



General Council Meeting Minutes
25 January, 2025
Sub Lobo A&B

1) Call to order at 10.05 am.

a) Roll call

All the representatives except those from OILS and political science were present.

a) Adoption of agenda

- The motion to adopt the agenda for the meeting was proposed, seconded, and passed unanimously.
- The representative from public policy read out the indigenous peoples' land and territory acknowledgement and the statement acknowledging the labor and sacrifices of Black Americans.

2) Opening business

a) The Chair opened the minutes of the previous meeting to discussion. There were no questions or discussion points, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

b) Media, Gallery, and Public Comments –

- Ryan Lindquist, introduced himself as the director of the Student Academic Advisor for GSA and congratulated everyone on making it to the break and starting the spring 2025 semester.
- Ryan explained the need to move the election cycle to Thursday at 5 PM to ensure timely results and to accommodate the hiring process for the President.
- Alyssa Ortiz emphasized the importance of creating events that target graduate student growth and provide opportunities for socialization beyond just educational activities.

3) Officer Reports

a) Council Chair Ashish Ravi Joshi:

- announced the confirmation of President Stokes and the provost as guest speakers in March.
- Informed the members that the stipends should be posted to respective bursars account in a few weeks' time

b) President Michel Rivera Ramirez

- discussed the legislative session and the graduate priorities on the docket, including a \$200,000 capital outlay request for solar panels and an amendment to the Graduate Scholarship Act.
- the amendment aims to give recipients full tuition instead of the current stipend and includes other substantive changes like citizenship requirements and GPA requirements.

- mentioned the team's frequent lobbying efforts at the legislature and the importance of UNM day.

4) Committee Reports

- a) For Grants Director, Joseph Conteh, President Michel Rivera Ramirez mentioned that grant applications will be emailed soon and that there is no update on the finance committee meeting.
- b) Finance Director, Mariano Fernandez, discussed the goal of loosening up restrictions on appropriations to give out the most amount of appropriations possible.

5) Council Member Reports

- a) The Chair recognized a new representative for the School of Education.
- b) The law school has filled three of its four faculty vacancies, with two offers rejected for an indigenous law position.
- c)

6) Action items

- a) BILL S2025-001 to Amend Elections code - Lawbook, Article X, Section 6, Subsections A-I – Michel Rivera Ramirez
 - The election bill was discussed, with concerns about shortening the election period and the impact on graduate students.
 - An amendment was proposed by Sofie Carrillo to end the election at noon on Friday.
 - This amendment was put to vote and was passed by majority vote.
 - A second amendment was proposed to change the election period as such that it began on Friday and ended on Friday in the succeeding week. This amendment was proposed by Parker Murphy.
 - Concerns were raised about voting over the weekend where, if something were to go wrong with the system, the IT would not be able to fix it.
 - Additionally, it was also noted that if this amendment were passed, then it would not apply until the next year.
 - The amendment was put to a vote and it did not pass.
 - The original election bill was then put to a vote with the first and passed with a majority of votes.

The meeting was adjourned at 11.18 a.m.

Attendance Record

Member	Department		Credentialed/Alternate/Proxy	Council Chair Comments
Benjamin Garcia	Biology		Credentialed	
Seyi Adekoya	Chemistry		Credentialed	
Saiqa	Communication		Credentialed	
Wilfred Padmore Osei	Economics		Credentialed	
Sofie	Education		Credentialed	
Mehedi	Education			
Marie Von Haas	History		Credentialed	
Parker Murphy	Law		Credentialed	
David Lonergan	Law		Credentialed	
Hanumesh Sai Pamisetty	Mechanical Engineering		Credentialed	
Arlin Bustillos	Medicine		Credentialed	
Sarah Stamer	Physics		Credentialed	
Milad Houshmand Charmkhoran	Physics		Credentialed	
Carlie	Psychology		Credentialed	
Gareth	Public Policy		Credentialed	
Kodiak	Sociology		Credentialed	
Kyle	Native American Studies		Alternate	
Michel Rivera Ramirez				
Ryan Lindquist				
Mariano				
Kanchana				