



GPSA Finance Committee August 2025 Meeting Minutes

1. Opening:
 - a. Meeting was held on August 26, 2025, at 6:00 PM in SUB A & B Fiesta Ballrooms. Meeting began at 6:09 PM and was presided over by Finance Director Soumyodipta Karmakar.
2. Roll Call:
 - a. Director: Soumyodipta Karmakar (Finance Director, non-voting except in case of tie)
 - b. Vice Chair: Caitlyn Tullar – Voting Member
 - c. Member: Nikhil Sain – Voting Member
 - d. Member: Charlotte Auh – Voting Member
 - e. Member: Refat Mishuk – Voting Member
 - f. Member: Tosin Olofinsao – Attended late; comments allowed but no vote recorded
3. Quorum was established (5 out of 6 FC members present at roll call).
4. Indigenous People's Land & Territory Acknowledgement was read into the record.
5. Agenda was adopted by motion (moved by a voting member, seconded, approved unanimously).
6. No prior minutes to approve, as this was the first FC meeting of Fall 2025.
7. Preliminary Business:
 - a. Director Report – Presented by Finance Director Soumyodipta Karmakar, outlining budget carryover, updated standing rules, and expectations for appropriations process.
 - b. Vice Chair Report – Presented by Vice Chair Caitlyn Tullar, highlighting importance of outreach and increasing awareness of available funding opportunities.
 - c. Public Comment – None.
8. Business:
 - a. Motions to enter Business and open Standing Rules were properly made and seconded by voting members.
 - i. [Updated GPSA Fall 2025 Finance Standing Rules](#) were reviewed article by article.
 - ii. Discussion included clarifications on quorum (2/3 of confirmed members), conflict of interest, and travel policy compliance.
 - iii. Guidance from SGAO (Angela De Avila) noted that guest speaker travel cannot be funded, only honoraria or professional services.



iv. Amendments adopted included:

1. Food and Refreshments cap increased to \$1,500 for large events.
2. Travel airfare clarified: up to 75% of economy fare, capped at \$500 per student, with 3 quotes required.
3. Per diem to follow UNM daily rates (max \$85).
4. Honorarium capped at \$500, travel not covered.

v. Standing Rules were approved by unanimous vote of voting members (Vote: 4-0-0).

9. Appropriations:

a. [Appropriation#1F](#): Historical Law Society

- i. Motion to open appropriation – Nikhil moved, Caitlyn seconded.
- ii. Motion to adjust line item 7 (food) to match submitted quotes (\$352.42) for total \$705 – Soumyo suggested, Caitlyn formally moved, Nikhil seconded.
- iii. Decision: Appropriation approved unanimously at \$709.00 (including surcharge).

b. [Appropriation#2F](#): Women in Physics, Astronomy and Optics (WiPAO)

- i. Motion to open – Nikhil moved, Caitlyn seconded.
- ii. Motion to approve line item 7 (books, stored on campus) – Caitlyn moved, Nikhil seconded.
- iii. Motion to approve line item 14 – Nikhil moved, Charlotte seconded.
- iv. Motion to approve line item 21 – Caitlyn moved, Nikhil seconded.
- v. Decision: Appropriation approved unanimously at \$1,163.00.

c. [Appropriation#3F](#): Pentecost Students and Associates

- i. Motion to open – Caitlyn moved, Nikhil seconded.
- ii. Motion to increase line item 7 from 10 units to 20 for anticipated turnout – Caitlyn moved, Charlotte seconded.
- iii. Motion to increase line item 14 from 10 units to 20 – Caitlyn moved, Nikhil seconded.
- iv. Decision: Appropriation approved unanimously at \$680.00.

d. [Appropriation#4F](#): Islamic Medical Association (IMA)

- i. Motion to open – Nikhil moved, Caitlyn seconded.
- ii. Motion to approve line item 7 – Nikhil moved, Refat seconded.
- iii. Motion to approve line item 14 – Caitlyn moved, Nikhil seconded.
- iv. Motion to approve line item 21 – Caitlyn moved, Charlotte seconded.
- v. Decision: Appropriation approved unanimously at \$446.00.



- e. [Appropriation#5F](#): Public Administration Graduate Students Association (PAGSA)
 - i. Motion to open – Nikhil moved, Caitlyn seconded.
 - ii. Motion to increase line item 7 to \$400 – Charlotte moved, Nikhil seconded.
 - iii. Motion to approve line item 14 – Caitlyn moved, Nikhil seconded.
 - iv. Motion to amend description of line item 21 for tabling purpose – Caitlyn moved, Nikhil seconded.
 - v. Motion to approve line item 21 – Caitlyn moved, Nikhil seconded.
 - vi. Decision: Appropriation approved unanimously at \$654.00.
- f. [Appropriation#6F](#): Communication & Journalism Graduate & Professional Association (COMMGrads)
 - i. Motion to open – Nikhil moved, Caitlyn seconded.
 - ii. Motion to categorize all food requests together – Caitlyn moved, Nikhil seconded.
 - iii. Motion to approve line item 7 – Caitlyn moved, Nikhil seconded.
 - iv. Motion to categorize supply costs together – Caitlyn moved, Charlotte seconded.
 - v. Motion to approve line item 14 – Caitlyn moved, Nikhil seconded.
 - vi. Decision: Appropriation approved unanimously at \$341.00.
- g. [Appropriation#7F](#): Public Health Student Association (PHSA)
 - i. Motion to open – Caitlyn moved, Nikhil seconded.
 - ii. Motion to approve line item 7 – Charlotte moved, Caitlyn seconded.
 - iii. Motion to approve line item 14 – Caitlyn moved, Nikhil seconded.
 - iv. Motion to change destination for line item 21 to Jemez Mountains (per UNM travel rules) – Nikhil moved, Caitlyn seconded.
 - v. Motion to change units on line item 21 to 450 (three cars, 150 miles) – Caitlyn moved, Nikhil seconded.
 - vi. Motion to approve line item 21 – Caitlyn moved, Charlotte seconded.
 - vii. Motion to approve line item 28 – Nikhil moved, Refat seconded.
 - viii. Decision: Appropriation approved unanimously at \$694.00.
- h. [Appropriation#8F](#): National Organization for Professional Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCCChE)
 - i. Motion to open – Nikhil moved, Caitlyn seconded.
 - ii. Motion to approve line item 7 – Charlotte moved, Nikhil seconded.
 - iii. Motion to approve line item 14 – Caitlyn moved, Nikhil seconded.
 - iv. Motion to approve line item 21 at \$500 – Caitlyn moved, Nikhil seconded.



- v. Decision: Appropriation approved unanimously at \$782.00.
- i. [Appropriation#9F](#): Hindu YUVA
 - i. Conflict of interest disclosed by Nikhil.
 - ii. Motion to open – Caitlyn moved, Charlotte seconded.
 - iii. Motion to increase line item 7 airfare to \$1500 due to updated quotes – Caitlyn moved, Charlotte seconded.
 - iv. Motion to approve line item 14 – Caitlyn moved, Nikhil seconded.
 - v. Motion to adjust line item 21 categorization (printing → copying) – Caitlyn moved, Nikhil seconded.
 - vi. Motion to approve line item 21 – Caitlyn moved, Nikhil seconded.
 - vii. Motion to approve line item 28 – Charlotte moved, Caitlyn seconded.
 - viii. Motion to adjust line item 35 to 2 units (2 events, \$3,000) – Caitlyn moved, Charlotte seconded.
 - ix. Motion to amend line item 42 description to include photo booth AND DJ; total \$1,312 funded at 70% – Caitlyn moved, Nikhil seconded.
 - x. Motion to approve line item 49 at 70% of requested amount – Caitlyn moved, Nikhil seconded.
 - xi. Decision: Appropriation approved unanimously at \$6,791.00.
- j. [Appropriation#10F](#): Student American Society of Landscape Architects (SASLA)
 - i. Motion to open – Caitlyn moved, Charlotte seconded.
 - ii. Motion to approve line item 7 at 75% of total airfare request (with third quote provided at meeting) – Caitlyn moved, Charlotte seconded.
 - iii. Motion to approve line item 14 – Caitlyn moved, Nikhil seconded.
 - iv. Motion to amend line item 21 to fund 2 events, not 8 meetings – Caitlyn moved, Charlotte seconded.
 - v. Motion to re-categorize line item 26 to Other Professional Services – Caitlyn moved, Nikhil seconded.
 - vi. Motion to approve line item 28 – Nikhil moved, Charlotte seconded.
 - vii. Motion to approve line item 35 at \$0 (off-campus event not eligible) – Caitlyn moved, Charlotte seconded.
 - viii. Decision: Appropriation approved unanimously at \$6,532.00.

10. Closing:

- a. Committee Member Comments – None additional.
- b. Director Comment – Finance Director thanked members for following Robert's Rules and acknowledged the length of the first meeting.



- c. SGAO Comment – Angela De Avila commended committee for thorough review and clarified travel/per diem policies.
- d. Meeting adjourned at 9:21 PM.

11. Director's Post-Meeting Note (for Council Public Comment):

- a. Per Article X, 2 (Posting of Minutes) of the initially approved Fall 2025 GPSA Finance Standing Rules, these minutes are posted as a DRAFT and are pending approval by the Finance Committee at its next regular meeting.
- b. The following Standing Rules follow-ups were modified/added after the FC meeting and will be presented to the GPSA Council under Public Comment along with the initially approved Finance Standing Rules:
 - i. Modified:
 - 1. Article V.3.a
 - 2. Article VIII.8.b
 - 3. Article VIII.9.d
 - 4. Article VIII.10.a
 - ii. Added:
 - 1. Article IV.4
 - 2. Article IV.5
 - 3. Article VIII.8.a.iii
 - iii. Will be added:
 - 1. Insert the term "Notice" in Article IV, 2 (Agenda and Notice)