



GPSA Finance Committee October 2025 Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order:

- a. The meeting was held on October 14, 2025, at 6:00 PM in SUB A & B Fiesta Ballrooms. The meeting began at 6:04 PM and was presided over by Finance Director Soumyodipta Karmakar.
- b. Roll Call:
 - i. Director: Soumyodipta Karmakar (Finance Director, non-voting except in case of tie)
 - ii. Vice-Chair: Caitlyn Tullar – Voting Member
 - iii. Member: Nikhil Sain – Voting Member
 - iv. Member: Charlotte Auh – Voting Member
 - v. Member: Refat Mishuk – Voting Member
 - vi. Member: Tosin Olofinsao – Voting Member
- c. Quorum was established (6 out of 6 FC members present at roll call).
- d. Motion to approve the October agenda – Caitlyn moved, Nikhil seconded.
 - i. No questions or discussions regarding the agenda.
 - ii. Decision: Agenda approved by unanimous vote.
- e. Indigenous People’s Land & Territory Acknowledgement was read into the record by Tosin Olofinsao.

2. Opening Business:

- a. Approval of September Minutes:
 - i. Motion to open September minutes – Caitlyn moved, Charlotte seconded.
 - ii. No questions or discussion regarding September minutes.
 - iii. Decision: Minutes approved unanimously.
- b. Public Comment – None

3. Officer Reports:

- a. Finance Committee Members Report: None
- b. Finance Director Soumyodipta Karmakar reported approximately \$64,000 remaining in the appropriation fund for Fall 2025. The Director reminded members



to adhere to Robert's Rules of Order, yield after comments, and exercise caution in funding decisions. It was noted that the committee would later suspend Standing Rules for internal GPSA appropriations (Council and Executive Branches).

- c. Vice-Chair Report – Presented by Vice-Chair Caitlyn Tullar: Explained that if the students have already expended the money and we fund it above standing rules because they have already incurred the expense, it disincentivizes planning ahead and may allow students to take advantage of the fact that we have funded amounts above the standing rules simply because the costs were already incurred. Therefore, we should avoid this practice going forward in the future.

4. New Business:

- a. Motion to Enter Business: Properly moved and seconded by voting members.
- b. Sweeping Motion: Motion to open all appropriations together – Caitlyn moved, Nikhil seconded. Approved unanimously.
- c. [Appropriation#27F](#): Academic Medicine Interest Group (AMIG)
 - i. Motion to fund line item 7 at \$500 per standing rules by Caitlyn – Charlotte seconds
 - ii. Motion to fund line item 14 \$500 by Charlotte – Caitlyn seconds
 - iii. Motions to fund line item 21 at \$600 because only 3 meetings are scheduled this semester by Caitlyn – Charlotte seconds
 - iv. Motion to approve line item 28 at 70% per standing rules by Nikhil – Refat seconds
- d. [Appropriation#28F](#): Physics and Astronomy Graduate Student Association (PANDA GSA)
 - i. Line item 7 recommended at the full amount
 - ii. Motion to fund line item 14 at 70% per standing rules by Refat – Charlotte seconds
- e. [Appropriation#29F](#): Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP)
 - i. Motions to fund line item 7 at \$120 as only 3 of these meetings are happening this semester by Caitlyn – Refat seconds
 - ii. Motion to change categorization of line item 14 to copying gen by Caitlyn– Refat seconds



- iii. Motion to fund line item 21 at \$50 because only 2 of those meetings will occur this semester by Charlotte – Refat seconds
- iv. Line item 28 recommended at the full amount
- v. Motion to fund line item 35 at \$0 as it would violate anti-donation policy by Caitlyn– Nikhil seconds
- f. [Appropriation#30F](#): Automotive and Motorsport Club of UNM
 - i. Organization was not present: Motion to table by Caitlyn – Nikhil seconds
- g. [Appropriation#31F](#): Society of Women Engineers (SWE)
 - i. Motion to fund line item 7 at \$900 per standing rules by Caitlyn – Nikhil seconds
 - ii. Motion to fund line item 14 at \$2,098.67 (75% of the lowest quote per standing rules which was \$466 for 6 people) by Caitlyn – Charlotte seconds
 - iii. Line item 21 recommended at full amount
- h. [Appropriation#32F](#): Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
 - i. Motion to fund line item 7 at \$1,152 for line item 7 per standing rules (75% of airfare) by Charlotte – Caitlyn seconds
 - ii. Line item 14 recommended at full amount
 - iii. Motion to fund line item 21 at \$190 per standing rules (so as not to exceed per diem) by Caitlyn – Refat seconds
 - iv. Line item 28 recommended at full amount
 - v. Line item 35 recommended at full amount
 - vi. Motion to fund line item 42 at \$600 per standing rules (not to exceed \$900 per conference or \$300 per student) by Caitlyn – Charlotte seconds
- i. [Appropriation#33F](#): Hispanic Engineering & Science Organization (HESO)
 - i. Charlotte discloses affiliation with organization
 - ii. Motion to fund line item 7 at \$900 per standing rules by Caitlyn – Nikhil seconds
 - iii. Motion to fund line item 14 at \$2,880 per standing rules by Nikhil – Charlotte seconds
 - iv. Motion to fund line item 21 at \$2,500 per standing rules by Nikhil – Refat seconds
 - v. Line item 28 recommended at full amount



- vi. Motion to fund line item 35 at 70% per standing rules by Nikhil – Charlotte seconds
- j. [Appropriation#34F](#): Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineer (IEEE)
 - i. Motion to fund line item 7 at \$847.59 (75% of the lowest price ticket for 4 students) by Caitlyn – Charlotte seconds
 - ii. Line item 14 recommended at full amount
 - iii. Motion to fund line item 21 at \$500 (because they only have 8 graduate students) by Caitlyn – Charlotte seconds
 - iv. Motion to fund line item 28 at \$900 per standing rules by Refat – Nikhil seconds
 - v. Motion to fund line item 35 at \$900 per standing rules by Charlotte – Nikhil seconds
 - vi. Line item 42 recommended at full amount
 - vii. Motion to change categorization of line item 49 to 3110 (educational supplies) by Caitlyn – Charlotte seconds
 - viii. Motion to fund line item 49 at \$153.95 by Charlotte – Caitlyn seconds (could only fund one of the categories requested; line-item request contained 3 separate categories)
- k. [Appropriation#35F](#): Student Association of Geography and Environmental Studies (SAGES)
 - i. Line item 7 recommended at full amount
 - ii. Motion to fund line item 14 at \$630 (450 miles x 0.7 mileage rate x 2 vehicles) by Tosin – Charlotte seconds
 - iii. Motion to fund line item 21 at \$2,500 per standing rules by Caitlyn – Charlotte seconds
 - iv. Motion to fund line item 28 at \$0 as we already met standing rules per diem max by Caitlyn – Refat seconds
 - v. Motion to fund line item 35 at \$0 as it would violate anti-donation policy by Caitlyn – Nikhil seconds
 - vi. Motion to fund line item 42 at \$900 per standing rules by Caitlyn – Charlotte seconds



- vii. Motion to fund line 49 at \$5,000 per standing rules by Tosin – Charlotte seconds
- viii. Motion to fund line item 56 at \$2,500 per standing rules by Caitlyn – Charlotte seconds
- ix. Motion to fund line item 63 at \$0 as we already met standing rules per diem max by Charlotte – Tosin seconds
- x. Motion to fund line item 70 at \$240 (only up to 4 general meetings, requested for 8) by Caitlyn – Charlotte seconds
- l. [Appropriation#36F](#): Political Science Graduate Students' Association (PSGSA)
 - i. Organization was not present: Motion to table by Caitlyn – Charlotte seconds
- m. [Appropriation#37F](#): Bangladeshi Student Association at University of New Mexico (BSAUNM)
 - i. Refat discloses affiliation with organization
 - ii. Motion to fund line item 7 at \$1,000 by Charlotte – Tosin seconds (only about 60 students expected to attend are graduate students)
 - iii. Motion to fund line item 14 at \$0 by Caitlyn – Nikhil seconds
 - iv. Motion to change categorization of line item 21 to 37Y0 Supply Costs by Nikhil – Tosin seconds
 - v. Line item 21 recommended at full amount
 - vi. Motion to change categorization of line item 28 to 7060 Rental Fees by Charlotte – Tosin seconds
 - vii. Line item 28 recommended at full amount
- n. [Appropriation#38F](#): Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA) Council Branch
 - i. Motion to suspend standing rules by Caitlyn– Nikhil seconds
 - ii. Sweeping motion to disapprove all stipend increase requests by Caitlyn – Charlotte seconds (line item 7, 14, 21, and 56)
 - iii. Line item 28 recommended at full amount
 - iv. Line item 35 recommended at full amount
 - v. Line item 42 recommended at full amount
 - vi. Line item 49 recommended at full amount



- o. [Appropriation#39F](#): Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA) Executive Branch
 - i. Sweeping motion to disapprove all stipend increase requests by Caitlyn – Charlotte seconds (line item 70)
 - ii. Motion to fund line item 7 at \$1,500 – Tosin seconds
 - iii. Line item 14 recommended at full amount
 - iv. Motion to fund line item 21 at \$1,000 by Tosin – Charlotte seconds
 - v. Line item 28 recommended at full amount
 - vi. Line item 35 recommended at full amount
 - vii. Line item 42 recommended at full amount
 - viii. Motion to fund line item 49 at \$0 by Nikhil – Charlotte seconds
 - ix. Line item 56 recommended at full amount
 - x. Line item 63 recommended at full amount
 - p. Note: any decrease in funding from that amount which requested was made with consideration to diminished funds to appropriate to graduate organizations in our final November cycle, as these requests can be put in next semester thus saving funds for organizations for the remainder of the semester.
 - q. Final Votes: Motion to approve all appropriations as adjusted by Caitlyn– Charlotte seconds
5. Closing:
- a. Committee Member Comments – None
 - b. Vice-Chair Comments – None
 - c. Director Comment: Director Karmakar thanked members for their work and collaboration.
 - d. SGAO Comment: SGAO Administrator Angela De Ávila was recognized and thanked for her service, as this was her final GPSA Finance Committee meeting.
 - e. The meeting adjourned at 9:19 PM.
6. Director’s Post-Meeting Note (for Council Public Comment):
- a. Per Article X, 2 (Posting of Minutes) of the Fall 2025 GPSA Finance Committee Standing Rules, these minutes are posted as a DRAFT and are pending approval by the Finance Committee at its next regular meeting.