



GPSA Council January 2026 Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order:
 - a. Meeting was held on January 31st, 2026, at 10:00 AM in SUB Lobo A & B Ballrooms. Meeting began at 10:08 AM and was presided over by Council Chair Jacob Griego
 - b. Roll Call:
 - i. American Studies, Hennessy Star - Present
 - ii. Biology, William Bieker - Present
 - iii. Biology, Dale Fastle - Absent
 - iv. Biomedical Engineering, Sydney Yazzie - Absent
 - v. Chemistry and Chemical Biology, Emmanuel Quarty - Present
 - vi. Communication and Journalism, Saiqa Shahzadi - Absent
 - vii. Earth and Planetary Sciences, Aidan Dunne - Present
 - viii. Economics, Ziqing Xie - Present
 - ix. Electrical and Computer Engineering, Milan Joshi - Present
 - x. Electrical and Computer Engineering, Nazmul Anik - Present
 - xi. History, Gavin Rogers - Present
 - xii. Law, Mason Leachman - Present
 - xiii. Law, Luisa Garcia-Teran - Present
 - xiv. Law, Isabella Molina - Present
 - xv. Law, Vivan Tsai - Present
 - xvi. Medicine, Henery Sorto - Present
 - xvii. Medicine, Julie Emeanuwa - Absent
 - xviii. Medicine, Roni Parrales - Absent
 - xix. Medicine, Sidney Aguilera - Absent
 - xx. Native American Studies, Marisa Page - Present
 - xxi. Physics, Saheed Oyeniran - Present
 - xxii. Physics, Zahid Hasan - Present
 - xxiii. Psychology, Mikayla Poe - Absent
 - xxiv. Public Policy, Gareth Ripol - Absent
 - xxv. Sociology, Kodiak Ly - Present
 - c. Quorum was established
 - d. Motion to change 2025 to 2026 on Agenda – Law moved, Sociology seconded. Unanimously approved.



- e. Indigenous People's Land & Territory Acknowledgement was read into the record by Marisa Page
- 2. Opening Business
 - a. Motion to approve December 6, 2025 minutes - Earth and Planetary Sciences moved, History seconded. Unanimously approved
 - b. Public Comment
 - i. Ryan Lindquist- Upcoming events, showing of Olympics in the SUB in February
- 3. Officer Reports
 - a. President Report - not present
 - b. Council Chair - welcomed council back, encouraged representatives to visit his office hours for support, announced that LSC would be rewriting by laws this semester, announced upcoming GPSA presidential elections and presentation of amendments to student body in March, put out a call for a new member of the elections committee
 - c. Grants Director - announced that grants applications are open and will close on February 20, gave short descriptions of current grants being offered
 - d. Council Recorder - introduced herself as council recorder and new vice chair of finance committee
- 4. Committee Reports
 - a. Finance Committee - shared that Finance Committee saw two appropriations during the January cycle while two others were tabled, announced that there would be two other appropriation cycles in Spring 2026 (February and April), in March, FC will be conducting budget approvals for non-RDSA CSOs, students can attend for multiple CSOs during budget presentations, \$2,000 max for academic year per CSO
 - b. Legislative Steering Committee - described the purpose of LSC, gave reminders on submitting bills to LSC (i.e. extra details are appreciated, multiple bills can be submitted at once)
 - i. Sociology asked first steps for making bills - committee chair shared information on bill template on GPSA website
- 5. Action Items
 - a. Mandated Items
 - i. Sweeping motion to open Appointments 1 and 2 - moved by Law, seconded by Earth and Planetary Sciences
 - ii. Appointments



1. Executive
 - a. Chief Justice: Jim Williams
 2. Legislative
 - a. Finance Committee Vice Chair: Charlotte Auh
 - b. Finance Committee Member: Hope Smith
 - c. Legislative Steering Committee: Kodiak Ly
 3. Appointments passed by unanimous roll call vote
- b. New Business
- i. Finance
 1. Spring 2026 GPSA Finance Committee Standing Rules
 - a. Motion to open GPSA Finance Committee Standing Rules - Moved by Medicine, seconded by Biology. Unanimously approved.
 - b. Finance Chair Soumyo presented amendments voted on by FC to standing rules
 - c. Motion to pass changes to Finance Committee Standing Rules - Sociology moved, Physics seconded. Unanimously approved
 2. Appropriations
 - a. Sweeping motion to open Appropriations #3S and #4S - History moved, Earth and Planetary Sciences seconded. Unanimously approved.
 - b. Appropriation #3S - BioOptics Student Society (BOSS)
 - c. Appropriation #4S - Indian Student Association (ISA)
 - d. Motion to pass Appropriations #3S and #4S - Medicine moved, Chemistry seconded. Unanimously approved.
 - ii. Legislative Steering Committee
 1. BILL S 2026-001
 - a. Seeking to express the intent of Council and their constituents to remove Governor Bill Richardson's name from UNM buildings due to Richardson's association with Jeffrey Epstein
 - b. Questions
 - i. American Studies question - Does the resolution call to remove all signage of Bill Richardson or just the plaza? - Yes, all buildings/signage

- ii. Law question - Will passing this resolution result in removal of name or rather an expression of solidarity? - Council would submit to Board of Regents that this is the desire of their graduate and professional student body
 - iii. Sociology question - Is there a timeline for this demand? - No, we can't set a timeline on the actions of the Board of Regents
 - iv. History question - What are the allegations against Bill Richardson? - Reported by local news channels that Epstein files include allegations against Bill Richardson, these documents are part of a civil suit raised on behalf of Virginia Giuffrie
 - v. History question - Is Bill Richardson directly involved? - Richardson was named in Epstein's black book
 - vi. Law question - Can the Board of Regents choose to sit on this issue? - It is not written with a timeline, the Board of Regents could sit on the bill until a court reaches a decision
 - vii. History question - Can we amend the resolution to add a timeline? - Yes
 - viii. Biology clarification - Virginia Giuffrie named Bill Richardson as her rapist
- c. Discussion
- i. Sociology - What's the opinion on a timeline? - Council and Committee Chairs gave alternatives to adding a timeline to the resolution, like adding a second resolution when a court of law reaches a decision
 - ii. Motion to pass BILL S 2026-001
 - 1. Earth and Planetary Sciences moved, History seconded. Motion passed unanimously with roll call vote.

6. Council Announcements



- a. Native American Studies - announced fundraiser for Native American Studies at Flock of Moons
 - b. Sociology - equity and inclusion invites everyone for lunch February 20th lunch, no registration required
7. Upcoming Meetings
- a. Full Council
 - i. February 28, 2026 at 10 am at SUB Lobo A & B
 - b. Finance Committee
 - i. February 17, 2026 at 6 pm in the SUB: Fiesta A + B
 - c. Legislative Steering Committee
 - i. February 17, 2026 at 4 pm in the SUB: Mirage-Thunderbird
8. Adjourn
- a. Meeting adjourned at 11:00 AM.