I. Call to order – meeting called to order at 10:14 am

Confirmation of Quorum:
Quorum confirmed, 14 Council representatives present:
Janet Coen – History
John Reinert – Education
Alex Henkel – Education
Andrea Abeita – Education
Aaron Cowan – OILS
Eliberto Calderon – OILS
Julia Swan – Psychology
David Nunnally – Political Science
Gabriel Gaarden – Population Health
Gregor Hamilton – Biology
David Puthoff – English
(Jennifer Tubbs – English, non-voting)
Raby Sylla – Business
Austin Daniel - Physics & Astronomy
Taryn Brennan – Sociology

Adoption of Agenda:

Motion to amend agenda to move New Business b (Appropriations) to item III by Raby, seconded by Eliberto. Motion passed with 11 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstained.

Motion to amend agenda to move Discussion items to IV by Gregor, seconded by Aaron. Motion passed with 11 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstained.

Motion to adopt amended agenda by Gregor, seconded by Eliberto. Motion passed with 11 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstained.

Motion to suspend standing rules to accept credentialing of Population Health Council representative by Eliberto, seconded by Janet. Motion passed with 11 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstained.

Motion to readopt standing rules by Aaron, seconded by Gregor. Motion passed with 12 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstained.

II. Opening Business
a. Approval of Minutes: November 23, 2019 regular meeting
  Motion to approve minutes by David, seconded by Gregor. Motion passed with 12 in favor, 0 against, 2 abstained (Alex & Andrea).

b. Media & Gallery- comments related to agenda items (limit 3 mins per speaker)

Capitol Outlay Proposals:

- Anne Turner, Robert Esquibel, Morgan Sims – English department. $91,000 request.
  - Renovate grad student spaces in humanities building. Work space for 80 grad students, research, teaching prep – renovate with more durable flooring, paint, replace signage and door handles to be ADA compliant, new teaching technology, laptops to loan to grad students.
  - Renovate one English classroom – used for teaching, master’s and PhD defenses. New flooring, paint, lighting, technology (sound system, teaching computer and software), fix ADA issues- tiered floor is tripping hazard, replace outdated desks with 40 ADA compliant desks.

- Ethan Gyllenhaal, Jenna McCullough, Gregor Hamilton, Alesia Hallmark - Biology department graduate students representing Biology, EPS, Anthropology, Honors College, Museum Studies, Art department. $184,250 request.
  - Museum of Southwestern Biology – no public face to museum, would create permanent public outreach displays, shared space for departments to collaborate, and specimen based classroom (undergrad education)
  - Funding exists to renovate Biology Annex but over budget because of asbestos
  - Additional 10% of original budget requested. $277,000 needed total, requested $184,250 for graduate student needs
  - Furniture, specimen cabinets, workspaces, technology for classrooms

- Simone and Robert - SW Center for Indigenous Languages. $100,000 request.
  - Regional and global center for indigenous languages at UNM. Bring in speakers, preserve languages, teach young people languages, community center
  - 2019 is UN International year of indigenous peoples
  - Furniture, AV recording and digital equipment, computer and software programs, storage cabinets, interior space construction

III. Appropriations
Motion to block approve appropriations by Gregor, seconded by Aaron. Motion passed with 14 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstained.

  i. F39 Advancing Women in Science $694 for women in science event
  ii. F40 Bangladeshi Student Association $302 for cultural event
  iii. F41 Health Professions Camp $154 for end of year celebration
iv. F42 Economics Graduate Students Organization spent $1390 for two conferences. Funded $939 for one conference.

IV. Discussion Items
a. Transparency and Public Notice Requirements (TPNR) - Open Meetings Act (OMA) of NM that GPSA must follow. Changes to Bylaws – either keep TPNR section of bylaws or remove section and refer straight to OMA (state in Bylaws that GPSA will comply with OMA). If language changes in OMA, don’t need to keep changing Bylaws.

- Aaron: Might be appropriate to have special committee to discuss
- Eliberto: Should survey grad students, but suggest to keep section in Bylaws.
- Dre: A lot of language may not apply to student organizations.
- Ryan: need to comply as much as possible with OMA (meeting notice, minutes, final agenda, etc.)

Motion to discuss next item by Gregor, seconded by Aaron. Motion passed with 12 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstained (David P)

b. Tuition differential for Arts and Sciences
- Item was created by Ben Brandley, not present
- Grad student constituents were surveyed on opinions
- President: one grad student noted that Arts & Sciences graduate student tuition increased last year. Money was promised to be put back into student assistantships, etc.
- Dre: COE said no to tuition differential, need to do similar thing now and get signatures and stand up to Dean. UNM Health campus students also getting hit with tuition differential now.
- Aaron: Need to have written guarantee that money will be spent on graduate students. Need to see report at end of fiscal period that money was spent as promised. Board of Regents makes ultimate approval, need to talk to them.
- Gregor: Issue isn’t whether or not tuition differential will be put into place, tuition differential has already been levied. Issue is how to use money. Dean sent email to ask how to allocate that money. 93% of biology students voted to increase stipends rather than make more stipends.
- David P: Should not be levying tuition differential. Creates fissure between grad students funded by stipends and those who aren’t.
- Dre: Need to keep accountable for use of money, and just because tuition differential in place doesn’t mean we can’t fight it—we can protest what has happened.

c. Capital Outlay projects
- Lobby Chair Shaikh Ahmad: Three proposals have been received to renovate and make physical improvements of government facilities. All are necessary and important for campus life. Lobby committee currently Emily, Andrea, Aspyn, and Aaron.
- Proposals aren’t yet complete – may need to make changes to make them more appropriate for purpose
- Goal to take two proposals as opposed to one.

Questions:

- Dre: What day is lobbying and how does it work?
- Shaikh: Jan 27 is UNM Day during legislative session. Beforehand do publicity and meet legislators to inform them what we are asking for.
- Aaron: Could you explain the process of funding a bit more?
- Shaikh: We’ll work on proposals to make them most appropriate for this purpose, the final decision is up to legislators to decide what they will fund. Each legislator has a pot of funds that they can allocate to specific projects.
- Gregor: Met with deans and Mr. Muñoz, two routes of getting funded: each legislator has $5000 to allocate to projects, or if goes to senate floor, much larger bill can be put in. $150,000 recommended, but not hard cap.
- David P: We could theoretically choose all three projects. Can we go for all three?
- Shaikh: We could, that would be the happiest solution.
- Dre: To strategize, could form teams for UNM Day, each team talks to different senators. Could we get more people involved in Lobby committee?
- Shaikh: More people are always welcome for efficiency. You don’t have to be on Lobby committee to participate
- Ryan: Total requested is $360,000. Last year were able to get $230,000 and it was difficult. Would risk not getting any projects getting funded if try to get all. If go for two projects, would be $260,000. How do you fund two projects if get money: equal funding or one project fully funded and other partially? Reminder that could get line item vetoed by Governor.
- Taryn: Would push for indigenous languages and biology proposals, more interdisciplinary and will benefit more students and publicity for university.

V. Committee Reports

a. Standing Committees

i. Lobby Committee
- Andrea: Four of us on lobby committee, could we get a feel of the room to help us pick two proposals?
- Gregor: Can we hold an informal vote?
- Aaron: I feel there would be a strong case for indigenous languages in New Mexico. I’d like to see all funded.
- Alex: I support all three.
- Nikhil: We need to make a recommendation for Lobby committee.
- David P: I urge you to vote for all three, we can get support in numbers at least from English department. If anything will win them over it’s having a showing of people.
- David N: I don’t think it’s fair to pick only two.
- Taryn: I’d like all three funded, but we need to consider that none of them might get funded. Picking two isn’t ideal but we should discuss that. We may need to consider how much each project is requesting so we can get price points down.

Informal vote:
- 12 Councilors support lobbying for all three projects.

ii. Legislative Steering Committee
Council rejected 3 bills, LSC wasn’t able to make quorum for last meeting.

IV. Officer Reports

a. President’s Report
- Celebrated GPSA 50th anniversary in Nov – former GPSA leaders attended, president from 1971 spoke
- New Grants Committee chair has been hired – Kenneth Garcia
- Thanks Ben Brandley for work as Council Chair. Hopeful that new Council Chair will keep momentum going.
- Thanks other Committee Chairs for work this semester
- Grants website – moving forward with new website for more effective grants process and make application process easier for students. Critical for supporting student research and professional development. Will be funded through Grants Committee’s own budget
- Will have training session for people who go to lobby at legislative session

Questions:
- Gregor: What is plan for hiring new Council Chair?
- President: Will be an election.
- Aaron: As elections chair, need to get election committee together. Need to have election within 30 days according to bylaws.
- Dre: Has any progress been made in getting GAship? I want to make sure that no one will be hired without Council knowing over break.
- President: We have budget for a project assistant (funded as office manager). It will not be fully funded (10-15 hours per week, tuition not covered).
- Dre: I want your assurance that you will not hire anyone during the break.
- President: I want to hire someone, we will not put the hire into bylaws before break. We have money for this person for the next semester, budget is not an issue. We will hire someone.

Motion to take ten minute break by David P, seconded by Dre. Motion passed with 11 in favor, 1 against (Gregor), 1 abstained (Austin).

Motion to call meeting back to order by Gregor, seconded by Dre. 11 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstained (David P). Meeting called back to order 12:20pm. Quorum confirmed.
President: What are main issues faced by GPSA? People joining GPSA leadership don’t have knowledge of how GPSA functions. Intent of leadership initiative is to train grad students in how GPSA works, and in leadership skills to give back to students. Goal is to have better functioning GPSA.

- Dre: I’m asking you to make sure not to hire someone before it’s gone through the proper procedures.
- President: We can hire someone through Bylaws if there is a need. I feel there is a need to hire someone for the leadership initiative. Why should we wait if there’s a need? How many people recommend that we don’t hire a person?
- Alex: How many of your executive body are on board with what you want to do?
- President: All of the executive body are on board.
- Alex: How many people from your executive body have resigned?
- President: Grants chair and program committee chair.
- Alex: What makes you think we will support you? Since people resigning?
- President: Grants chair resigned because GPSA pays less than her department. Program committee chair working off 3 assistantships, now she is working on her thesis and doesn’t have time.
- Aaron: Is funding available only for this position? Would we lose this money if we don’t spend it? The big concern is that some of the committee chairs not getting paid enough, would we have money to do both?
- President: We would have money to raise stipend for committee chairs and pay new hire at hourly rate.
- Aaron: Do we have other members for committee to support Chief Justice?
- President: No one has applied yet.
- David N: The biggest concern is legality of hiring new person. Has to go through LSC, but President is saying bylaws state he can unilaterally make decision to hire person. Can you point to section in bylaws that says this?
- Nikhil: Section in bylaws about the new position for leadership initiative hasn’t been approved yet.
- Dre: How many resignations? Programs chair, communication chair (filled), grants chair (filled). Need to still fill election committee members, lobby committee members to have these committees function.
- Julia: Do you think some of these people stepped down because they didn’t understand what they were taking on (time commitments)?
- President: We sat down with committee chairs to go through requirements. Leadership institute will target leadership skills- public speaking, negotiation skills.
- Julia: So the initiative would hopefully keep people from stepping down.
- Taryn: This position already exists?
- BriAnne: In November, President presented bill to LSC to put leadership position in bylaws, but LSC didn’t meet.
- Janet: Could we get a feel for how many support it?
- Alex: You do not have a chair of programs committee now?
- Austin: It seems the point of the new position is to act as an advisor to students? We already have an advisor, how would the position overlap with
Ryan’s duties?
- Ryan: It’s separate—student leadership training. Similar program in ASUNM.

b. Council Chair’s Report
- Council Chair (Ben Brandley) resigned, BriAnne leaves with him. Oona resigned as Council Recorder.
- Notice should go out in next week for applications for Council Chair.
- Elections - need to invite candidates to speak in January meeting. Goal to have new Council Chair take over at Feb meeting.

Questions:
- Aaron: We need people on elections committee to help hire new people.
- Alex and Andrea thank Council leadership for work.
- Dre: Can you help us by giving honest feedback about why people are resigning so that we can make improvements to GPSA?

Motion to open Old Business by Gregor, second by Austin. Motion passed with 12 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstained.

V. Old Business

a. Chief Justice, Court of Review Appointment and Oath of Office- Jessica Martinez
- Dual degree: Masters in public administration and 2nd year law student.
- Experience as community organizer, tribal leadership, drafting constitutions for League of Latin American students, served as youth president for League of Latin American students, law school duties. Recommendation for another student from Law school for Associate Justice position on Court of Review.
- Committed to neutrality, fairness, transparency in GPSA. Will uphold bylaws and Constitution.

Questions:
- Alex: Could you describe the job requirements?
- Jessica: When complaints are filed, Court of Review will make decision. Important to look at precedent for processes.
- Alex: You also have to have another judge that doesn’t come from Law School?
- Jessica: There should be no more than 2 people on Court of Review that are from one department.
- David N: Chief justice and judicial branch settle disputes between executive and legislative branches. What power do we have to put Judicial branch in check if we feel like your decisions aren’t neutral?
- Jessica: My commitment is to be neutral, and it’s not the Chief Justice’s decision alone—two other associate justices. The two other branches will...
have input as well, the decision would come to Council after goes through Court of Review.

- Dre: Could you clarify when you got this position? Aren’t three people required to form Court of Review?
- Jessica: There was email in August, I submitted application in late Aug/early Sept, went in for an interview 3+ weeks later. I was notified two weeks ago that I would be appointed last meeting but was at a mock trial then, so now I am here today. Having just the Chief Justice is enough to make decisions. I have determined another law student who would be qualified. Other associate justice position needs to be filled.
- Dre: President and Council representatives can recommend chief justices.

Motion to confirm Jessica as Chief Justice by Gregor, seconded by Andrea. Motion passed with 11 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstained. Jessica Martinez sworn in as Chief Justice.

b. Student Support and Advocacy Chair Appointment- Aspyn Maes
- Dept of English. Leadership experience through teaching assistantship and leading science programs for students
- Promote transparency for student organizations, inform students of programs for grad students through advocacy groups
- Will be liaison between Council and student organizations
- Help students get support needed to succeed and go on to professional work

Questions:
- Aaron: You know what you’re getting into, right?
- Aspyn: Yes
- Alex: So you’re applying for the office manager job?
- Aspyn: No, some of the job is done by the office manager at present
- David N: Is this a newly created position?
- Nikhil: No, it’s existed before
- Dre: This is one of the five committee chairs.

Motion to confirm Aspyn as Student Support and Advocacy Chair by Gregor, seconded by Aaron. Motion passed with 10 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstained (David P).

c. Finance Committee Member Appointment- Shaikh Ahmad
Shaikh had final exam, left meeting earlier.
- Dre: How is Shaikh going to manage other duties when he is chair of another committee?
- Emily: Lobby committee chair will end in February. There is only time conflict for one month. We chose Shaikh because he will serve for longer time. Other executive members graduating and will not continue.
- David N: I’d feel more comfortable voting for this person if he were here.
- Taryn: We’ve had the chance to vote for this person several times now, it would be beneficial for finance committee to confirm someone. Shaikh has
been chosen because he’s qualified and will serve longer. I suggest that we confirm him.

- Alex: I will never vote for people if they don’t show up.
- Aaron: Is there a limit for finance committee membership?
- Nikhil: 6 people. Committee will be at limit with new appointment.
- David N: No doubt he has experience but he should be here to defend his qualifications
- Taryn: We should have empathy for fact that he couldn’t stay, we’re all students first. Should we be voting on qualifications or process through which people are appointed? That should be a different discussion point.

Motion to confirm Shaikh as Finance committee member by Gregor, seconded by Janet. Motion passed by majority with 6 in favor, 3 against (Alex, David N, Andrea), 2 abstained (David P & John R).

d. Tabled Appropriation - Graduate and Professional Student Association

- No finance committee members present. President standing in to speak for GPSA appropriation.
- $1400 requested.

Questions:

- Gregor: Have fall stipends already been paid?
- President: Some international students need to be paid, it would be an issue to pay them after semester over. This is not an increase, it’s to make stipend what it was last year. This is to fund chair salaries for next semester.

Motion to table appropriation until January by Dre, seconded by David N. Motion to table not passed with 4 in favor, 1 against (Taryn), 6 abstained (Janet, Julia, Aaron, Gregor, Austin, David P).

Motion to reject appropriation by Dre, seconded by John. Motion not passed with 2 in favor, 3 against (Janet, Julia, Taryn), 6 abstained (Aaron, Gregor, Austin, David P, John, & David N).

Motion to reconsider previous motion by Dre, seconded by Alex. Motion passed with 5 in favor, 3 against (Taryn, Julia, Janet), 2 abstained (John & Austin).

Motion to approve appropriation by Gregor, seconded by Aaron. Motion passed with 4 in favor, 3 against (Alex, Andrea & David N), 3 abstained (Gregor, John, & Austin). Appropriation approved.

Motion to close Old and open New Business by Gregor, seconded by Austin. Motion passed with 10 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstained.

VI. New Business
a. Confirmation of Grants Chair-Kenneth Garcia
To fill Grants Chair because previous Grants Chair resigned.
- Experience as intern for Sandia grants process, used different software types (e.g. Excel) to manage process
- How to streamline process of grant application - Anderson School of management has streamlined process to use as template

Questions:
- Alex: Did you say what department you’re in?
- Kenneth: MBA program, Anderson School
- David N: In the past there are some departments that are disproportionally receiving grants?
- Kenneth: Need more people to assess grants.
- Aaron: Have you had a chance to look at the grant grading rubrics?
- Kenneth: Have been to grant reading workshops. Rubric for grading grants is vague -- need to improve it.

Motion to confirm Kenneth as Grants Chair by Gregor, seconded by Janet. Motion passed with 9 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstained.

Motion to close New Business by Gregor, seconded by Taryn. Motion passed with 9 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstained.

VIII. Council Announcements Public Comment – comments not related to items on the agenda (limit 3 mins per speaker)

- Aaron: Comments about selection of Council Chair -- need new Chair as soon as possible. Encourage anyone interested in being on election committee to contact Aaron asap (votegpsa@unm.edu). Need to prepare list of eligible voters (only Council representatives, minus new reps who can’t vote yet by election). Council Chair needs to be eligible for assistantship. Suggests candidates to put together information before speaking at next meeting, so council representatives know something about you.
- Nikhil: Elections need to be held within 30 academic days of end of academic year
- Ryan: Need to discuss whether hold elections in January or February
- Gregor: Suggest an informal poll to recommend to Aaron Jan or Feb vote
- Nikhil: Suggest to invite candidates to speak in Jan and special meeting early in Feb before Council meeting to vote on position
- Alex: What is the job description and how much is the stipend?
- BriAnne: 0.5 appointment, stipend, and tuition. Council Chair job description in bylaws, amount of pay on OGS website
- Taryn: Beneficial to have special meeting in Feb, get Chair in sooner
- Nikhil: Recommend elections chair to ask for CVs as well.
- Gregor: Difficult to call special meeting- hard to populate, shouldn’t rely on it
- Alex: Would special meeting only be to decide who Chair is?
- Nikhil: Other items could be added also.
- Taryn: Special meeting would give time to talk to RDSAs. Could we confirm Chair at the Feb meeting to have them take over meeting?
- Ryan: Technically, probably could
- Taryn: If we don’t want special meeting could confirm at Feb meeting
- Aaron: This is a special election run by the President, so I can make recommendations to him but I’m not running election.
- Austin: This is purely a Council vote. I don’t know if bringing information back to RDSAs would be helpful.
- Andrea: Can we hear them and vote in January as well?
- Nikhil: Yes. So is that the consensus, to have candidates come talk at January meeting and vote there?

IX. Upcoming Meeting

a. Saturday, January 25, 2020 at 10:00 AM in SUB Lobo A & B
Finance Chair (Raby) will be acting Council Chair at January 25 meeting.

X. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting by Gregor, seconded by Andrea. Motion passed with 10 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstained. Meeting adjourned at 2:11pm.