

Ahmad Administration 2022-23

Annual Report



Ahmad Administration: 2022-23 Annual Report

Organization

Graduate & Professional Student Association (GPSA) at the University of New Mexico (UNM).



Mission

The Graduate and Professional Student Association has been the recognized student government for graduates and professionals at the University of New Mexico since 1969. We strive to identify, promote, and support the interests and concerns that are important to the welfare and academic development of graduate and professional students at UNM. It is our mission to promote the rights, interests, and professional development of graduate and professional students within the university community, through advocacy, education, and financial support.

Organization Structure

GPSA is organized into three branches: Executive, Legislative, and Judicial. Together, these branches oversee the day-to-day operations of GPSA.

Organization Involvement

Some of the ways the GPSA stays involved on campus, in state and national politics include:

- Offering numerous grant funding opportunities to graduate and professional students for research, travel, and presentation of their work at conferences.
- Offering funding to student organizations through appropriations.
- Representing graduate and professional students on numerous University and Faculty Senate committees and before the Board of Regents.
- Representing the interests of graduate and professional students on the Student Fee Review Board (SFRB).
- Providing students with the opportunity to represent their departments on the GPSA Council.
- Sending GPSA representatives to the New Mexico State Legislature to lobby for graduate and professional students' interests via Capital Outlay Projects.
- Networking with the National Association of Graduate and Professional Students (NAGPS) and the NAGPS Western Region.
- Providing a computer lab located in the GPSA Office, SUB 1021.

Governing Documents

The Graduate and Professional Student Association have a Constitution and Bylaws that detail the organization and the officials that serve the organization. Additional Standing Rules are adopted each academic year for the following decision-making committees, Council, Finance, and Legislative Steering.

Organization Preamble

We, the graduate and professional students of the University of New Mexico hereby establish the Graduate and Professional Student Association, in order to acknowledge and secure the right to pursue continuing education in a diverse community and to ensure fair and just access to resources provided by public institutions or available in the commons. As students with valuable experiences and unique pursuits, as well as common interests and concerns, we are united in our concern for the quality of our academic environment and recognize and affirm our right to organize for the purposes of protecting

student welfare and expression. The establishment of this association provides for greater cooperation and influence to preserve and protect the rights of the students at this university including but not limited to the right to freely express ideas and thoughts, the right to have equitable access to high-quality education, and the right to participate in the processes and institutions that will ensure this education remains worthy and acceptable, and to advance the interests of the graduate and professional student community.

Organization Membership

Any graduate or professional student enrolled in a degree-granting department or school at The University of New Mexico and who has paid the GPSA fee for that semester, as approved by the University of New Mexico Board of Regents. A student may voluntarily resign their membership but is not exempt from the obligation to pay GPSA fees.

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MEET THE TEAM



Shaikh Ahmad
President



Jarrod Ronquillo
Council Chair



Andrea Benites
Chief of Staff



Ayoni Oyenuga
Grants Director



Onastine Jaramillo
Public Relations Director



Travis Broadhurst
Sustainability Director



**Wilfred Padmore
Osei**
Attorney General



Rebecca Owopetu
Finance Director



Ansel Emeanuwa
Elections Director



Isaiah Torres
Political Director



Damon Alvarez
North Campus Liaison



Jocelyn Ronquillo
Chief Justice

President Ahmad's Final Address:

Dear Lobos,

It has been one of the greatest honors of my life to serve as your President! As this academic year comes to an end, it is a momentous occasion for all of us to celebrate the end of a successful administration by the Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA). Together, we have come a long way, and I am delighted to say that we have achieved more than what we originally set out to do!

Each GPSA administration encounters a different set of challenges, and we were no different. However, I truly believe that with perseverance and dedication we can overcome those challenges. This past year, we had the pleasure of organizing and executing numerous events and initiatives that have brought our diverse student community together and made a positive impact on our campus. Events like Club 89 gave our students an opportunity to decompress and socialize in a casual environment. The Annual Sustainability Expo helped us create awareness of pressing climate issues. The Graduate Appreciation Week events helped us engage with our constituency and develop a better understanding of their needs. We also had the honor of inaugurating an award in memory of our fellow colleague and former GPSA President, Muhammad Afzaal Hussain.

Last year we began the administration with a vision of inclusion, equality, and diversity. Our goal was to create an environment where graduate and professional students felt included, heard, valued, and empowered. Looking back now, I can confidently say that we were able to turn that vision into a vibrant reality. Additionally, GPSA also made strides in improving the infrastructure and facilities on campus. While maintaining great academic standing, our dynamic cabinet members utilized every opportunity to engage with university administration to learn and facilitate conversations about campus safety and resources.

In addition, the administration was very successful advocating on behalf of our graduate and professional students at the state legislature. Throughout the year, we have connected with peer institutions and facilitated numerous meetings to highlight the needs of graduate and professional students across the state. Our state legislators were highly supportive of our initiatives and allocated \$50,000 to install solar panels in the Student Union Building. An allocation of \$75,000 was also made to support Health Sciences students who serve in rural areas of New Mexico to provide critically needed healthcare. Furthermore, to enhance financial support for graduate students in New Mexico, the state legislature also allocated 10 million dollars for those who obtained a high school diploma in the state and are considering pursuing a graduate degree. The success we have experienced is a result of the collective effort of the Executive Leadership, the Alumni Relations and the Government Relations team.

As we look back on this successful administration, let us not forget the lessons we have learned and the memories we have created. Let us take the positive experiences we have gained and use them to build a better future for UNM and our community. I encourage all of you to get involved with GPSA, to work towards making UNM a better place, and to continue to share the message of inclusion, equality, and diversity!

In conclusion, I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to our faculty, staff, and administrators who have been instrumental in aiding our initiatives on and off campus. Their guidance, mentorship, and encouragement have been invaluable, and we are indebted to them for their unwavering belief in our capabilities.

To my fellow pack members, please know that no matter where I am, I will always be just one howl away when you or our great institution need me. Go lobos!!!

Yours in service,



GPSA President

Recognition Reception Award Recipients:

GPSA Recognition Reception-2023

1. Damon Alvarez: Glenda Lewis Award for Excellence in Community Engagement and Advocacy



2. Rebecca Owopetu: Outstanding Committee Chair of the Year Award.



GPSA Recognition Reception-2023

3. Ayonitoluwa Oyenuga: Excellence in Ethics Award.



4. Isaiah Torres: Presidents Award for Innovative Leadership.



GPSA Recognition Reception-2023

5. Wilfred Padmore Osei:
Exceptional Volunteer Award.

6. Travis Broadhurst: Brian
Colon Exemplary Service Award



GPSA Recognition Reception-2023

7. Benjamin Garcia: Council Chair Service
Award.

8. Ana Milan Hinostroza: Afzaal Hussain
Award for Community Engagement and
Charismatic Leadership.



GPSA Recognition Reception-2023

9. Valerie Chavez: Distinguished
Leader of the Year.



10. Md Rafiqul Islam Rupam:
Exceptional Dedication to GPSA
Students.



OFFICE OF THE GPSA PRESIDENT

GPSA Priorities & Initiatives for 2022-2023

- I. Establish a clear and transparent line of communication between GPSA and graduate & professional students.
- II. Regaining the physical presence of GPSA on campus and increasing positive public perception.
- III. Implement initiatives to bridge the gap between GPSA and North Campus students.
- IV. Strategically analyze and dissect GPSA's functionality to ensure that the organization accomplishes its main goals and mission.
- V. Foster a culture that encourages inclusivity, diversity, school pride and amplify the reputation of GPSA as the only graduate level student government in the state.
- VI. Enhance coordination between GPSA and ASUNM through collaboration and partnership.
- VII. Strengthen relationships in the local community and the state of New Mexico.
- VIII. Assist and aid the transition of undergraduate students entering graduate programs.
- IX. Advocate for the passing and improvement of NMGAS within the legislative session
- X. Support and promote decarbonization and sustainable efforts on campus

Some of Council's Passed Legislation:



Joint Resolution 2F

WHEREAS, the Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA) of the University of New Mexico is the representative body of the graduate and professional students; and

WHEREAS, UNM 2040: Opportunity Defined The University of New Mexico is undertaking a five goal process to craft a multi-year plan to build the future of UNM. This plan will provide us with both a vision of our future twenty years from now, and a set of more immediate tasks designed to move us toward that vision¹; and

WHEREAS, one of these goals is to create long-term sustainability and ensure the necessary resources human, financial, and physical to achieve our aspirations while protecting the natural environment that supports all people of the state and the world¹; and

WHEREAS, the UNM Foundation's vision is to empower The University of New Mexico to advance education, research and health for the benefit of our community and the world. Their mission is to create powerful engagements and partnerships that lead to increased philanthropy, investment, innovation, and support for The University of New Mexico. Their core values are integrity, collaboration, stewardship, accountability, and inclusion²; and

WHEREAS, fossil fuels are the largest driver of climate change, which threatens the long-term survival of humans, numerous plant and animal species, and entire ecosystems^{3,4,5}; and

WHEREAS, the costs associated with continued fossil fuel use includes, but is not limited to, increasing frequency of severe and unpredictable weather events and natural disasters, including hurricanes, wildfires, drought, flooding; human health risks including asthma, cancer, and heatstroke; and infrastructure failures leading to poor access to essential resources including food, shelter, and medicine^{3,4,5}; and

WHEREAS, the UNM Foundation's invests in ArcLight Energy Partners Fund VII, Energy Commonfund Capital Natural Resources Partners VII, Energy Commonfund Capital Natural Resources Partners VIII, Energy Natural Gas Partners IX, Energy Newlin Energy Partners II,

¹ <https://opportunity.unm.edu/goals/goal4.html>

² <https://www.unmfund.org/about-the-foundation/>

³ <https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/what-is-climate-change>

⁴ <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/article/fossil-fuels>

Energy Newlin Energy Partners, Energy Quantum Energy Partners IV, Energy Quantum Energy Partners V, Energy Quantum Energy Partners VII. All of which are limited partnerships, and themselves invest in fossil fuel companies⁶; and

WHEREAS, the UNM Foundation invests in mutual funds which buy and sell shares in a collection of companies on stock market exchanges, called public equities; and

WHEREAS, the UNM Foundation invests in private equity, or shares in private companies, which are not traded on stock market exchanges⁷. These private companies are able to acquire assets that harm the environment, including but not limited to wells, pipelines, and processing plants, and not reveal that to their investors⁸; and

WHEREAS, Energy Commonfund Capital Natural Resources Partners VII, Energy Commonfund Capital Natural Resources Partners VIII are the natural resources-focused fund in the firm's 2007 funds-of-funds series. The fund will make commitments in funds that invest in oil and natural gas production, oilfield services, power generation, energy infrastructure, clean energy, mining and minerals extraction, and timber⁹; and

WHEREAS, Energy Newlin Energy Partners II and Energy Newlin Energy Partners make investments in oil and gas related funds¹⁰; and

WHEREAS, the UNM Foundation takes 0.5% surcharge on every student organization and student club sport budget distributed at the University of New Mexico.

NOW, THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that GPSA supports and stands in solidarity with UNM LEAF's pursuit to encourage the UNM Foundation to divest from all current and future fossil fuels funds. The funds are Energy Commonfund Capital Natural Resources Partners VII, Energy Commonfund Capital Natural Resources Partners VIII, Energy Natural Gas Partners IX, Energy Newlin Energy Partners II, and Energy Newlin Energy Partners.

NOW, THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that we believe that the UNM Foundation is an excellent resource for the University and has invested in many sustainable energy funds as well. They are in ArcLight Energy Partners Fund VII, Energy Quantum Energy Partners IV, Energy Quantum Energy Partners V, and Energy Quantum Energy Partners VII.

NOW, THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the UNM Foundation investments be dictated by their core values.

NOW, THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that we encourage the UNM Foundation to invest in areas that benefit both the Foundation and the student body. Areas of investment could be real estate in the form of affordable graduate student housing or increasing stipends to create a mutually beneficial relationship with future alumni.

⁶ <https://www.unmfund.org/about/endowment-funds/>

⁷ <https://www.unmfund.org/app/uploads/2018/09/UNM-Foundation-Policies-Aug-2018.pdf>

⁸ <https://guides.loc.gov/company-research/private>

⁹ <https://www.commonfund.org/blog/investing-into-energy-security>

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that UNM LEAF asks that the UNM Foundation remove all investments from fossil fuel companies and companies that fund fossil fuel enterprises, and re-invest in renewable energy companies, sustainable initiatives, and community care projects.

NOW, THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, the UNM Foundation be more transparent about where the endowment, realized investment equity, donor identity, and investment returns is allocated.

NOW, THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, the UNM Foundation increase their student engagement to promote beneficial collaboration and feedback with the student body.

THEREFORE LET IT BE FINALLY RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the the US House and Senate Representatives for the State of New Mexico, the UNM Board of Regents, the President of the University of New Mexico, the Office of the Provost of the University of New Mexico, the UNM Vice President of Student Affairs, the UNM Dean of Students Office, the Deans of all colleges and schools at UNM, the UNM Faculty Senate, UNM 2040 Champions, Leaders of the UNM Foundation, UNM Facilities Management, Lobo Energy, UNM Sustainability, UNM LEAF, UNM Lobo Gardens, the United Graduate Workers of UNM, and the UNM Daily Lobo.

Joint Resolution 1F

WHEREAS, the Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA) of the University of New Mexico is the representative body of the graduate and professional students; and

WHEREAS, UNM main campus graduate estimated 2021-2022 cost of attendance, excluding tuition, for living On/Off-Campus is \$18,731¹; and

WHEREAS, during the Fall and Spring semesters the typical workload for assistantships is 20 hours per week (50% FTE). A student may not be appointed for more than 30 hours per week or 75% FTE as a TA/TA Spec, GA/GA Spec, TAssoc, RA or PA alone or in any combination²; and

WHEREAS, the minimum pay for UNM graduate workers at 50% FTE is \$13,231 over 10 months.²

WHEREAS, UNM has claimed that or the Fall, 2019 semester, the average 50% FTE salary for all teaching and graduate assistants was \$19,561 and claimed that the average 50% FTE salary for all research assistants was \$22,292, both over 10 months²; and

WHEREAS, during bargaining, UNM attorneys legally obligated to be forthright in their presentation provided data on pay indicating that the mean 50% FTE salary for all TA/GA contracts was \$16,297 over 10 months²; and

WHEREAS, there is no guarantee of pay over the summer months, leaving many students without income for 1/6th of every year; and

WHEREAS, the University of New Mexico is a Hispanic Serving Institution, Minority Institution, and Minority Serving Institution, with graduate student population demographics consisting of 41.4% White, 31.2% Hispanic, 11.0% International, 4.6% Asian, 4.3% American

¹ <http://finaid.unm.edu/coa/21-22/>

² <https://grad.unm.edu/funding/assistantships.html>

Indian, 2.6% two or more races, 2.6% unknown, 2.1% Black or African American, 0.2% Native Hawaiian³; and

WHEREAS, 2022-2023 UNM student health plan premium rates are as follows, for all MD, Pharm D and Physician Assistant Students pay a \$3,518.76 premium per individual student. The addition of a spouse or dependent results in an additional \$3,518.76 per person⁴; and

WHEREAS, 2022-2023 UNM student health plan premium rates are as follows, Graduate Assistants, GA Fellows, and Medical Health Professionals are \$3,518.76, with an additional \$3,518.76 for the addition of each individual covered individual on the plan, be they spouse or dependent⁴; and

WHEREAS, title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (“Title IX”) prohibits sex discrimination at educational institutions, including sexual harassment or any other form of discrimination based on sex, but no other protected class. Furthermore, Title IX prohibits retaliation against any individual for exercise of their rights under Title IX⁵; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico State Grad Workers United is also actively bargaining with New Mexico State University for tuition coverage, salary increase, international health insurance fee, and paid leave⁶; and

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that UNM’s GPSA supports of the United Grad Workers of UNM and the New Mexico State Grad Workers in their pursuit of livable wages, affordable health insurance, and non-discrimination clauses.

THEREFORE LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that UNM is a minority serving institution, where minorities are at a heightened risk of living at or below the poverty line.

THEREFORE LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, the UNM GPSA advises that the UNM Administration increase the stipend for graduate workers working 50% FTE to at least \$18,731, which would only cover the non-tuition costs of attending UNM.

THEREFORE LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, the UNM GPSA advises that the UNM Administration provide more affordable health care to grad students, their spouses, and dependents.

³ <https://oia.unm.edu/facts-and-figures/graduate-studies-dashboard.html>

⁴ <https://hr.unm.edu/docs/benefits/student-health-plan-rates-2022-2023.pdf>

⁵ <http://oeo.unm.edu/title-ix/pdf/2020titleixregs.pdf>

⁶ <https://nmsugrads.ueunion.org/bargaining-updates/>

THEREFORE LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, the UNM GPSA advises that the UNM Administration implement a non-discrimination clause that protects against discrimination regarding sex, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, nationality, and religion, and goes beyond existing protections under Title IX.

THEREFORE LET IT BE FINALLY RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States, the US House and Senate Representatives for the State of New Mexico, the Office of the New Mexico Governor, the UNM Board of Regents, the NMSU Board of Regents, the President of the University of New Mexico, the President of New Mexico State University, the Office of the Provost of the University of New Mexico, the UNM Vice President of Student Affairs, the UNM Dean of Students Office, the Deans of all colleges and schools at UNM, the UNM Faculty Senate, the United Grad Workers of UNM, the New Mexico State Grad Workers, and the UNM Daily Lobo, and the NMSU Roundup.

Cabinet Member: Attorney General**Name: Wilfred Padmore Osei**

ANNUAL REPORT

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL – 2022/2023 ACADEMIC YEAR

Opening remarks:

I do not have the repertoire of words to express my honest joy working with such a formidable and overly supportive team. While the Ahmad-led administration is almost coming to an end, the memories of success and challenges would continue to linger on. And more importantly, the camaraderie that existed among the cabinet members transcends our time here on UNM campus. Every team member will bear me out that it has been a year full of opportunities to learn, relearn, and unlearn, and it is right to say a very big thanks to the President, Shaikh Ahmad and his indefatigable chief of staff, Andrea Benites for the confidence they reposed in me besides the unflappable support offered me to serve our constituents in the capacity of Attorney General. May your future endeavors be even better and bigger than what you did here.

Main responsibilities:

- Issuing advisory opinions regarding the law, legislation, or any other act of GPSA.
- Ensuring the publication of any amendments made to the GPSA bylaws and constitution after they are passed by the GPSA council.
- Helping the President in the execution of their duties.
- Representing GPSA in case of any legal suits against that government.

Key achievements:

- Drafted and presented the students' fee increase bill during council meeting and got it passed by council.
- Introduced an amendment to the PB Fund bill which has increased the funds given to RDSAs by a substantial amount effective Fall 2023.
- Worked in tandem with the grants chair to amend the grants code.
- Organized students' forum to sensitize our constituents about the need to support the fee increase.

Challenge(s):

- The main challenge is the inability to have the fee bill pass during the students’ voting process. However, given the number of people who abstained, if more effort is put into engaging directly with students’ groups/clubs, I am implicitly confident that it will have the fullest support of most of our constituents.

Bill SP2023-002: Student Fee Increase

LEGISLATIVE STEERING COMMITTEE

BILL SP 2023-002

Spring 2023

SESSION

Bylaw • Constitution

Legislative Action: Proposed Legislation to **Enact GPSA Bylaw Change**

Introduced by: **GPSA Attorney General**

1st Reading: __LSC

Referred To: **LSC**

2nd Reading: _____

Committee Action: _____

3rd Reading: _____

Council Action: _____

Executive Action:

Approved Vetoed

GPSA President _____
Date

Unsigned by the President on this ___ day of _____ 2023. Bill automatically becomes law.

Legislative Response:

Veto override vote taken: _____ Council Action _____

Summary of key points:

- **GPSA is working to codify a set percentage amount for the per student Pro-Rated Benefits (PB) for RDSA distribution.**

Article VIII. Finance Code

Section 3. Pro-Rated Benefits (PB) Fund

- SGAO shall administer the disbursement of PB Funds.
- The process to receive PB Funds must be available through the GPSA Office, on the GPSA website, and any additional means as determined by the FC.

C. In order to receive pro-rated benefits, each RDSA must apply through SGAO each semester.

1. PB Funds must be requested by the eighth Friday of the fall and spring semesters respectively, if not, funds shall revert to the GPSA general fund.
2. At the end of the 2021 fiscal year, this change shall remain in effect until July 1 2021, after which the 2021 provision expires and the may keep up to shall revert to 50%. The remainder shall be reverted to the GPSA general fund.

However, an

RDSA's remaining balance can never be reduced below \$500 as a result of the reversion. This reversion shall never include the RDSA's self-generated funds.

Only for the fiscal year ending July 1, 2021, an RSDA may keep up to 100% of funds allocated during the academic year.

D. Based on the Enrollment Report provided by the University, which indicates the number of graduate or professional students enrolled in each program, department, school, or college, SGAO will credit the RDSA account per SGAO Policies and Procedures.

E. The per student distribution to RDSAs who request Pro-Rated Benefits (PB) shall be forty percent (40%) of the semesterly GPSA fee charged to GPSA Members.

~~E.~~ **F.** Any RDSA has the right to appeal the Enrollment Report provided by the University. Appeals shall be presented in writing to SGAO. Appeals shall entail a name-by-name count of the department's GPSA members and a comparison with the University's records.

~~F.~~ **G.** RDSAs should provide internal funding opportunities to departmentally associated student organizations. A departmentally associated student organization is a student group in which fifty percent (50%) or more of membership are GPSA members from a single department.

1. Funds allocated by an RDSA directly to departmentally associated student organizations will not revert at the end of the fiscal year.

~~G.~~ **H.** Should a RDSA be unable to offer any financial support, the departmentally associated student organization may submit appropriation requests.

GPSA Fee Adjustment Bill (GFAB)

Request: GFAB seeks an upward adjustment of the fees from the current \$25 to \$35 beginning from Fall 2023.

Problem Statement

Currently, GPSA receives a temporary emergency subsidy of \$49,490.00 from the University President’s office for graduate student government and student organization functions set to expire at the end of this fiscal year (June 30, 2023); should this supplement be cut, the association will be in a financial crisis and so the proposed adjustment is expedient to make GPSA financially self-reliant.

Current Work

As of today, we have a written amendment to *Article V Section I* of the GPSA Constitution, where we propose a 5-year adjustment of fees plan until it reaches the \$50 cap. We have compiled germane financial documents to be presented to all relevant stakeholders on this subject matter at a series of planned public engagements in Spring 2023 semester.

Output Table

Output Description	FY 22		FY 23 (if funds are received)	
	Spring 22	Fall 22	Spring 23	Fall 23
Pro-Rated Benefit Funds (Grad Orgs)	\$106,000.00			
Transfer to SRG/PDG (Grad Stu Grants)	\$26,500.00			
Student Research Endowment	\$5,000.00			
Professional Development Endowment	\$5,000.00			
Budget (GPSA & Grad Student Orgs)	\$150,487.00			
Total Expenses	\$292,987.00			
Total Revenue	\$280,965.00			
Deficit	\$12,022.00			

Short-and Long-Term Impacts

- Increase the amount of grants awarded to graduate and professional students.
- Intensify the supports given to Recognized Departmental Student Associations (RDSAs) through having an all-year round of appropriations.
- Increase support of chartered Graduate and Professional Student Organizations.
- Provide stable funding for the operations of Graduate and Professional Student Association events and operations.

Cabinet Member: Elections Director**Name: Ansely Emeanuwa**

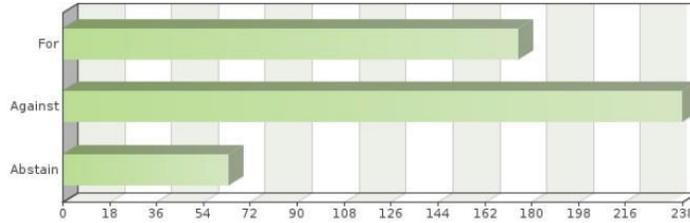
I was stoked to be back working at GPSA for the second year! I had so much fun. This is my report for the GPSA election director position for the 2022-2023 school year. I'll be talking about what I did for fall and spring, and I will be talking about things and items to improve for the next administration.

In the Fall of 2022, I was hired the day before school started. It took me a while to get used to my position since it took a bit of work to understand what I needed to accomplish. I was bummed that I didn't get in as a member of the student union building executive board as I wanted to continue my position and was planning to run for president of the executive board. Finding committees was challenging since the committee members are in volunteer work positions and have yet to receive any Stipend. I did not get any applicants at all, which hurt me at the beginning of 2nd semester. I helped around with different events. It was difficult for me to make it to some of the meetings since I was dealing with personal problems, but I could fix them. I did help around with PR and making graphics for orientation for elections.

Spring of 2023 was down for business, and I created graphics for orientation and election. Since it was a general election, the bill increasing the school fees for grad students was on the ballot for spring 2023. It was a rocky start to getting applicants, but on the last day of accepting applicants, we received five applicants eligible to run for GPSA President 2023-2024. First was orientation, in which I made slides and essential messages and dates that candidates needed to understand and use before voting day. I hosted a forum on Zoom which has been helpful. We receive about 45 students to join live on Zoom. Since I had a Zoom premium, we could do a forum from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm. I needed help so badly that I chose three people to be my last-minute committee members. I had Travis from Sustainability, Jocelyn from Justice, and Jarrod from Council (GPSA cabinet members). Those three members were super helpful. For anyone that didn't make it to the forum, the results were about 101 views. I was amazed doing voting week because most candidates were campaigning all over campus in Main and North Campus. I was excited to see that these students care! The poles were open on March 27th, 2023, through the 31st, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. Mountain Time. Around 6:00 on the 31st of March, I hosted election results watch party on Zoom. Here are the results.

Constitutional Amendment (Article V. Finance, Section 1. Fees): This constitutional amendment changes the GPSA fee from \$25.00 to \$35.00 per semester.

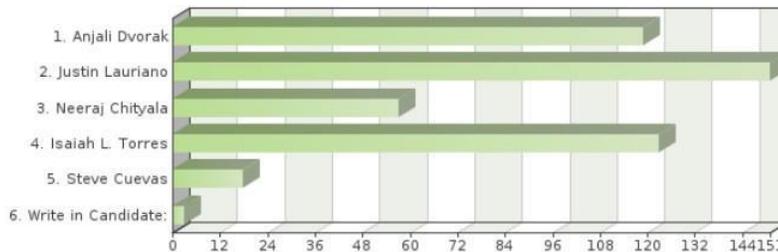
For full text of the Constitutional Amendment, please go to <http://gpsa.unm.edu>.



Frequency table

Choices	Absolute frequency	Cum. absolute frequency	Relative frequency	Cum. relative frequency	Adjusted relative frequency	Cum. adjusted relative frequency
For	175	175	35.35%	35.35%	36.69%	36.69%
Against	238	413	48.08%	83.43%	49.9%	86.58%
Abstain	64	477	12.93%	96.36%	13.42%	100%
Sum:	477	-	96.36%	-	100%	-
Not answered:	18	-	3.64%	-	-	-
Average:	1.77	Minimum:	1	Variance:	0.45	
Median:	2	Maximum:	3	Std. deviation:	0.67	

Total answered: 477



Frequency table

Choices	Absolute frequency	Cum. absolute frequency	Relative frequency	Cum. relative frequency	Adjusted relative frequency	Cum. adjusted relative frequency
1. Anjali Dvorak	119	119	24.04%	24.04%	25.27%	25.27%
2. Justin Lauriano	151	270	30.51%	54.55%	32.06%	57.32%
3. Neeraj Chityala	57	327	11.52%	66.06%	12.1%	69.43%
4. Isaiah L. Torres	123	450	24.85%	90.91%	26.11%	95.54%
5. Steve Cuevas	18	468	3.64%	94.55%	3.82%	99.36%
6. Write in Candidate:	3	471	0.61%	95.15%	0.64%	100%
Sum:	471	-	95.15%	-	100%	-
Not answered:	24	-	4.85%	-	-	-
Average:	2.53	Minimum:	1	Variance:	1.59	
Median:	2	Maximum:	6	Std. deviation:	1.26	

Total answered: 471

Since I wanted to collab with ASUNM, I worked with ASUNM SSE to get a booth for Fiestas 2023. I had Justin come and introduce himself to the new ASUNM president and vice president of the 2023- 2024 school year. I also had him introduce himself to Ryan Lindquist. Onastine Jaramillo, GPSA PR, was the only GPSA cabinet member that helped! We had so much

fun, and I was amazed at how many students needed to learn about GPSA. We had about 35 graduate students at us on Instagram and Facebook! I sent out emails to all the council members, and I only received one eligible candidate. The other candidates were all undergrads, unfortunately. Since I only had one eligible candidate, I hosted on call a straight forward orientation since he is the current Council Chair of GPSA. I sent out emails to the council members to come in person to vote since last year due to COVID and made exceptions for anyone to vote in person and on Zoom. The election for Council chair was on April 22nd, 2023. Only three eligible members were able to vote in person. We had six people at the Zoom. Here is the result.



COUNCIL CHAIR ELECTION RESULTS 2023-24

3 Eligible Voters

3 Jarrod Ronquillo Elected

0 Write-in: _____

gpsaelections@unm.edu

For spring, I did help with Onastine a lot, same with Travis Broadhurst and Jocelyn Ronquillo. I went to all the club 89's and helped with grad appreciation week. Also went to Santa Fe to go lobbying which I had so much fun with. I helped post a couple of things on social media. For this position, it was tough in the second semester; I wish there were ways to get people to become members for election. The elections director should have access to the GPSA list serve; it took alot of work to send emails to all the students because I had to ask the president, chief of staff, PR, or the office manager for the email. Sometimes the emails are complex to see when it's forwarded or doesn't get sent out on time. In the last administration 2021-2022 school year, the previous elections director never had any problems and had access to the list serve. This would be a fantastic improvement for the next administration to accept so that more students have time and immediately have the information at their fingertips. I'm grateful that Kayak joined the team and is now the office manager. It was super difficult not to have one, the good thing for the next administration is that Kayak is there to help improve

communication and get the word out a lot faster. Honestly, the best choice was to hire her! She reminds me of the mini version of Victoria, the previous office manager! Another thing that GPSA really needs to improve is also making small cabinet committees. For the previous administration's 2021-2022 school year, we had a mini cabinet committee meeting where we had PR, programs, and elections meet twice a month to discuss plans of events sending out things to social media. It was a lot easier because we could create a content calendar and use a buffer program to send all our social media marketing stuff and our pages, including Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

I was also disappointed that we weren't using LinkedIn to send out more information since we have a lot of law students and health students who are also on LinkedIn. We could have brought more of our information out on that site. I was disappointed that the bill did not pass to increase the student fees so that GPSA won't be in debt. How ASUNM got people to vote yes was that they created a 60-second video explaining what the funds could do to help ASUNM, which worked out tremendously. The PR manager and I asked the president and chief of staff to have us create a video explaining the bill so that we can send it out to students since most students don't like to read emails but would like to watch a video that's less than a minute. We asked a couple of times, but it fell through, and I believe that if the president and the chief of staff had created a video together or separately, we could have had more votes pointing yes than no. For the next administration, I would like us to create a video, post it to all our social media pages, and send out an email since we have about 101 people viewing the forum. We can get more people to view the video explaining why the bill is significant. There are a couple of things that need improvement, and I'm happy to join again and continue my position as elections director or sign up for PR director next year.



Cabinet Member: Finance Chair

Name: Rebecca Owopetu

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT – FY2023

Rebecca Owopetu

MEET OUR TEAM

In the last 2 semesters, I worked with a team of 5 vibrant leaders from different disciplines who brought their experience and unique perspectives to the committee. We had Eric Eke from Chemistry department who served as the vice chair, Tosin Olofinsao from Economics, Hongyoung Kim from Education, Blessing Akinlabi from Chemistry, and Basirat Raji-Adefila from Chemistry. It was a privilege and pleasure to work with everyone and despite the differences in disciplines and background, we were able to always find a middle ground and agree on things. I believe this can be attributed to the fact that we had a common goal and that is to serve the student organizations and ensure we provide support as much as we could.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In the fall semester we had 3 cycles of appropriations with requests and funding allocated to 20 organizations. During the spring semester, we held 4 budget workshops and received 27 applications. The budget hearing was held on the 25th of February 2023 with 25 students organizations in attendance and a total of \$174,225 was allocated to the organizations. Also, we had 4 cycles of appropriation and a total of 19 organizations were allocated funds.

Below is an overview of the funds available and funds allocated to the organizations.

Gen Fund Balance as of today & expected to roll over to FY24: \$59,192

	\$
Remaining budget	65,304.00
	\$
Available for appropriations	13,250.00
	\$
Reserves available	141,839.00
	\$
FY22 reversions	31,105.00
	\$
Budget use of reserves	(36,500.00)
	\$
Fall & Spring Appropriations awarded (\$14,834 + \$23,411)	(38,245.00)
	\$
Hold for FY24	(50,000.00)
	\$
Hold for FY24 budgets	(67,561.00)
	\$
FY23 Ending balance:	59,192.00

Spring appropriations: \$23,411

Fall appropriation totals: \$14,834

Index	FY#	Student Org	Total:	Amount:
670864	3F	Bengal United Sports Club	\$	3,110.00
670056	2F	Hindu YUVA	\$	754.00
670211	14F	Muslim Student Assn.	\$	1,698.00
NEW	4F	Assn. of Graduate Student-Parents	\$	453.00
670082	15F	Nutrition Club (Undergrad)	\$	503.00
670823	#N/A		\$	No Show
670344	17F	Spanish & Portuguese (PB Funds)	\$	704.00
670654	8F	African Students Association	\$	553.00
670325	9F	High Desert Linguistics Society (PB Funds)	\$	704.00
670157		Student American Society of Landscape Architects (Student ASLA)	\$	No Show
670336	11F	Student Assn. of Geography & Env. Sciences	\$	2,157.00
NEW	12F	Am. Soc. For Photogrammetry & Remote Sensing (ASPRS)	\$	109.00
670429	18F	Advancing Women in Science	\$	503.00
670278	25F	Beta Alpha Psi	\$	352.00
670501	26F	International Tuba Euphonium Assn.	\$	503.00
670250	23F	Society for Industrial & Applied Mathematics	\$	503.00
670551	22F	Latino Medical Student Assn.	\$	1,140.00
670154	20F	UNM Ice Hockey	\$	528.00
670105	13F	Lobo Horn Club	\$	505.00
670354	24F	Communications (PB Funds)	\$	808.00
670558	27F	Nepali Student Assn.	\$	252.00
670483	21F	Society of Native American Grad Students	\$	1,407.00
		#N/A		

Index	Appropriation #	Group name	TOTAL:	Appropriation amount
670776	1S	Iranian Student Assn.		\$720.00
670336	3S	Student Assn. of Geography & Env. Sciences		\$3,113.30
670308	28F	Medical School (PB Funds)		\$3,848.00
670951	5S	Chicanx Studies - Graduate Student Association		\$503.00
670725	4S	Bangladeshi Student Assn.		\$863.00
670864	7S	Bengal United Sports Club		\$2,000.00
670365	8S	GPSA General Government (Executive)		\$3,354.00
670165	9S	Lobo Horn Club		\$1,577.00
670063	10S	Biology Undergrad Society		\$503.00
670056	11S	Hindu YUVA		\$1,056.00
670558	13S	Nepali Student Assn.		\$1,508.00
670935	14S	Physicians for Human Rights		\$503.00
670970	15S	Family Law Caucus		\$269.00
	18S	GPSA Finance_\$67,561 for FY24 budgets		
670960	16S	Table Tennis Club		\$503.00
670658	17S	UNM Club Soccer		\$503.00
670322	18S	Chemistry and Chemical Biology GSA (PB Funds)		\$507.00
670353	19S	Sociology (PB Funds)		\$2,351.00
		National Organization for the professional Advancement of Black Chemists		\$450.00
670965	20S			

SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- Conversion of the PR position from an assistantship position to a stipend position. I recommend that \$500 a month be awarded for this position. This will help cut the budget by about \$20000+.
- The reversion of 50% of unused PB Funds at the end of the fiscal year into the general funds. Money allocated in a fiscal year not spent in that fiscal year should go back to the general funds and redistributed in the next fiscal year.
- Reduce the funding limit of organizations that are new or have not requested funds from GPSA in the last two years from \$500 to \$250.
- Limit RDSA's to only PB Funds.

COMMENTS

It was an absolute pleasure working with everyone on the team. Working with people who share a similar interest with you – serving the community we are part of- was an exciting experience for me and it was also a good distraction for me from all the stress that comes with graduate school. I have made valuable connections that I hope to keep even outside the GPSA. Having the support of the other executives and their willingness to provide help when needed really helped me to settle in and made the work not burdensome. The SGAO and SAC staff, especially Angela and Ryan were the absolute best. They were always there to guide, provide answers and always available to provide support and encouragement during our meetings.

Cabinet Member: Grants Director

Name: Ayonitoluwa Oyenuga

Why did you decide to get involved with GPSA?

- I had acquired a set of skills I believed would be relevant for the position. Also, it offered an assistantship that was of great help to continuing my education.

What would you like to tell the student body about GPSA?

- GPSA has a lot to offer with networking, getting to know students from other departments. It is a great place to advocate for the needs of graduate students, as well as a place to take a time out when you need one (Club 89).

As you understood them, please summarize the roles and responsibilities of your GPSA position.

- As GPSA Grants Director, I coordinated the grants cycle by preparing our applications, communicating with students, recruiting readers, hosting workshops and ensuring timely disbursement of awarded funds.

What was your favorite aspect of the GPSA position that you held?

- Being able to steward resources that assist students in their education, research, and careers. Also, the cabinet members I worked with. They brought so many perspectives to the group that it was such a wholesome experience.

Please list and describe the major accomplishments in your GPSA role in this administration.

- Setting up and running the HSC Rural Rotation Grant. We were able to complete 3 cycles.
- Increasing outreach about GPSA grants and Reader involvement.
- Awarding over \$200,000 this administration.

Please list and describe the major opportunities/obstacles that you faced in the GPSA role.

- The application software was not as intuitive as we needed it to be when setting up the HSC Grant. We were still able to set it up. However, alternative software that can handle separate application protocols need to be considered.
- Due to our limited funds, we are not always able to award all the applications we receive. We started having conversations with the Office of Graduate Studies who seem to have some additional resources we can tap into. We should follow up on coordinating cycles with OGS and funneling to them the eligible applicants that we are not able to fund.

Summary of year (What did you do in Fall/Spring?).

- Liaised with several departments and stakeholders at UNM Health Sciences in setting up the grant.
- Made needed updates to our application portal and materials.
- Conducted training for both grant applicants and readers.
- Created standard templates to be used for our advertising.
- Spoke at special events on behalf of the Grants Committee.
- Produced an operations manual for the position.
- Worked on edits for the Grants section of the bylaws.

What advice do you have for the next GPSA administration?

Work on getting more people to serve on the Grants Committee. This will mean having to pay them stipends, but it will be worth it to alleviate all the overwhelming work that goes to the Grants Director. Find ways to make our processes even more efficient and find more ways to put us out there. So many Graduate Students don't know about us yet.

GPSA Grants 2022-2023 Academic Year Overall Statistics

Total Amount Awarded	\$193,104.38
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Breakdown by Semester	
Summer 2022	\$9,000.00
Fall 2022	\$90,311.97
Spring 2023	\$44,336.35

HSC Rural Rotation Grant	
1st Cycle	\$29,856.06
2nd Cycle	\$19,600.00
3rd Cycle	

GPSA Summer 2022 Grant Cycle Statistics

Grant Name	Acronym	Application Start	Application End	Total Submitted	Awarded	Below Cutoff	Incomplete/Disqualified	Amount Awarded
Student Research Grant	SRG	6/17/2022	7/8/2022	17	9	2	6	\$4,500.00
Professional Development Grant	PDG	6/17/2022	7/8/2022	12	5	0	7	\$2,500.00
Graduate Scholarship Fund	GSF	6/17/2022	7/8/2022	17	2	2	13	\$2,000.00
								\$9,000.00

Grant Name	Acronym	Application Start	Application End	Total Submitted	Awarded	Below Cutoff	Incomplete/Disqualified
Student Research Grant	SRG	6/17/2022	7/8/2022	17	52.94%	11.76%	35.29%
Professional Development Grant	PDG	6/17/2022	7/8/2022	12	41.67%	0.00%	58.33%
Graduate Scholarship Fund	GSF	6/17/2022	7/8/2022	17	11.76%	11.76%	76.47%

Readers Stipend \$400

GPSA Fall 2022 Grant Cycle Statistics

Grant Name	Acronym	Application Start	Application End	Total Submitted	Awarded	Below Cutoff	Incomplete/Disqualified	Amount Awarded
Student Research Grant	SRG	8/31/2022	9/23/2022	50	31	4	15	\$15,105.49
Professional Development Grant	PDG	8/31/2022	9/23/2022	36	15	1	20	\$7,427.00
Graduate Scholarship Fund	GSF	8/31/2022	9/23/2022	40	20	9	11	\$20,000.00
New Mexico Research Grant - High Priority	NMRG-High	8/31/2022	9/23/2022	4	4	0	0	\$20,000.00
New Mexico Research Grant - General Priority	NMRG-General	8/31/2022	9/23/2022	30	10	16	4	\$27,779.48
								\$90,311.97

Note: For NMRG General Priority, the 16 were within the cutoff but we had exceeded the number of grants available

Grant Name	Acronym	Application Start	Application End	Total Submitted	Awarded	Below Cutoff	Incomplete/Disqualified
Student Research Grant	SRG	8/31/2022	9/23/2022	50	62.00%	8.00%	30.00%
Professional Development Grant	PDG	8/31/2022	9/23/2022	36	41.67%	2.78%	55.56%
Graduate Scholarship Fund	GSF	8/31/2022	9/23/2022	40	50.00%	22.50%	27.50%
New Mexico Research Grant - High Priority	NMRG-High	8/31/2022	9/23/2022	4	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%
New Mexico Research Grant - General Priority	NMRG-General	8/31/2022	9/23/2022	30	33.33%	53.33%	13.33%

Readers Stipend \$1,075

GPSA Spring 2023 Grant Cycle Statistics

Grant Name	Acronym	Application Start	Application End	Total Submitted	Awarded	Below Cutoff	Incomplete/Disqualified	Amount Awarded
Student Research Grant	SRG	1/27/2023	2/17/2023	76	37	35	4	\$17,761.28
Professional Development Grant	PDG	1/27/2023	2/17/2023	47	30	10	7	\$14,075.07
Graduate Scholarship Fund	GSF	1/27/2023	2/17/2023	35	13	17	5	\$12,500.00
								\$44,336.35

Note: For SRG, 14 were within the cutoff but we had exceeded the number of grants available

Grant Name	Acronym	Application Start	Application End	Total Submitted	Awarded	Below Cutoff	Incomplete/Disqualified
Student Research Grant	SRG	1/27/2023	2/17/2023	76	48.68%	46.05%	5.26%
Professional Development Grant	PDG	1/27/2023	2/17/2023	47	63.83%	21.28%	14.89%
Graduate Scholarship Fund	GSF	1/27/2023	2/17/2023	35	37.14%	48.57%	14.29%

Readers Stipend \$1,550

Grant for HSC Rural Rotations

The State of New Mexico Legislature provided \$100,000 to assist with covering expenses of UNM Health Sciences Students doing rotations in rural locations around the State. HSC students who have completed their rural rotation between the dates of October 1st, 2022, and December 31st, 2022 are eligible for up to a \$500 grant distributed by UNM GPSA.

Please visit <https://unmgpsagrants.awardspring.com/> to fill out an application. We are accepting applications for this cycle from January 1st, 2023 till January 26th, 2023.

For questions and enquiries, contact
gpsafunding@unm.edu

GPSA Spring 2023 Grants Cycle

We are pleased to announce that applications open from Friday, January 27, 2023, to Friday, February 17, 2023, at 11:59pm (MST).

The website for the application is
<https://unmgpsagrants.awardspring.com>

Applicant Workshops

Mon, January 30, 10am - 11am, Zoom

Thur, February 9, 11am - 12pm, Trail/Spirit Room
(SUB, Third Floor)

We strongly advise that you attend to make the most of your application.

Reader Workshops

Tue, February 7, 2pm - 3pm, Zoom

Wed, February 15, 11am - 12pm, Trail/Spirit Room (SUB, Third Floor)

Zoom link: <https://unm.zoom.us/j/3449319493>

Email our Grants Director with any questions at
gpsafunding@unm.edu

Cabinet Member: North Campus Liaison**Name: Damon Alvarez**

Why did you decide to get involved with GPSA?

- I got involved with GPSA by reaching out through my position as the Health Sciences Student Council Vice President in 2021. I wanted to be the voice of north campus health sciences students on main campus and to advocate for additional funding opportunities for those students. North campus students typically do not venture over to main campus and due to this, we sometimes do not have our concerns heard when decisions are being made.

What would you like to tell the student body about GPSA?

- The team at GPSA is constantly looking for avenues to support and provide new opportunities for graduate students at UNM. Over the two administrations I have been a part of, each has been comprised of a diverse group of student leaders with divergent viewpoints who all have a drive for supporting graduate students. If there is an event, scholarship, or any other idea for new projects that graduate students need assistance with GPSA can connect you with the appropriate people to help along with being able to let you know about other possible avenues. Graduate students should reach out and get involved as GPSA needs input from the graduate student community to keep growing and securing funding.

As you understood them, please summarize the roles and responsibilities of your GPSA position.

- The Chief Health Advisor (CHA) position is still a new position and as such as plenty of room to grow and solidify its place within the president's cabinet. This position's main responsibilities are to identify opportunities for collaboration with the Health Sciences Student Council (HSSC) and other events happening on the Health Sciences Campus. The GPSA CHA should also endeavor to create legislation for the benefit of graduate students and advocate for it throughout the year with the state legislators. The main goal for me over the past two years was creation of a new grant to provide monetary support for health sciences students when attending rural clinical rotations which was successful, however the funding has been one-time per year and so recurrent funding is needed. This role is necessary to provide a voice for the health sciences students on main campus and for this group of students to have an advocate at university-level decision making. Additionally, this role should have the flexibility to hold office hours on both main campus and north campus in both the GPSA and HSSC office respectively.

What was your favorite aspect of the GPSA position that you hold?

- My favorite aspect of my GPSA position was advocating for health science and graduate students at the state capitol and having those conversations with state legislators to educate them on the needs and state of affairs for graduate students.

Please list and describe the major accomplishments in your GPSA role this administration.

- The major accomplishments for my role in this GPSA administration was the securing of an additional year of funding for the rural rotation grant, launching a new collaboration event with the School of Dental Hygiene, and continued collaborative relationship with HSSC.

Please list and describe the major opportunities/obstacles that you faced in the GPSA role.

- The main obstacles for this position are the amount of scheduling conflicts with the events on main campus and north campus, mandatory program events, and other clinical responsibilities. Other than the scheduling conflicts, the other main obstacles are the parking on main campus as with north campus parking passes waiting until the 3:45 rule is in effect is often not possible. The main opportunities is working with GPSA and the administration on north campus to advocate and develop new grants and events for students on both campuses.

Summary of year (what did you do in fall/spring?).

- In the fall, I worked on the creation of the requirements for the application portal for the rural rotation grant as well as on the distribution of the same grant. I worked with this year's administration on the other legislative priorities during the fall as well. During the spring I worked on the distribution of the rural rotation grant, advocating at the state legislature for the slated priorities of GPSA for this term, and creating a new collaboration event with the School of Dental Hygiene to provide teeth cleaning services for graduate students and assist with clinical hours for dental hygiene students. I additionally held office hours throughout the year.

What advice do you have for the next GPSA administration?

- The advice that I have for the next administration is to start legislative priorities immediately during the end of the spring semester. While I understand that it may sound a bit daunting, the reality is that getting meetings scheduled with legislators to discuss the priorities will greatly improve the odds of passing these measures. Most of the legislators are fully appropriated by the spring and there are summer committee meetings in which you need to have your measure heard in order to have it revised if necessary to have the best odds of having it passed.

Get your teeth cleaned!

and more at the
Dental Hygiene Student Clinic
900 Yale Blvd NE



call **505.272.3868** or email
DHstudentclinicappointments
@salud.unm.edu

Under clinical instructor supervision,
your teeth and mouth will be
examined by UNM students earning
their degrees in Dental Hygiene.

- **Student Discounts**
- **Most Insurance Accepted**
- **Sealants, X-Rays and More!**

**GPSA EVENT
STARTS APRIL 3!
Call to schedule
TODAY!**

Sponsored by UNM GPSA and hosted by the Division of Dental Hygiene

Health Sciences Rural Rotation Grant

PROPOSAL

The Graduate & Professional Student Association of the University of New Mexico (GPSA) serves as the only graduate and professional student government in the state of New Mexico. To further the mission of supporting graduate students while providing medical services for rural communities of New Mexico, GPSA requests a **one-time amount of \$250,000** from the New Mexico State Legislature to expand upon the Health Sciences Rural Rotation Grant to award \$1,000 to eligible students to accommodate for travel, food, and lodging expenses.

PURPOSE

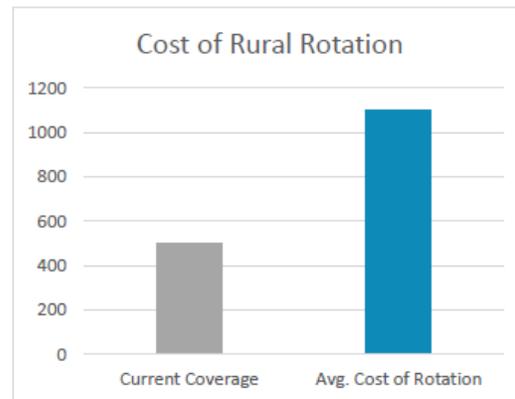
The purpose of the grant is to empower graduate and professional health science students to **serve vulnerable populations** in rural New Mexico, **address healthcare shortages** in rural New Mexico, and **improve quality of care** across rural New Mexico. **GPSA is looking to expand the amount of funds disbursed to students** to cover the reported costs incurred through travel, food, and lodging in the rural communities where students provide these essential services.

METHOD

GPSA received \$100,000 from the New Mexico State Legislature on July 1st, 2022 for the purpose of supporting graduate students in health professional programs provide crucial medical services to the vulnerable rural communities of New Mexico. Upon collaboration with University of New Mexico and Health Sciences staff and faculty, the decision was made to allocate the funds to students in three cycles based on time of completion of the rural rotation; the completion periods were defined from July 2022 to September 2022, October 2022 to December 2022, and January 2023 to March 2023. Eligible students received up to \$500 in an effort to accommodate as many students as possible over the course of the three cycles.

INTERIM RESULTS

Over the course of two cycles, we have had about 150 students apply for the grant with one cycle of disbursement remaining. From our first cycle of disbursement, we learned that **just over half of students that applied did not receive any financial assistance outside of the Rural Rotation Grant**. The categories that students listed as being the main areas of expense were, gas, lodging, food, and supplies; concerns over lodging and gas were common across students when considering a rural rotation. Additionally, based on current student data the **average cost of a rural rotation is about \$1,100** with the most common "blocks" of out-of-pocket cost being between \$400-\$800, \$1,000-\$2,500, and \$3,000-\$4,500. We have supported students in completing rotations in **31 locations** across rural New Mexico with students from **6 health sciences programs** which last about **2-5 weeks**. We have also heard from students that they have opted to not complete a rural rotation due to the cost they would incur without financial support from the university.



Cabinet Member: Political Director**Name: Isaiah Torres**

Why did you decide to get involved with GPSA?

- At the beginning of the year, our Chief of Staff Andrea Benites informed me about the position of the Political Director at GPSA. She further explained the type of work I would be doing at GPSA and informed me about the benefits associated with the position. Based on being an MPP candidate and my experience working in state and federal government, I felt this position would be beneficial for my future career endeavors. But most importantly, it would be an opportunity to serve New Mexican graduate and professional students.

What would you like to tell the student body about GPSA.

- During my time at GPSA, the one quote that was always reiterated by our President Shaikh Ahmad was how we were the only graduate and professional student organization in the state of New Mexico. GPSA, from my vantage point, is an institution that serves to connect graduate and professional students to services and programs that will help students succeed in their academic journey. Also, GPSA has the privilege to advocate on behalf of all graduate and professional students across the state. The best work environment I have ever been a part of.

As you understand them, please summarize the roles and responsibilities of your GPSA position.

- As Political Director, my obligation was to be the sole communicator for GPSA to advocate for legislation or capital outlay projects that would be beneficial to all graduate and professional students in the state.

The following responsibilities as Political Director:

- Working with the GPSA President and GPSA Chief of Staff to develop GPSA legislative priorities.
- Conducting research and drafting proposal documents for the GPSA legislative priorities.
- Developing an action-plan for the New Mexico State Legislative Session.
- Contacting and developing relationships with local, state, and federal elected officials.
- Scheduling meetings for GPSA legislative priorities with UNM stakeholders and elected officials.
- Attending and advocating for GPSA legislative priorities at the New Mexico State Legislative Session.

What are your favorite aspects of the GPSA position that you hold?

- It granted me the opportunity to talk to elected officials about graduate and professional student needs and issues. Being able to meet with important stakeholders and elected

officials is also a great way to build relationships in the future that can be beneficial for future administrations.

Please list and describe the major accomplishments in your GPSA role this administration.

- In my first year as Political Director, we were able to achieve three major accomplishments.
- First, the New Mexico legislature in the past legislative session appropriated \$10 million dollars for all New Mexico high school graduates who are pursuing a master or doctoral degree in STEMH program.
- Second, the Graduate Scholarship Act (the bill sponsored by GPSA and Senator Harold Pope) unanimously passed the Senate Education Committee. This is the farthest the bill has gotten in the legislative process.
- Third, GPSA was able to build and foster new relationships with elected officials.

Please list and describe the major opportunities and obstacles that you faced in the GPSA role.

- Opportunity: During the process of advocating for the Graduate Scholarship Act, we were able to meet with Lieutenant Governor Howie Morales, Senate Majority Leader Peter Wirth, Senate Minority Leader Craig Brandt, and etc.
- Obstacle: While lobbying for the Graduate Scholarship Act, it was hard to get into contact with other major key-players in the New Mexico Legislature. This resulted in our bill being stalled.

Summary of year (What did you do in Fall/Spring)

- Fall: During the fall, we began the planning process and implemented an action plan for lobbying for the Graduate Scholarship Act. The first process was updating the proposal document, which provided additional detail and data for the Graduate Scholarship Act. The second process was developing a one-sheeter that provided a brief overview of what the bill is intended to do and why it is needed. After that, we began planning strategically on which legislators we would need to meet with and contact before the session. Once we determined the legislators that we needed to contact, we began to reach out and scheduled meetings. This preliminary work was done to prepare for the 2023 60-day New Mexico State Legislative session.
- Spring: In January, we were working with the Legislative Council Services to finalize the text for the Graduate Scholarship Act bill. After the bill was filed by our Sponsor Senator Pope, we began to schedule meetings ahead of UNM Day. From these individual meetings with legislators, we were able to get a hearing scheduled for our bill in the Senate Education committee. The GPSA president and myself were able to testify on behalf of the bill, and the bill was passed unanimously and then referred to Senate Finance.

What advice do you have for the next administration

- Start attending interim committee hearings over the summer
- Begin conversations with legislators before August

Graduate Scholarship Act One-Pager:

PROPOSAL

The Graduate & Professional Student Association (GPSA) of the University of New Mexico is the only graduate and professional student government in New Mexico. GPSA requests a recurring amount of **\$5,000,000** from the New Mexico State Legislature to amend the **Graduate Scholarship Act (SB 151)**. Award recipients can be awarded up to, but no more than, **100% of tuition and fees** per semester. This bill would be another crucial investment in higher education, and provide an additional example of why New Mexico is nationally recognized for our innovative educational policies.

PURPOSE

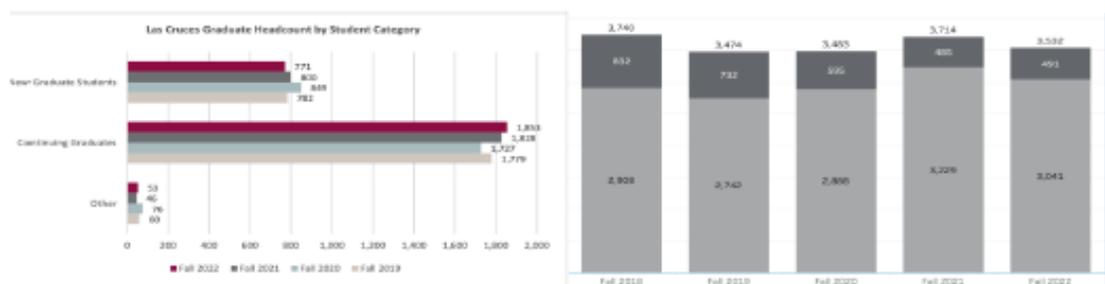
The purpose of the amending the Graduate Scholarship Act is to

- Encourage and incentivize New Mexico residents to pursue a graduate or professional degree within our state.
- Preserving highly qualified undergraduates in New Mexico
- Diversifying New Mexico’s work force and economy
- Relieve the financial burdens associated with obtaining a graduate or professional degree
- Increasing the number of minority students who want to obtain a graduate or professional degree.

The short-term goal: to increase the enrollment for all graduate and professional programs throughout the state.

Since the establishment of the Opportunity Scholarship, our state has witnessed a spike in undergraduate enrollment at the University of New Mexico (UNM) and New Mexico State University (NMSU).¹ As we continue to see an increase in enrollment for undergraduate programs, graduate school enrollment has become static and has even decreased.² If the scholarship was implemented, we project to see similar trends in enrollment for graduate programs throughout the state.

Figure 3: NMSU Graduate Enrollment Report & UNM Graduate Enrollment Report



Source: NMSU Office of Institutional Analytic & UNM Office of Institutional Analytics

The long-term goal: is to invest in our graduate and professional students now, so our state can prevent the emigration of New Mexico residents with a graduate and professional degree.

GPSA understands the importance of retaining graduate and professional students, and is wanting to ensure that recent graduates are immediately contributing to New Mexico’s workforce and economy. New Mexico supplying more highly qualified individual into our workforce could promote the creation of new businesses and encourage existing business to reside in our state.

Graduate & Professional Student Association

New Mexico Graduate Achievement Scholarship

METHOD

Conditions for first year eligibility:

1. Student must be a New Mexico resident.
2. Student must earn a bachelor's degree from an eligible institution with a cumulative 3.0 GPA.
3. Student is enrolled in graduate or professional degree program at an eligible New Mexico institution and maintains a cumulative 3.0 GPA and/or hold paid position supporting faculty or research activities.
4. Student must be registered for a minimum of 6 credit hours each semester.
5. Student must fulfil a one-year service commitment (which would evidence by a contract between the award recipient and the authorized representative of the department).

Eligible students will receive **\$1,500** per semester to accommodate tuition and fee expenses, for a maximum of 8 consecutive semesters. Approximately \$1,360 of tuition and fee expenses are paid by the average graduate and professional student for 3 credit hours each semester at UNM alone.

Identical to the New Mexico Lottery Scholarship, the scholarship will be managed and disbursed by the New Mexico Higher Education Department (HED) in tandem with the Financial Aid Department of each institution. Graduate and professional students will automatically qualify, so long as they meet all requirements. Priority may be given to students based on FAFSA status (or an equivalent needs analysis tool) and ESL status. The scholarship will be applied before all federal and state financial awards. No refund amount attributed to the institutional scholarship will be awarded.

REFERENCES

1. https://oia.nmsu.edu/assets/doc/FA22-CENSUS_FINAL.pdf
2. <https://oia.unm.edu/facts-and-figures/official-enrollment-reports.html>

Please Note: The bill was updated several times before it was presented to the Senate Education Committee.

Cabinet Member: Public Affairs Director

Name: Onastine Jaramillo

Why did you decide to get involved with GPSA?

• I applied to serve as the GPSA Public Affairs Director for the benefits, to get involved on campus and contribute to long-term positive impact on the graduate and professional students at the University of New Mexico. I have heard remarkable things of the organization knowing two past presidents personally.

What would you like to tell the student body about GPSA?

• GPSA always has fresh coffee, up to 20 black and white pages of free printing available daily, a resource for scholarships for many purposes, leadership organization, inclusive to all Graduate and Professional students and host two fun events at Draft and Table inside the SUB, next to Dions.

As you understood them, please summarize the roles and responsibilities of your GPSA position.

• As the Public Affairs Director for GPSA, my role was to provide direct support to staff as it applied to social media and Communique's, facilitate/work Graduate Appreciation Week, coordinate/plan/work Club 89, and volunteer for other events we are involved in. Ex. Fiesta vendor table, Sustainability Expo, FAW Week and Fair, Teacher's Conference, and more. Get with Rudy of SAC to get access to his master calendar to check for conflicting events, SAC to rent any equipment, Janice (catering) and Michael (SUB Food) to coordinate food, DHaven, bar manager in Draft and Table to coordinate, use past Canva fliers as resources, registration forms can be found in GPSA's email for registration and song requests if you decide to try Karaoke again. Must register event for Graduate Week

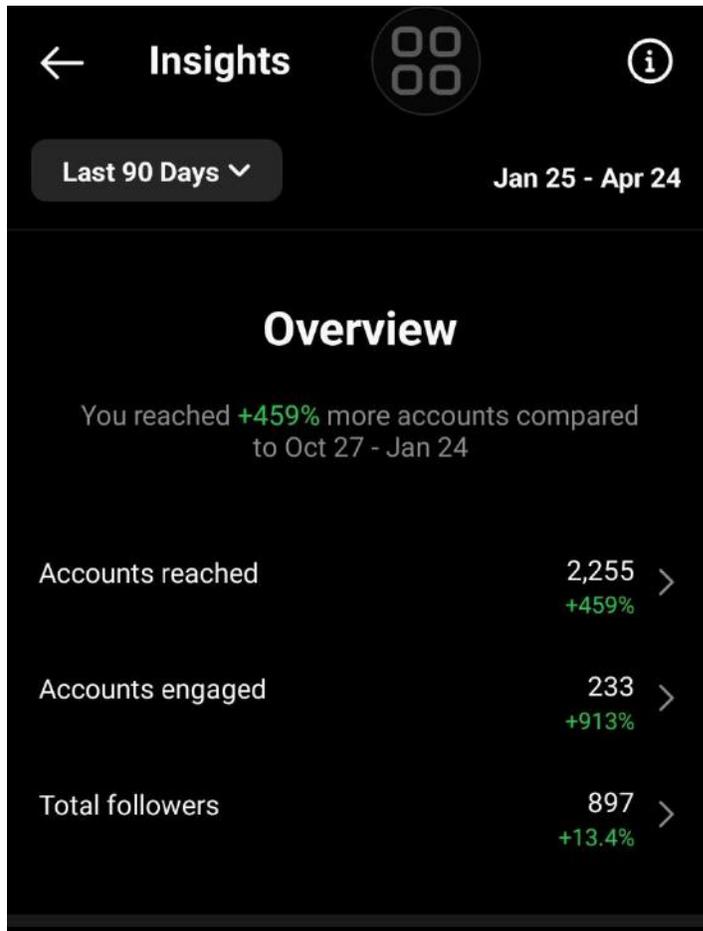
What was your favorite aspect of the GPSA position that you hold?

• My favorite aspect of the GPSA 's Public Affairs Director position was the creative freedom, networking and organizing. I enjoyed the ability to directly contribute to the development of several projects, collaborate with other organizations and meet so many friendly unfamiliar faces within the hierarchy of UNM. Specifically, Club 89 was a fun event to plan; while Graduate Week really connected and gave my access to President Stokes and the Dean of Students.

Please list and describe the major accomplishments in your GPSA role this administration.

• As the GPSA Public Affairs Director, I strongly contributed to the continued development of the GPSA Communique by adding a portion that individually highlights our cabinet members on a more personal level, I improved the GPSA social media accounts, the continuation and success of the Club 89 event series, the continuation and success of GPSA Week. I began my term in early February of the 2023 academic year and have since seen an increase in GPSA's established social media accounts reached (Instagram and Facebook). I will include full insight in Figure 1., that shows an increase to Accounts reached of +459% (2,255), an increase to Account engagement by an increase of +913% and an increase of 897 followers in the past 90 days (Jan 25- Apr 24). I really tried to be active and engaging by adding new followers, becoming a follower, tagging many others, and collaborating at every opportunity.

I also had the opportunity to certify the 2023-2024 election at the last cabinet meeting.



I feel my legacy for both Club 89's and those to follow is the Club 89 neon light I was able to order and the single serve coffee maker I got donated by IDPI at the School of Planning and Architecture. I implemented the access for graduate students to print 20 free pages a day program, with a word-of-mouth approach.

Please list and describe the major opportunities/obstacles that you faced in the GPSA role.

- The major obstacles related to the GPSA Public Affairs position included the lack of support received from the lack of a timely budget warning and adequate amount to work with and required to host Club 89 and Graduate Week. I asked the leadership to communicate directly with me to avoid misunderstandings and my budget was never clearly defined. I spent my own personal money, as I know another student who did the same to ensure we had a successful event. I did not anticipate contributing, but it was my name on these events and I did it for that reason. I feel budget conversations should only be within executive members and expressed it to leadership multiple times. I also felt a lack of support from cabinet members and office staff. When I did get offers to help, I tried to delegate but had trouble with some individuals following through. Some individuals were very dependable and helpful. My goal was to have someone to help with setup and breakdown for every event and send out invites with those requests in advance.

Summary of year (what did you do in fall/spring?).

- In the 2023 academic year, I began a month late due to late hire, I created 7 issues of the GPSA Communique, +459% increase in GPSA Social Media engagement, the production of 2 Club 89 events, the production of 13 GPSA Week events, creating fliers and videos for social media, got a slightly used coffee maker donated and ordered the neon Club 89 light.

What advice do you have for the next GPSA administration?

- I advise the next GPSA administration to continue to develop communication channels and to continue to advocate. This is a loaded job and I recommend setting and creating dates as soon as possible so you can find collaborators or vice versa so they can be involved in the planning process. I held bi-weekly and as it gets closer, weekly Club 89 Committee meetings and really feel it is important for the GPSA staff to attend those also. It really feels like a one-person show. People like to support fun events, so I see opportunity in incentivizing participation from the future President and that leading my example has its own impact.

We thrive on social media, and it is critical for the leadership and cabinet members to support these platforms to be aware of our GPSA organization and it should be part of your work to help support them. My other work makes me get online, even though I do not like it. I also recommend giving the PR Director this form as a reference as soon as possible, as the request for this paper was my first time seeing any document like it.



THURSDAY, APRIL 6TH

Join GPSA at the UNM Duck Pond & Cactus Garden

**THERAPY DOGS,
SMOOTHIES &
MINDFULNESS**

11:30-1:30

Free Smoothies to the first 300 Graduate Students Sponsored by the Office of the President *Chat with President Stokes
11:45-12:45

High Desert Therapy Dogs with NMGC
Wellness Tips & Mindfulness with SHAC



Cabinet Member: Sustainability Director**Name: Travis Broadhurst**

GPSA Sustainability Director Report, 2022-2023

2023 Sustainability Director

Why did you decide to get involved with GPSA?

I was involved in student government at my undergraduate institution and really enjoyed the experience. I think it's a great way to get connected with students, improve your soft skills, and represent your peers at a higher level. I saw the position open for the Sustainability Director and knew that it was right up my alley. I have a deep passion for sustainability and renewable energy, and firmly believe that each person can indeed do their part. We don't need to be disillusioned with thinking that it is a global problem and that graduate students have no efficacy. Rather, I applaud the current administration with dedicating sustainability as a priority, and this attracted me to apply for the position.

What would you like to tell the student body about GPSA?

GPSA is the single representative organization for graduate students at UNM. We advocate for your needs and represent your opinions at the university, local, and state governmental levels. If you want to get involved, we welcome students from any background and with any skills, and would love to have you join. We host events, write legislation, meet with administrators, and more!

As you understood them, please summarize the roles and responsibilities of your GPSA position.

My role was defined early this year as a new position within the GPSA Executive Branch. The role was intended to support goal 10 (X) of the 2022-2023 initiatives outlined by the GPSA President: "Support and promote decarbonization and sustainable efforts on campus." It was my responsibility to advocate for sustainable initiatives on campus; educate students about sustainability, in terms of what they can do and what the university was implementing; host events to accomplish the aforementioned goals; represent graduate students at the university level on decisions related to sustainability; and promote sustainability at the state level through the arm of UNM.

What was your favorite aspect of the GPSA position that you hold?

My favorite aspect was working with students in GPSA and in other organizations across campus on major sustainability initiatives. I was able to make new friends, forge lasting connections, and build off of each person's individual strengths to work towards a common goal. It was so refreshing to meet folks from different backgrounds and see what everyone brought to the table—all with a central theme of promoting sustainability.

Please list and describe the major accomplishments in your GPSA role this administration.

The major accomplishments included hosting two sustainability themed events and securing \$50,000 from the NM state legislature to fund the installation of solar panels on the roof of the SUB. We also succeeded in helping UNM Food expand the Ozzy Box program from La Posada to other dining locations across campus.

Please list and describe the major opportunities/obstacles that you faced in the GPSA role.

The major obstacle I faced this year was the novelty of UNM and GPSA. It was my first year at this institution, and first year in this role, so it was difficult to become acquainted with the operations of the university. While this is expected, it did slow my progress initially as the learning curve was steep.

Summary of year (what did you do in fall/spring?).

The fall was a bit quiet as I was still navigating a new role and university, but I did have several meetings with administrators and student groups to help in reducing single-use plastics across UNM. Though this is a multi-faceted, long term problem, we successfully partnered with UNM Food to expand the Ozzy Box program to areas outside of La Posada. We are hoping to continue this effort next year and quantify the use of plastics in the SUB and elsewhere to motivate further action. We also looked into expanding the E-waste recycling program on campus, but funds were lacking. Finally, we inquired into the re-use of impounded bikes from UNM Police and learned they already had a program in place to donate the bikes to folks experiencing homelessness and in need of cheap transportation across Albuquerque.

The spring was much busier, and started with preparation for and lobbying in Santa Fe. We asked for \$350,000 to fund a 175 kW solar panel installation on the roof of the SUB and met with several legislators to advocate for our request. In the end, we still received \$50,000 to start the installation. Though this was not our optimal goal, it is a good start, and we are thankful to the State of NM for their support. We also hosted two sustainability education events, one on Valentine’s Day and one during the UNM Sustainability Expo, to educate UNM students on waste management in Albuquerque and promote proper waste stream utilization across town and campus. Finally, we continued to work with administrators and student groups to reduce single-use plastics, and are currently representing graduate students on a committee that will choose the next food services contractor for campus.

What advice do you have for the next GPSA administration?

The main advice I have is to be confident and persistent. Large goals aren’t achieved overnight, and they certainly are impossible alone. Use your other students, find helpful administrators, and trust your own skills to accomplish the objectives for the year. With the right game plan and hard work, we really can make UNM, and New Mexico, a better place.

Photos of the Year, taken from the waste stream management education events held in Spring of 2023

Photos 1-2: “Sustainability Expo” held April 20, 2023

Photo 3: “Shoot your Shot” held February 14, 2023



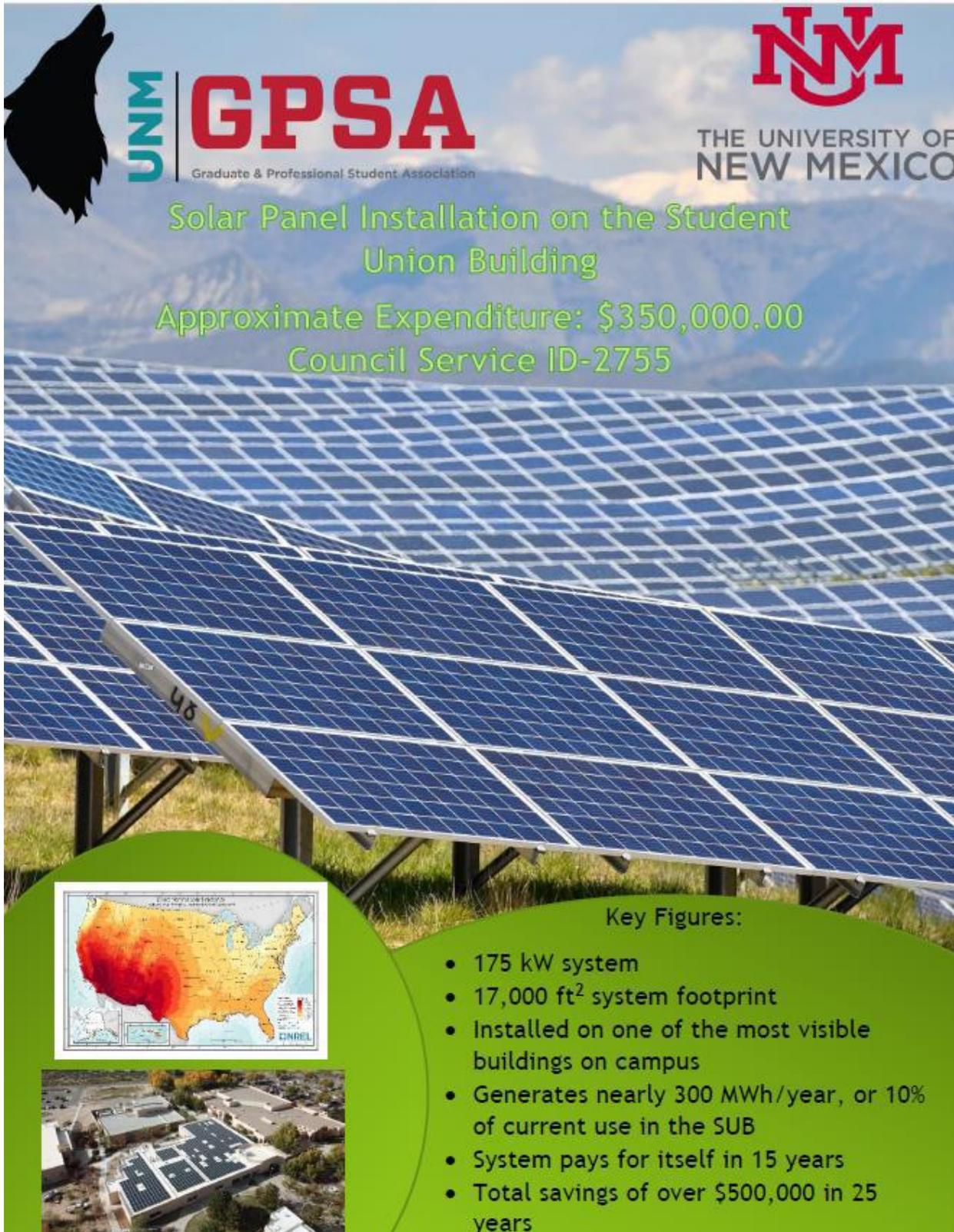


**UNM LEAF & GPSA
PRESENT**

*Shoot your
Shot*

**interactive recycling event
SMITH PLAZA OUTSIDE THE SUB
FEB 14TH FROM 11-2
COME AND WIN SOME PRIZES!**

UNM LEAF & **UNM GPSA**
Graduate & Professional Student Association



UNM | **GPSA**
Graduate & Professional Student Association

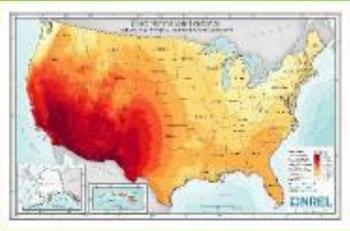
NM
THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEW MEXICO

Solar Panel Installation on the Student
Union Building

Approximate Expenditure: \$350,000.00
Council Service ID-2755

Key Figures:

- 175 kW system
- 17,000 ft² system footprint
- Installed on one of the most visible buildings on campus
- Generates nearly 300 MWh/year, or 10% of current use in the SUB
- System pays for itself in 15 years
- Total savings of over \$500,000 in 25 years





Graduate & Professional Student Association

Solar Panel Installation on the Student Union Building Approximate Expenditure: \$350,000.00; Council Service ID-2755

During the 56th Legislature, the Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA) at the University of New Mexico (UNM) is planning to pursue and secure \$350,000 in funding to install solar panels on the roof of the Student Union Building (SUB) on UNM's Albuquerque campus.

As outlined in the UNM 2040 master plan under **GOAL: 4 Sustainability**^[1], the University is committed to “create long-term sustainability and ensure the necessary resources—human, financial, and physical—to achieve our aspirations while protecting the natural environment that supports all people of the state and the world.” The UNM GPSA is dedicated to, and aligned with, the University's long-term vision for 2040. To attain holistic and efficient campus-wide sustainability, it is vital that the graduate student government engages and promotes sustainable measures at different levels including the New Mexico State Legislature. One key sustainable measure is to increase UNM's renewable energy generation. This not only diversifies the University's energy portfolio and creates a positive example across the state, but also saves taxpayers and students thousands of dollars each year.

Solar energy is a natural choice for renewable energy diversification as New Mexico has the second highest solar irradiance of any state in the US^[2]. On average, 5.6 MJ of solar energy fall on every square meter of New Mexican soil^[2]. Given the low maintenance cost of solar panels, consistent daily sunshine across the state and in Albuquerque, and strong history of solar energy research and support in New Mexico^[3], it is the natural choice. In addition, the UNM Albuquerque campus is perfectly poised to increase its solar generation capacity. The University already has 626 kW capacity solar already installed on other buildings across campus^[4]. The largest single installation to date is 180kW on Yale parking deck and 113 on UNM West, so the new SUB installation would be second with 175 kW. Finally, UNM is on its own district heating network, rendering it almost completely independent from the local utility provider (PNM)^[4]. This means that renewable energy projects generate electricity that stays on campus, saving students and taxpayers thousands.

GPSA aims to acquire a system with a nameplate output of at least 175kW, given current cost estimates of \$2.00/Watt for installation^[5]. This installation will generate nearly 300 MWh/year, or roughly 10% of the SUB's current energy demand. Modern solar PV technology and proper maintenance will mean only a 5% reduction in total power production over the first 25 years of operation. In addition, the system will pay for itself in less than 15 years and save over \$500,000 in the first 25 years^[5]. It will assist with renewable energy education and excitement across campus and set UNM as an example to other institutions across the state and nation^[5].

Previous solar installations at UNM have had tremendous success, including a 2019 appropriation from the NM legislature to install solar panels on the UNM-Valencia campus. Current generation on that campus is 805 kW, which equates to nearly 1,400 MWh/yr, or enough energy to power 130 standard US homes. This is about 44% of total energy expenditures on UNM-Valencia's campus and reduces utility costs by nearly \$40,000 each year^[6].



Graduate & Professional Student Association

A similar proposal to install solar panels on the UNM SUB in 2019 was amended due to structural instability of the SUB roof. Instead, the panels were approved for installment on the roof of Zimmerman Library, another commonly used building at UNM's campus [7]. During preliminary evaluation last month, UNM Utility Services confirmed that the segment of the SUB roof to utilize for this project has already been reconstructed and is ready to host solar panels. The common approach is to use ballasted racks so that the only penetrations are for the electrical conduits. The specific panel layout on the roof is yet to be confirmed but will appear similar to the installation at UNM-Valencia (see below). The low roof on the east side of the SUB south of the 2nd story outdoor patio is also under examination as an ideal place to install panels as there is increased visibility, and thus public recognition, from ground level.

The GPSA at UNM is pleased to submit this proposal for installation of a 175kW solar panel system at the SUB, a commonly used, publicly visible building on campus. This project aligns well with the University's sustainability goals and represents the views of graduate and professional students across campus in prioritizing renewable energy and doing everything possible to reduce fossil fuel dependency. This project would save thousands, is a financially sound investment, and would promote sustainability across campus and the state.

For additional questions, please contact Travis Broadhurst, the GPSA Sustainability Director, at geotravis1@unm.edu.



References

1. https://opportunity.unm.edu/assets/docs/unm2040_strategic_framework_5_2022.pdf
2. <https://worldpopulationreview.com/state-rankings/sunniest-states>
3. <https://news.unm.edu/news/unm-hosts-american-solar-energy-society-national-conference>
4. <https://sustainability.unm.edu/campus-action/energy-conservation.html>
5. Energy assessment, Hans Barsun, UNM Utility Services, 01/2023
6. New Mexico Higher Education Department, Project Proposal, 07/2018
7. <http://news.unm.edu/news/solar-panels-to-go-on-roof-of-zimmerman-library>
8. Sengupta, M., Y. Xie, A. Lopez, A. Habte, G. Maclaurin, and J. Shelby. 2018. "The National Solar Radiation Data Base (NSRDB)." *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews* 89 (June): 51-60.

Cabinet Member: Chief of Staff**Name: Andrea Benites**

As Chief of Staff, looking over last year's documents helped me get an idea on what to expect for lobbying efforts, events, hiring, management, and other responsibilities. However, there are some gaps of knowledge and experience that could only be gained by filling the position and making a few errors here and there. It's hard to be realistic with initiatives and goals without actually being in the position before. I knew I wanted to be a significant source of support for Shaikh, and I asked Ryan how I could support him best and be a great Chief of Staff. Ryan responded with just being prompt and actively communicating with Shaikh. I would like to pass this advice off to the next Chief of Staff as one of the most helpful recommendations.

There are some weeks that this position can be overwhelming and hectic, however there are other weeks in the year that are very manageable. The legislative session may be one of the most hectic periods of the year. This period can be manageable if the team is actively preparing early in the Fall, which I feel that our administration has done. Though, one can never be *too* prepared.

When it comes to forming the cabinet, I had a great experience working with this group. I especially appreciated the backgrounds and cultures everyone came from. The amount of care, support, and companionship I experienced with this group is something I will cherish forever! Though it is crucial to consider each candidate's capability of handling last minute changes and responsibilities, character was a big part of the hiring criteria, which was crucial during our administration. I went into my role as director of the cabinet with two main ideas: everyone is a graduate student and give your cabinet authority to direct their committee. Shaikh and I intended on allowing each member to be a leader of their department of GPSA. When it came to instructing our cabinet, I encouraged them to recruit their own committee and direct their own operations with our initiatives in mind. Month after month, I reminded members to email or text me with any help they may need to achieve their goals and operate their committees.

Our cabinet supported our initiatives and followed bylaws as time and resources allowed. Like I mentioned, I understood everyone had other responsibilities outside of GPSA. I gave a lot of grace for lateness or shortcomings since most of our cabinet was being compensated with a stipend, and not an assistantship. Though I gave a lot of grace for these instances, it was difficult to correct a few bad habits a few members had. For example, I became very anxious when elections came around and messages were not being sent, negligence occurring and meetings would be started late. Elections have the possibility of being contested if not conducted according to the bylaws. For this reason, it is extremely important to recruit people who are responsible, professional, and take our student government seriously and with respect. All we could do was remind our members of their responsibilities, however this was hard to correct and most likely one of the biggest challenges during my time in the position. I advise the next administration to carefully select members based off whether they have the availability and responsiveness to adhere to these requirements.

Feel free to reach out to me for any questions or concerns regarding the position!

**Court of
Review
2022-2023**

Cabinet Annual Report

Dear UNM GPSA President and Board Members,

I am delighted to announce that for Fall and Spring 2022-2023 the Court of Review under the Ahmad Administration had no cases heard and no complaints filed.

As a member of the Court of Review, I am honored and grateful for the service completed by the President, Chief of Staff, and all other board members as your efforts in maintaining honesty and integrity for Graduate and Professional students has brought no complaints with your initiatives. As a member of GPSA, I am thankful for President Ahmad for your leadership, as you have inspired this administration to honor the university values and be an example of true commitment for change towards prosperity for the Graduate and Professional student body.

The UNM GPSA President and board members have completed the 2022-2023 with no cases heard and no complaints filed.

Sincerely,

Jocelyn Judith Ronquillo

Chief Justice of the Court of Review

Disclaimer:

Upon completion of the administration, each cabinet member is required to submit an annual report for the GPSA constituency. Each cabinet member is responsible for the entirety and accuracy of their annual report.









