



**General Council Meeting
November 18th, 2023**

<https://unm.zoom.us/j/5642195662>

- I. Call to order 10:03 AM
- a. Confirmation of Quorum (6 RSDAs must be present)
- RDSA 1: Architecture**
- 1 Hanel Jun
- RDSA 2: Biology**
- 2 Ben Garcia
- 3 Maya Shamsid-Deen
- RDSA 3: Business**
- 4 Ansely Emeanuwa
- RDSA 4: Chemistry (only 1 person votes)**
- 5 Basirat Raji Adefila
- 6 Blessing Akinlabi
- 7 Emmanuel Quartey
- 8 Emmanuella Sangber Dery
- 9 Ferdinand Kwarteng
- 10 Md Rafiqul Islam Rupam
- 11 Rebecca Owopetu
- 12 Seyi Adekoya
- RDSA 5: Education (COEHS-GSLA)**
- 13 Hongyoung Kim
- 14 Olivia Fadul
- RDSA 6: Communication**
- 15 Naadiyahtu Iddrisu
- RDSA 7: Economics**
- 16 Wilfred Osei
- RDSA 8: Geography**
- 17 Carmeron Blumhardt
- RDSA 9: History**
- 18 Marie Von Haas
- RDSA 10: Law**
- 19 David Lonergan
- RDSA 11: Medicine**

20 Julie Emeanuwa

RDSA 12: Spanish & Portuguese

21 Fernando Garcia Quezada

22 Carmen

Other Attendees

23 Joseph Conteh PR Chair

24 Jarrod Ronquillo Council Chair

25 Aaron Sharratt Grants Director

26 Justin Lauriano GPSA President

27 Ryan Lindquist GPSA Advisor

b. Adoption of Agenda

i. Moved to approve by Ben Garcia

ii. Seconded by Rupam

iii. Motion carried unanimously.

c. Indigenous People's Land and Territory Acknowledgment read by Chair Ronquillo

II. Opening Business

a. Approval of the Minutes

i. Moved to approve Maria von Haus

ii. Seconded by David Lonergan

iii. Motion passed unanimously.

b. Media, Gallery, and Public Comments (Both related to the agenda, and not related to the agenda) - NONE

III. Guest Speakers – NONE

IV. Officer Reports

a. President Lauriano – The executive branch is still advocating for the graduate scholarship act through the NM State Legislature, whereby \$5 million would support approximately 300 students at UNM. There is still a need to increase GPSA fees to pay the \$50,000 one-time funding debt to the President's Office and SGAO 5% debt (\$75,000 total) to break even. Other important forecasted costs include the union assistantship increase. GPSA is considering a \$10-\$15 fee increase with a \$.50 increase a year onwards. Recommended that council move excess funds into the endowments at the end of the year – to be further discussed. Student Reagent search is ongoing – please apply. Governor may select her own representative but still apply.

b. Council Chair Ronquillo – Reviewed strengths and areas of improvements in his role. Finalized resolution supporting the Graduate Union, which is under consideration in new business. Still working on receiving funding for Student tenant union and students and reviewing the bylaws. Several bylaw changes are presented today. Bills to consider overview – ease in identifying a council recorder.

V. Committee Reports

- a. Aaron Sharratt, Grants Director – Fall cycle is closed. Received 193 total applicants and awarded SRG 89 applicants, 38 PDG awarded, 22 Graduate Scholarship Fund awards, NM Research Grant 4 HIGH, and 12 general. Health science rural rotation closed last night. Full report will be posted on the GPSA website within the next few weeks. The bill under consideration today will improve the grants and is significant.
- b. Ansely Emeanuwa, LSC Chair – LSC meeting is Wednesday at 7PM on Zoom to review appropriations, resolutions, and bills. Looking to implement hybrid modality for next semester.
- c. Joseph Conteh, Public Relations Director – On October 6th GPSA collaboration with El Centre to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, which was good. GPSA student mixer meet and greet event – did not go as well as intended. Expressed concern about the role of council representatives and the participation from the RDSAs. Have RDSAs appoint or select their representatives to ensure that the graduate students are well represented.
 - i. Council chair clarified that council representation as improved since the previous administration due to several things: shorter council meetings, compensation, strong marketing of opportunities. Council Chair has encouraged all RDSA to participate.
 - ii. Wilfred Osei asked why there is mor representation from certain departments than others. Council Chair clarified that these are open meetings – anyone can attend, but only the allowed number of representatives can vote. Used chemistry as an example: multiple members serve on committees and attend the council meetings; however, chemistry is only represented by one vote for council votes.
 - iii. Further clarification by Ben Garcia – the RSDAs do select their council representatives. They must register their representative and submit the proper forms. If the RSDAs chose not to submit a representative, that is their choice. Asked for specific instances of where representatives are not credentialed under the proper procedure. No examples where given.
Point of order raised to limit discussion by Ben Garcia and seconded by Olivia Fadul. No vote – point of orders are decided by the chair.

VI. Action Items

- a. Appropriations
 - i. Economics Graduate Student Organization \$2,925.00
 - ii. Association of Geology Graduate Students \$634.00
 - iii. Communication & Journalism Graduate and Professional Association \$398.00
 - iv. Spanish and Portuguese Graduate Students Association \$1,332.00
 - v. Bengladeshi Student Association University of New Mexico \$933.00
Ansley Emeanuwa moved to consider all appropriations as a block vote seconded by Marie von haus. Motion passed 17 y 0 n 2 abstain
Motion to approve the appropriations made by Ansley Emeanuwa seconded by Marie von Haus. Motion carried unanimously.

- b. Bill F 2023-1
 - i. Moved to approve by Ansley Emeanuwa and seconded by Marie von Haus.
 - ii. Motion carried unanimously with 1 abstention.

- c. Bill F 2023-2 - presented by the grants chair. Brief overview - increase the number of the grants, add GSF to this portion of the grants code, increase the funding amounts. The grants funding is very healthy and can support these increases. These reserves have been accumulating for years. Removing the recommendation letter from a faculty member for a needs-based scholarship. Faculty may not understand a students' financial position, and this actually presents a barrier if the faculty member does not get their letter in on time.
 - i. Maya Shamsid-Deen pointed out Section 2 of the GSF has a typo and asked a clarifying question on whether the travel outside of ABQ for SRG and PDF requirement means that the PDF cannot cover in town conference registrations.
 - ii. Grants Director clarified that registration can be covered but not actual travel expenses; President mentioned through a GPSA fee increase we could create a wildcard grant for those who don't qualify.
 - iii. Maya Shamsid-Deen moved to approve Bill F 2023-2 and seconded by Ansley Emeanuwa
 - iv. Advisor Lindquist mentioned you cannot approve a bill then do a secondary motion to approve an amendment to the bill. Maya Shamsid-Deen cannot withdraw the motion – it must be failed.
 - v. Motion to approve the bill as presented motion failed by 58%
 - vi. Moved by Maya Shamsid-Deen to change line 355 of Section 2 of the GSF from “for” to “from” to read “from the UNM president” seconded Ben Garcia. Motion passed unanimously.
 - vii. Ben Garcia moved to pass the amended bill seconded by Ansley Emeanuwa. 19 yes with 1 abstention.

- d. Joint Resolution 1F
 - i. Moved to approve the addition of “Therefore let it be further resolved, an increased wage for graduate workers would provide access to safer living environments to decrease victimhood.” by David and seconded by Ansley Emeanuwa 95% in favor with 5% abstentions.
 - ii. Moved by Hongyoung Kim and seconded by Ansley Emeanuwa to add an “and”, a space, and semicolon to lines 43 and 44.
 - iii. Moved to approve amended resolution by Ansley Emeanuwa and seconded by Hongyoung Kim. Motion carried 95% in favor with 5% abstentions.

VII. Upcoming Meetings

- a. December 2nd at 10am over zoom

VIII. Adjourn 11:26 AM