I. Call to order – meeting called to order at 10:10 am  
Confimation of Quorum:  
Quorum confirmed, 20 council representatives present:  
Taryn Brennan – Sociology  
Janet Coen- History  
Gregor Hamilton – Biology  
Austin Daniel - Physics & Astronomy  
Benjamin Morrison – Physics & Astronomy  
Andrea Abeita – Education  
Minea Armijo – Education  
Alex Henkel – Education  
Peter Njagi – Education  
John Reinert – Education  
Gwen Peel - Spanish / Portuguese  
David Nunnally – Political Science  
Aaron Cowan – OILS  
Eliberto Calderon – OILS  
Russell Hunter – Biomedical Sciences  
Crys La Croix – Communication  
Julia Swan – Psychology  
Nikhil Reddy – Electrical & Computer Engineering  
Kyla Charlee – Electrical & Computer Engineering  
Ben Ahern Wild - Public Administration  
*Rahul Adhibari – Mechanical Engineering  
*Emily Guerra – Population Health  
*Attended but not credentialed  

Adoption of Agenda:  
Motion to adopt amended agenda by Benjamin, seconded by Nikhil. Motion passed with 20 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstention.

II. Opening Business  
   a. Approval of Minutes: September 28, 2019 regular meeting  
      Motion to approve minutes by Benjamin, seconded by Austin. Motion passed with 21 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions.  
      Discussion: Eliberto reminds that number of each vote should be recorded in minutes.

   b. Media & Gallery- comments related to agenda items (limit 3 mins per speaker)  
      None
III. Officer Reports
   a. President’s Report
      - Student fee review board visit to GPSA office – Additional $5000 was given for GPSA use because amount from student fees was small this year. Amount that will be allocated to each department will be decided tomorrow.
      - Events for GPSA 50 year anniversary – celebration on Nov. 23 in SUB Ballroom C. Will highlight GPSA achievements, invite GPSA alumni.
      - Leadership initiative – one-semester course to train graduate students in how GPSA operates, as well as general leadership. Will be able to recruit effective future leaders for GPSA from the course. President’s office will hire someone to create course for Spring 2020.
   b. Council Chair’s Report
      Clarification for Councilors: 3 minutes for questions/discussion, with one additional 3 minutes.
      Questions:
      - Eliberto - Why are minutes from other committee meetings not posted online? GPSA website is not up to date.
      - Ben Brandley – there has been significant turnover in management this year.
      - Austin – Does GPSA have webmaster?
      - Ben Brandley - No. There is an office manager who will take on some of these duties.
      - Aaron – Who uploads various committee minutes? Could GPSA get a new website? Could raise a committee to point out issues to improve website.
      - Emily – As chief of staff, this is part of her duties but website management is beyond her skillset. Trying to raise funds for new website for next year.

IV. Committee Reports
   a. Legislative Steering Committee- Naguru Nikhileswara (Nikhil) Reddy
      - Last LSC meeting - 3 bills were rejected or amended:
         - Campaign bill – amended, copied to Election bill
         - Town meeting bill – rejected
         - Departments have to consist of 50% or more graduate students to be allowed to have council representative – rejected
      - Will reconsider these bills if Council requests
      - Note on Constitutional amendments – first must be approved by Council, then included in general elections of President, then Board of Regents. May 2020 is next election. Amendment – to not include changes in voting for general elections but rather make opinion poll to student body to move changes through faster.
      Questions:
      - Eliberto – Why are changes being made now to Constitution? Changes to Constitution would circumvent legislative power. Going straight to Board of Regents with changes would result in students having less of a voice.
- Nikhil – Changes are happening now because LSC did not exist in past semesters. Reason for amendments - process of making changes to Constitution would be faster. Instead of having changes for vote in general election, will have the same type of voting as an opinion poll.
- Alex – Role of LSC is to change outdated rules.
- Andrea – Who is writing these bills? Proposed changes to grants will hurt students in transition between degrees.
- Nikhil – Author of the bill is the person who is listed as introducing the bill. The changes in grants are a time limit change from a 3 month limit to 1 month limit to accept grant funding.
- Eliberto – Why is there a bill being introduced to reduce term limits? Suggestion to refund student fees if take away access to Council.
- Nikhil – Students not on Council are also paying fees, which include other resources besides Council. Introducing bill because faculty, staff council, and ASUNM have same 2 year term limit rule.
- Eliberto – These other organizations are not structurally the same as GPSA.
- Nikhil – Intent is to get fresh mindsets for GPSA, training program will help recruit informed members for Council
- Gregor – Spring 2018 administration was not effective. Last year’s budgets were undercut. This year’s proposed changes are the results of making up for past two years’ administrations. Asks Ben Brandley and BriAnne: what is intent behind proposed bills?
- Ben Brandley – Intent is to make changes for students’ benefit.
- Alex – Authors of bills are not present at this meeting to explain reasoning behind proposed changes to Constitution.
- Ben Wild – Agrees with term limits: Masters’ programs underrepresented in Council because have shorter programs than PhD – don’t have as much time to participate in Council. Participation in committees can be seen as extension of time to have voice in GPSA.
- Andrea – Why are committee meeting locations not made clear so students can participate? Term limits will make it difficult to make quorum.
- Nikhil – Meeting locations are announced. Term limits would be a positive because would get departments not currently represented to send representatives to Council.
- Benjamin – asks BriAnne same question as was posed by Gregor to Ben
- BriAnne agrees with what Ben said earlier
- Aaron – Do departments keep track of whether particular Councilors are sitting on Council for excessive time?
- Nikhil – Increasing quorum from 6 to 9 would result in a better representation of graduate student body. Preferable to not always meet quorum rather than not have good representation.
- Aaron – Increasing quorum wouldn’t help participation. Stipend as motivation to participate?
- Nikhil – Would get wider representation of students by changing rules
- David – Clarification of procedures behind Constitutional changes: is review by Board of Regents a requirement in the Constitution?
- Nikhil – yes.
- David – can approval by Board of Regents be eliminated?
- Nikhil – no.
- Gregor – Shooting down bills immediately doesn’t change anything, but presenting ideas to modify bills will make improvements.
- Crys – Asks councilors: How many people have served for 2 years and want to serve for another year? 5 councilors respond affirmatively.
- Ben – in politics, and in other governing bodies of the university similar laws exist.
- BriAnne – GPSA President limited to 2 years – intent is to get more students involved in GPSA across the board.

V. Old Business
  Motion by Benjamin to open old business, seconded by Austin. Motion passed with 22 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

Motion by Gregor to introduce all Bills simultaneously, Andrea seconded. Motion passed with 21 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstention (Eliberto).

a. Bill #190101 - Article IV, Section 10 B
- Introduction by Author: BriAnne – before Council can vote on bylaw changes, must be on agenda as discussion item month before vote. Change: remove additional discussion before voting. Discussion time still included in voting process.

Questions:
- Benjamin - Councilors serve on Council on behalf of their RDSA – should make sure the month of discussion time is included so can take discussion back to RDSA to represent constituents.
- Austin - Goal is to help LSC be able to make changes faster (this Bill refers to bylaws, not Constitution)
- Gregor - Bylaws are contradictory, in the past changes couldn’t be made fast when needed. Suggestion to have a way to make changes fast when an emergency situation occurs (For example, when Court of review was needed in the past).
- Eliberto - Court of review was called to change results of election. Why did it take so long to raise court of review? Court of review should be appointed immediately after President elected. These changes will not directly help issues, but rather hiring in timely manner would.
- Gregor: These issues are not directly related to Bill at hand.
- Benjamin: Emergency powers for urgent actions should be set up as a separate procedure. Bylaws/LSC not appropriate forum
- Aaron: Can’t Council chair call for special meetings?
- Ben Brandley - Yes, and so can Councilors.

Motion by Eliberto to negate bill, seconded by Gregor. Motion passed with 18 in favor, 0 against, 3 abstentions (Nikhil, Russell, Crys)

Motion for 5 minute break by Gregor, seconded by Eliberto. Motion passed with 20 in favor, 1 against (Benjamin), 2 abstention (Russell, Drea)
Meeting resumed at 12:10pm. Quorum confirmed. 20 councilors present.
b. Bill #190102 - Article IV, Section 8 B 2

- Introduction by Author: BriAnne – LSC must meet 9 days before council meeting. Change to 5 days before.

Questions:
- Aaron – Suggests that 5 days not sufficient for LSC to get information to Council.
- BriAnne: took LSC a lot of time to figure out when they could meet first time, 9 days makes it difficult to find time to meet.
- Benjamin – Bill gives more time for LSC to meet, not less.
- Ben – gives more flexibility for scheduling for LSC

Discussion:
- Nikhil – gives more time for LSC. Extends from 15 days at beginning of month to closer to 20.
- Benjamin – point 3 still says items must still be submitted 8 days prior to meeting as points for discussion to LSC.
- Ben Brandley – can amend this line.
- Gregor – 5 days prior for meeting and 4 days before to submit supporting documents
- Benjamin – point 4 says supporting documents must be submitted by 5 days prior, amend to 4 days also.

Motion to amend item B3 to 5 days prior and item B4 to 4 days prior and approve bill by Gregor, seconded by Eliberto. Motion passed with 18 in favor, 0 against, 2 abstentions (Alex, Gwen).

c. Bill #190103 - Article II, Section I, I

- Introduction by Author: Ben – President and Council Chair cannot sit on any other committees.

Questions:
  None

Discussion:
- Benjamin – thanks Ben for submitting Bill. Closes a loophole for the future.

Motion to approve as amended by Gregor, Aaron seconded. Motion passed with 20 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

d. Bill #190104 - Article IV, Section 5 C 3 & Article IV, Section 5 D 1

- Introduction by Author: Ben – increase RDSAs from 5 to 9

Questions:
- Eliberto: Author can withdraw Bill
- Gregor: propose go straight to vote
- Andrea: think carefully about how bills are written.
Motion to kill bill from Alex, Benjamin seconded. Motion passed with 19 in favor, 1 against (Nikhil), 0 abstention.

e. Bill #190105-Grants 1
Author: Grants Committee.

Questions:
- Eli, Alex: suggest to table bill until author is present to explain it.
- Andrea: change to give stipends to everyone who sits on Grants committee. How does this change how people on other committees are compensated?
- Nikhil: Suggest to reject grants bills now based on format. Bills would need to be resubmitted in proper format.
- Benjamin – bills should not be considered in Council without authors here.

Motion to table Bills e – h by Eliberto, seconded by Gregor. Motion passed with 14 in favor, 1 against (Taryn), 2 abstention (Drea, David). Bills e – h tabled.

f. Bill #190106-Grants 2

g. Bill #190107-Grants 3

h. Bill #190108-Grants 4

Motion to close Old business and open New by Benjamin. Seconded by Austin. Motion passed with 18 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

VI. New Business

a. Confirmation of Finance Committee Member-Shaikh Ahmad
Ben Wild speaking on Shaikh Ahmad’s behalf.

Questions:
- Benjamin – does Ahmad have business experience?
- President Afzaal – Yes, Bachelor’s in business admin.
- Andrea: Why is GPSA President appointing members to finance committee?
- Ben Wild: President is not making appointments. Finance chair made two appointments, Council made two. Did email blast search for members in beginning of semester, finance committee chair appointed members.
- Alex: When was email was sent out?
- Ben Wild: Email was sent to all students listserv
- President Afzaal: trying to appoint best candidates with experience in finance
- Eliberto: Was there a requirement for finance committee member to be from Business School? Was appointment open to give any interested students opportunity to apply for
committee? Recommends council to decline confirmation of appointment to make a statement that process should be more open.

- President: Currently seeking to confirm member because another member stepped down, Ahmad was suggested to be appointed by Finance Committee Chair.

Motion to decline confirmation by Eliberto, seconded by David. Motion passed with 10 in favor, 4 against (Taryn, Austin, Ben W., Julia), 4 abstentions (John, Drea, Benjamin, Gwen). Motion approved—Confirmation declined.

Motion to close confirmation and open appropriations by Gregor, seconded by Andrea. Motion passed with 19 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

b. Appropriations

Questions:
- Benjamin: Did Finance committee have any concerns about any of the appropriations requests?
  - Ben Wild: No.
- Alex: What is current balance? Approx. $83,000. Current appropriations requests approx. $11,000
- David: World Affairs Delegation- how many grads vs. undergrads? Seems to be primarily undergrad organization but requesting relatively large amount of $1800.
- Andrea: Did Spanish and Portuguese Grad Student Association know they could request larger amount through travel? Why are appropriations not being given for travel? Why is SGAO involved in appropriations?
  - Ben Wild: SGAO gives figures for money available but does not have influence in allotting appropriations.
- Gwen: World Affairs- Is event they were applying to go to for both grad students and undergrads? Yes.
  - Eliberto: Clarification- Does GPSA fund grad students only in mixed undergrad/grad organizations? Yes, that is what should be done.
  - Gwen: Asks for clarification on appropriation for Spanish and Portuguese.

Discussion:
None

Motion to block approve all appropriations by Andrea, seconded by Benjamin. Motion passed with 19 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

i. F6-Spanish and Portuguese Graduate Student Association

ii. F7-Oils Student Alliance

iii. F8-Women in Design: UNM

iv. F9-Nepali Students Association

v. F10-Pakistan Student Association

vi. F11-The Water Network

vii. F12-Biophysical Society Student Chapter

viii. F13-High Desert Linguistic Society (HDLS)
ix. F14-The Luther House Student Organization
x. F15-Graduate and Professional Student Association-Programs Committee
xi. F16-Economics Graduate Students Organization (EGSO)
xii. F17-UNM Student American Society of Landscape Architects
xiii. F18-Language, Literacy, & Sociocultural Studies Graduate Student Organization
xiv. F19-Bengal United Sports Club
xv. F20-Student Health Law Association
xvi. F21-World Affairs Delegation
xvii. F22-Physics Graduate Student Association
xviii. F23-Public Health Student Association

Motion to close appropriations and open discussion items, seconded. Motion passed with 19 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstention.

VII. Discussion Items

a. Bill #190109-Survey
Make into law that GPSA must send out opinion poll every year to seek guidance from student body for improvements.

Questions:
- Alex – Who would publish the poll? GPSA website
- Gregor - would IT set up the poll? Is there an existing process for setting this up?
- Andrea – Is 5 days enough turnaround time?
- Gregor – Yes. As previous elections chair, it is enough time. Ryan Lindquist already has grad students’ information ready to send out to IT.
- David – Would this be joint process of writing questions between E-Board and Court of Review?
- Alex – How will questions be reviewed and chosen?

Discussion:
- Benjamin, David – survey is valid idea, needs some tweaking for implementation.

b. Bill #190110-Constitution for BOR
Limit terms to 2 years.

Informal vote to withdraw bill.

Questions:
- Gregor – Difficult to get enough Councilors from departments. Good idea to think about how to involve more students.
- Andrea – What feedback was there on this bill? Suggestion to send email for informal feedback.
- Ben Brandley - None this time. Will include feedback next time.
- Eliberto - Tie participation to PB funds – if department doesn’t participate, cut PB funds for next semester.
- Crys - increase to 3 or 4 years if the time limit is too short?
- Council - Time limit itself isn’t issue, rather the concept of term limits.

Discussion:
- Nikhil – If not enough new Councilors, those who have sat on Council over 2 years can still participate.
- Gregor – thanks Ben for his work to make changes.
- Benjamin – concerns about impacts on autonomy of RDSAs to choose who will represent them. Council shouldn’t tell RDSAs who can participate or not.
- Andrea – Some departments are not recognized as RDSAs
- Ben Wild – Masters students restricted in time limit. Recruitment to Council varies between departments based on how many Masters'/PhDs
- Taryn – only representative from Sociology department. Wording is conflicted in proposed Bill.
- Crys – difficult to get people for positions. Need to consider how to get more people. Need training and mentorship, communicate with students in departments.
- Austin – need to work on improving image of GPSA Council to get more people to join. Improve efficiency of meetings
- Eliberto – As experienced student, he is personally trying to train students in department for participation in Council. Benefit of participation: Students gain experience in leadership and politics by investing time in GPSA.

c. Bill #190111-Elections Bill
In reaction to previous presidential election, to prevent coercion.

Questions:
- Gregor – Section 5 part D, clarification on proposed locking out of accounts – would students be able to complete voting later?
- Benjamin – how to implement locking out accounts with IT? Make sure it’s feasible
- David – establishing physical polling location seems problematic for ensuring fair voting
- Gregor, Andrea – need clarification to consider electronic devices as polling location

Motion to table Bills d, e by Gregor, Alex seconded. Aye: 11 Nay: 0 Abstain:0. Passed unanimously

d. Credentialing Form

e. Transparency and Public Notice Requirements (TPNR)

VIII. Council Announcements

IX. Upcoming Meeting
a. Saturday, November 23, 2019 at 10:00 AM in SUB Lobo A & B

X. Adjournment
Motion to adjourn by Gregor, seconded by Benjamin. Motion passed with 11 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstention. Meeting adjourned at 2:35 pm.