of office before 5:00 p.m. on the closing day of the election.

E. All candidates shall refrain from using GPSA resources in pursuit of office (including, but not limited to: funds, staff, email addresses, printing, electronic mailing lists, and office space).

F. If any group decides to establish a physical polling location, campaigning is not allowed within twenty-five (25) feet of the physical polling location. Campaigning includes, but is not limited to, signs, fliers, and campaigners. Polling locations, if any, should be placed in areas with minimal distractions.

G. No candidate nor aide shall solicit votes from students engaged in any step of the voting process. **No candidate or campaign worker shall use an internet-enabled device to physically solicit votes from students via the Universal Online Ballot.** This includes any device owned by the candidate, campaign worker, and potential voter.

H. No candidate nor aide shall use coercion. This includes any device owned by the candidate, campaign worker, and potential voter.

**Section 5: General Elections**

A. The election shall take place Monday through Thursday of the first (1st) full academic week of April, unless otherwise decided by Council. The electronic voting shall begin at 8:00 a.m. on the first (1st) day and end at 5:00 p.m. on the last day of the election.

B. Any ballot items included in the election shall be approved by Council at the regularly scheduled March meeting or through referenda.

C. Elections shall be conducted electronically and use a computer- or phone-based system that is managed by IT.

D. All electronically conducted elections must contain an account locking option along with names of the contestants which when used blocks that member’s account for certain time in order to prevent external influence during voting.

1. The amount of blocking time must be decided by election committee for each election.

2. The amount of blocking time may vary from hours to minutes based on duration of time left for voting.
E. Ballots and Polling:

1. Ballots shall have a randomly ordered list of candidates and clear instructions for marking and submitting one’s vote. Provision for write-in votes shall be included on the ballot. Only cast ballots meeting these requirements shall be counted. Votes cast on partially completed ballots shall be counted.

2. All ballot items shall appear on the ballot with the language received by the Elections Committee.

3. Polling: Voters must log in with the UNM NetID and password on record with the Registrar’s Office to cast a ballot.

F. Two (2) members of the Elections Committee shall retrieve the final vote count from IT using the electronic voting system.

G. The candidate elected to office shall be determined by a plurality of votes cast and each other ballot item shall be determined by a majority of votes cast on each item.

H. Should the plurality winner of the GPSA General Election be declared ineligible or unable to assume office for any reason before the certification of the election results, or in the case of a tie, or if the Elections Committee votes not to certify an election, a special Council meeting shall be called so that a Special Election can be scheduled.

I. The Elections Committee shall approve the results of a General Election after it has been determined to have been conducted in accordance with the GPSA Constitution and Bylaws.