



GPSA Council Meeting Minutes

Dec 4, 2021 10:00 am – General Meeting

Zoom Meeting: <https://unm.zoom.us/j/6452510377>

Meeting ID: 6452510377

Password: council

I. Roll Call and Acknowledgement

a. Roll Call

1. Baca, PAGSA
2. Gerstner, Bio
3. Block, P&A
4. Henkel, COEHS
5. Karmakar (P&A)
6. Lionbarger, Bus
7. Olofinsao, (Econ)
8. Pena-Parr, (Span-Port)
9. Rojas, PAGSA
10. Cowan, (OILS)
11. Von Haas (HGSA)
12. Gridley(COEHS)

Question:

Gerstner: Question about difference between general versus special meeting.

Cowan: This is intended to be a general meeting, but we are allowed to vote to approve the agenda for special purposes.

b. Confirmation of Quorum

c. Adoption of Agenda

1. Moved by Von Haas and seconded by Pena-Parr
10y, 2n, 0a

II. Officer Reports

Hannah Miller: Not present because at a UNM field and track competition in Boston. Put together a video. Discussed Graduate Success Scholarship. GPSA is requesting a recurring annual amount of \$5million. Scholarship modelled after lottery scholarship. Intended to recruit under-represented minorities in their first graduate or professional degree program. Also requestion \$50k from legislature for Health Sciences Student Grant. One time ask to empower vulnerable populations and improve quality of care in communities. Will be administered and distributed by GPSA in ways similar to existing grant standards. Will receive \$1000 to help compensate students for costs associated with clinical rotations, which currently cost around \$750. Final ask is \$874k for Research Grant fund. Existing blind criteria for grants will be used. Those research grants involving non-profit organizations eligible for up to \$5k, or general



research grants eligible for \$3k. In Fall, \$47k was awarded and we would like to be able to double this. Happy to provide statistics used to come up with these asks upon request.

Questions:

Pena-Parr: Question about initial scholarship mentioned. Does this scholarship apply to undocumented students?

Saavedra: Believes scholarship should apply to anyone who is a New Mexico resident so this should include undocumented students.

Pena-Parr: Wanted to commend scholarship for potentially including undocumented because they are generally left out since they cannot submit FAFSA.

Allen: Will students have to demonstrate financial need and has this request already been submitted to be considered at Special Session of State Legislature?

Vallejo: They will have to meet the requirements already defined for the lottery scholarship. Can prioritize based upon FAFSA status. Would also like to have priority for ESL students. I don't believe that it will be covered in Special Session.

Saavedra: 30 day session is short and this may not fall within governor's requirements. But otherwise we will bring this in the general session.

Gerstner: Is there mission statement language in the awards. Helps to have this and we have gone in and changed these in SRG and PDG to clear these up. This would also make sure the award money could not be moved around and changed.

Saavedra: We will be making alterations and have a more detailed document in coming weeks, but wanted to get this draft out in December meeting.

President's Report:

Wanted to thank council for their commitment and work for Fall 2021.

Congratulations if you are graduating. Here to support you all.

Council Chair Report: Congratulations to graduates and all of us to make it through another busy and hectic semester. We are all attempting to work and have lives in a society that does not always value our efforts. I respect your time and that was the purpose in attempting to abbreviate this meeting. We do want to make sure that our student organizations are funded. We also wanted to have sponsorship legislation considered. LSC also needs to have members. You are provided compensation for this. There have been other times historically when it has been tough to have representation.

Have also been making progress in training in parliamentary procedures. Distributed powerpoint and have parli pro template. Will have one of our members provide training before next meeting.

Have \$900 in food budget that would normally be used for our in person meetings.

Can donate to Lobo Food Pantry. Will need to have a new council recorder. Please let me know if you have someone to help.

Henkel: Is \$900 for food budget for entire year or semester? Also wanted to know if anyone was taking minutes



Cowan: Amount of available funds will be donated to pantry or will be split with you all as historically required.

Olofinsao: Started a tradition last year to do this, but it would be good to know how much would be available. I think it was around \$25 last semester. It is likely that it will be a similar amount.

Gerstner: Special meeting requirement are not being met.

Cowan: I don't know what elements are supposed to be present.

Block: If we split money then could we still individually say to donate our portion.

Cowan: We didn't want to have anyone have to come forward in public to talk about your choice here, but you could indicate it to me.

III. Action Items

Motion to open action items by Block and seconded by Allen

11y 0n 0a

Sponsorship Bill

Whole Section 8 is added. Modelled on ASUNM's language but updated for graduate student government. Included checks and balances.

Linquist: Indicated that we could vote in a bylaw without discussion first.

Pena-Parr: Notes that the discussion for the bill will take place within the motion to consider for vote.

Gerstner: Clarify language on line 62. Does majority mean simple majority or 2/3rds majority.

Pena-Parr: Majority means simple unless qualified with some other term like 2/3rds majority.

Gerstner: Would a 2/3rd majority be more impactful for adoption

Block: I think a simple majority might be better for termination.

Cowan: That is an interesting point, so just a bare majority would be enough to object.

Pena-Parr: Does Councilmember Gerstner have a preference on majority

Gerstner: No preference

<zoom link lost temporarily for Council Chair>

Pena-Parr: We can leave if he doesn't return in 3 minutes

Henkel: Did you clarify the language on majority?

Pena-Parr: Majority inherently implies simple majority according to definitions in lawbook.

Olofinsao: Simple majority is 50%

Linquist: You could table this resolution for now.

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Motion to Table by Pena-Parr and seconded by Block and Lionbarger

9y 0n 0a

<zoom link unstable>

Unanimous vote to open finance items in block

Never seen so many problems with zoom



Finance Chair Rodarte:

Physical Therapy Students association: Have a conference

Bengal United Sports Club: Summer event on hold but will have event in December

African Students Association of UNM: Trip to White Sands and funding for meetings.

Health Sciences Student Council: Office supplies and bagel and coffee event.

Quetzl: Travelling to Mexico

Great presentation

Clarified that we opened voting on these in block.

8y 0n 1a

IV. Council Announcements

a. Public Comment – *Comments not related to items on the agenda*

Karmakar: Will next meeting be in zoom

Cowan: We will always offer zoom as an option. But will probably be zoom only in the foreseeable future

Henkel: If people in person can put on laptops then that might help, because there could be some echo. Maybe David and Ryan know ways to make the audio clearer.

Olofinsao: Is it possible to have a survey to ask what people will prefer with respect to food funds

Karmakar: What was final decision on food funds.

Cowan: This was only an item for discussion

Von Haas: Discussing in person meeting, but prefer when pandemic is gone.

Cowan: We keep getting bad news about pandemic

Henkel: Did you have an idea about who would qualify. Do they have to attend majority.

Cowan: Tabled resolution for could still be opened

Motion to open by Von Haas and seconded by Karmakar

8y 0n 0a

Consensus was simple majority will be fine.

Confirmed that there are 7 RDSAs so still have quorum

Olofinsao: Line 62 has majority issue.

Linguist: You could reopen legislation for correction such as “the the”

Cowan: A double the would also not make a meaningful material difference.

Motion to vote on Bill FA 2021-001 by Pena-Parr and seconded by Olofinsao

9y 0n 0a

V. Upcoming Meeting

a. Upcoming meeting – Saturday, Jan 29th, 2021 10:00am via zoom only.

VI. Adjourn at 11:24am

Motion to adjourn by Henkel and second Von Haas