



GPSA Council May 2026 Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order:
 - a. Meeting was held on May 2nd, 2026, at 10:00 AM at the UNM Student Union Building, LOBO A&B. Meeting began at 10:11 AM and was presided over by Council Chair Jacob Griego.
 - b. Roll Call:
 - i. American Studies, Hennessy Star - Present
 - ii. Biology, William Bieker - Absent
 - iii. Biology, Dale Fastle - Absent
 - iv. Biomedical Engineering, Sydney Yazzie - Absent
 - v. Chemistry and Chemical Biology, Emmanuel Quarty - Absent
 - vi. Chicax Studies, Charlotte Auh - Present
 - vii. Communication and Journalism, Saiqa Shahzadi - Absent
 - viii. Earth and Planetary Sciences, Aidan Dunne - Absent
 - ix. Economics, Ziqing Xie - Present
 - x. Electrical and Computer Engineering, Milan Joshi - Present
 - xi. Electrical and Computer Engineering, Nazmul Anik - Absent
 - xii. History, Gavin Rogers - Present
 - xiii. Law, Mason Leachman - Present
 - xiv. Law, Luisa Garcia-Teran - Present
 - xv. Law, Isabella Molina - Absent
 - xvi. Law, Vivan Tsai - Present
 - xvii. Medicine, Henry Sorto - Absent
 - xviii. Medicine, Julie Emeanuwa - Absent
 - xix. Medicine, Roni Parrales - Present
 - xx. Medicine, Sidney Aguilera - Absent
 - xxi. Native American Studies, Marisa Page - Present
 - xxii. Occupational Therapy, Deandra Sisneros - Present
 - xxiii. Physics, Saheed Oyeniran - Absent
 - xxiv. Physics, Zahid Hasan - Absent
 - xxv. Psychology, Mikayla Poe - Absent
 - xxvi. Public Policy, Gareth Ripol - Absent
 - xxvii. Sociology, Kodiak Ly - Present
 - c. Confirmation of Quorum
 - i. Quorum was established (12 out of 27 members present at roll call).
 - d. Approval of Agenda



socialize, purchase your own drinks, please show up. We're expecting about 50 people in the social. So Thursday, 5:30 to 7:30 Rio Bravo Brewery on 2nd Street. And then finally, with graduation upon us, you do have the opportunity to purchase stoles. So if you would like to purchase a stole for your GPSA participation, recognition, and graduation, they are \$35. You can pay for them in the Student Government Accounting Office and they'll pick them up in the student activities. Thank you very much.

- iii. Jacob Griego: Thank you, Ryan.
- iv. Ryan Lindquist: Sorry, the memorial is Monday. I've got my days mixed up. Memorial is Monday night.
- v. Gavin Rogers: Where is it again?
- vi. Ryan Lindquist: SUB Ballroom.
- vii. Gavin Rogers:: At 6, right?
- viii. Ryan Lindquist: 6:30.
- ix. Gavin Rogers:: 6:30.
- x. Jacob Griego: All right. Are there any other members of the gallery?
- xi. Travis Broadhurst: I know I'm going to speak later but I'd like to preemptively thank President Stokes and Provost Rodriguez for being here.
- xii. Jacob Griego: Are there any other members of the gallery that would like to speak? Seeing none, we're gonna go on ahead and move on to our guest speakers.

3. Guest Speakers

- a. UNM President Garnett Stokes: All right. Well, thank you for the invitation to meet here. I am glad to be here. I'm trying to remember when I last met with GPSA council and one of you reminded me that it was a meeting that we held in the Kiva. I'm trying to remember exactly when that was. You know, the days blend together. I'm Garnett Stokes. I've been Serving as president at UNM since March 1st of 2018. And one of the reasons for always also having our provost, Barbara Rodriguez, is that many of the questions that we get are often really in the purview of the provost. And having spent years prior to becoming a president as a provost at two universities, I know how important that role is, and I always want students to know what that role is as well and how important that oversight of the academic mission can be. So I thought what we could do is I would make a couple of introductory comments and then the provost would make a couple of introductory comments. And I understand that we have questions that were sent to



us, but I presume they'll get asked by the group that's here. Is that a good understanding, Jacob?

- b. Jacob Griego: Some were sent from the executive, so what I can do is I can actually send the questions out to a few of you and you can share, because I have some of you all's emails. Does that work?
- c. Garnett Stokes: Yeah, okay. All right, well, I decided not to make my opening comments about an answer to the questions that we received in advance, and I always ask for questions in advance, so that we have some idea of where the conversation is going, and can be prepared to address things that are especially particularly specific. But I think most of you are aware that I have announced my retirement and that the presidential search is underway. I announced my retirement. I think back in September. I was named the president at University of Mexico in November of 2017. And so it seems for many of you, that seems like a very long time ago. For me, it seemed like a very long time ago. When I started on March 1st, I actually started with the UNM birthday on February 28th, 2018. I don't know how many of you participate in that, but certainly ASUNM is heavily involved, and I think GPSA is as well. The celebration of the founding of the university, and that was a great thing. This is the first time I've been at a university where the students actually celebrate the institution's history and that's something that kind of caught my attention about the place and I would say that, you know, it's one of the things I value about being in New Mexico and at the university. And when I walked in the door, this place had been dealing with a lot, quite a bit of turmoil, years of budget cuts. and I think my very first meeting with the Board Regents, I was sent back, it was the first budget meeting March. Remember I started March 1st, and I was told to go back and create a budget that was balanced for athletics. They had a deficit, one time deficit of millions of dollars, and a recurring deficit of millions of dollars, and to bring back a balanced budget. And therein I began to make some of the most difficult decisions I've made as the university president, because it involved cutting sports so that we could both be budgetarily balanced, but also resolve a serious issue that we have with Title 9, really tremendous discrepancies that we needed to rectify. You know, from there, I had some, I also in the midst of doing those kinds of things of my first year, I took the time to travel all around the state of New Mexico. So I visited every county, 38 cities, and I met with members of the community, members of other universities, I met with business leaders, I met with the members of the legislature, executive. It was really a remarkable tour. And I will say I had some fun, too, because I had a faculty member take me on a hike in the



Gila Wilderness. [P]I got to go to the Santa Fe Opera. I visited Carlsbad Caverns. There were so many things I got to do. [P]I got to stand in front of a big pistachio. I have some fun pictures from the year of 2018, the listening, learning tour I did at the university. But fast forward several years and you know, I'm at a stage in my career, whereas we wait to interview three more finalists for the presidency to think about, you know, what's been done in the last eight years. [P]And I really leave it to others to decide what the most impactful things were. You know, I know things that I really enjoyed doing and things that were difficult to do. I'm, I will say I'm especially proud of many of the leaders that I've been able to hire, and I was fortunate to be able to do that. [P]I've had a focus on, I hired a provost, I hired a finance and administration leader. I hired, with the [University] foundation, a CEO of our foundation, which is the one that raises private support for the university, and that's been a major, a major focus of mine to work to raise private support in addition to states and support. And I was able to hire a vice president for equity and inclusion, which was really— Assata Zerai has been a tremendous leader. [P]And I was reflecting on that last night when I went to, you know, one of the one of the events that I go to to support our many communities on our campus. And I actually got to hear from the previous Vice President for Equity and Inclusion. I don't think that was her title at the time. [P]She left in 2017, but it was interesting to hear her talk about the history of the university and what she found when she arrived, where she was in this role, and it resonated with me that she said, this is a university that's always been diverse, but it really hadn't focused on inclusion and equity, and to really allow those voices to be heard. And for me, that's been a priority since I've been here, and it was nice to hear about, to be part of that kind of history. So with that, there's so much more I could say, but my goal is that you've got an agenda. [P]It's a Saturday. We both have things to do too. So I'd like to give Barbara a chance to say a few words, and then I'd love to take the questions

- d. UNM Provost Barbara Rodriguez: Okay. Good morning, everyone. Again, my name is Barbara Rodriguez. [P]I am interim provost and executive Vice President for Academic Affairs. I've been on the faculty since 1999. I have the unique opportunity and experience to have experienced this institution as an undergraduate student, as a graduate student, staff member. [P]You name it, I've held the role. But since 2018, I've been in academic affairs working with our former provost James Holloway as senior vice provost. I'm really pleased with the progress that we have made at this institution. [P]As I said, I've been hearing for a long time. I've seen lots of ups and downs. And I really credit President Stokes



and her leadership for the clarity in her decision making, the strategic pathway that she has set forth for the institution, the stability and momentum that this institution faces right now is one that we have not faced in a really long time.

^[P]_[SEP]So we are uniquely positioned to continue the good work that President Stokes has started, and I'm looking forward to having the opportunity to build on that. As President Stokes mentioned, there is a presidential search happening. In addition to that search, there's the Provost search occurring as well. ^[P]_[SEP]And I encourage you to attend the sessions with the Provost candidates. We had one candidate on campus yesterday. We have another candidate coming in on Wednesday, and then the final candidate will be interviewing on Thursday. ^[P]_[SEP]So I look forward to the questions that you pose for us this morning, and I'll be able to share more of my thoughts with you as these questions come forward. So thank you for having us this morning.

- e. Jacob Griego: All right, so I guess I'll moderate. So raise your placard and then, you know, whenever you're done asking the questions you want to ask and they don't—they're not limited to the ones that you were sent to me, but then make sure you yield the floor so that way you can keep track of your two opportunities to have before. So whenever you are ready. All right, Law.
- f. Mason Leachman: President Stokes, thank you for being here. ^[P]_[SEP]What are the biggest goals for the next president during that term?
- g. Garnett Stokes: You know, I would love to be able to say what the goals of the next president are or should be. But the reality is that it is the board of Regents and the president of the institution that actually work together to determine what the goals of the president are. And so, an awful lot of the work I've done over the last eight years involved working with the Board of Regents and my leadership team to figure out what those goals will be, because there are always a whole lot more goals than you could possibly think of. I mean, it's remarkable what that list of goals on which a president is evaluated can look like. You know, I have hoped that, you know, it was kind of similar to what the Provost has alluded to. ^[P]_[SEP]We've achieved quite a lot of momentum, and there's a lot of support for the 20400 opportunity defined plan. And most of the candidates are basically suggesting that we're really talking about continuing a lot of the things that we're doing right now. I would say that there are some things that all universities have to work on all the time. ^[P]_[SEP]And that they're always about improving student experience, improving outcomes for students. We're always trying to increase our competitiveness for faculty, to support our staff. There are just so many fronts on which to operate, and higher education is dealing with, you know, a lot of turmoil across the



country right now. [P] [SEP] And so, but I think that at this university, really cultivating the private support is really important for its future. And there has been a silent phase of a comprehensive campaign that will officially be public in September, and the new president will be overseeing that launch, which is a very, very positive thing for the university. But I will also say working with the executive and the legislature and the city and county and throughout, I mean, legislative, well, state support is a very important part of the way in which this institution is funded. [P] [SEP] And so, and there are many projects that have been underway and new projects for the future, that I think, you know, what I see is that there is an increasing push for UNM to really build the economy. And I believed that advancing New Mexico was goal one, and building the economy of New Mexico was a very important part of what we do. It's also producing the workforce that's needed. [P] [SEP] And that's a delicate conversation on many fronts, but that's what the state is asking us to do. And so I don't foresee some of those things changing all that much. I have, though I'm very much aware that the state's putting a big investment in quantum. [P] [SEP] And so that's one place the university is moving for to do some things. But there are many others. And so but I just want to be sure everyone understands, how does it work? [P] [SEP] How do the goals get set? And certainly, goals get set for a president based on the needs of the state, the needs of the student body, and the needs of the faculty and staff. But they really are done in collaboration and really, with the review and it's really in the end, it's really the Board of Regents that decides what they think the goals of the president should be. Does that make sense?

- h. Mason Leachman: It does.
- i. Jacob Griego: History?
- j. Gavin Rogers: Further down the list here. Speaking of those goals. and the focus that we have is our education at this university, which maybe, this is not a big deal at a lot of universities, and this is not a luxury resort type of university. [P] [SEP] It's focused on education. But what can we as GPSA do better to help the administration, the graduate students, and thereby the university and the undergraduate students meet their goals for the state and themselves? This is for both of you.
- k. Garnett Stokes: Yeah, I realize it's for both of us. [P] [SEP] You know, that is one of the questions I saw, and it was really interesting trying to figure out, what could I say to that? You know?. You know, I think that ASUNM and GPSA serve really vital roles for the institution for our students, but also for the leadership of the institution, because we do count on ASUNM and GPSA to bring to us the issues



that help us figure out what the best investment should be, what we need to be examining. [P] And so I will say that both for ASUNM and GPSA, I have relied on being able to meet with the leaders one on one on a monthly basis, and then we see each other more regularly than that, but we always count on the one on one, and we count on the leadership to bring those issues, bring those issues to us, let us know what's on the minds of students. And that that has been a very productive thing for us over the last, for me, over the last eight years. I will say that I've been very pleased with GPSA's attempts to expand the impact and get the involvement of graduate students and professional students across the entire campus. You know, I think I know it's a challenge to get people to get involved at this level, because it's such a commitment at times, so I appreciate that those of you who are here have made that choice. One of the conversations that I actually had with Andrew, ASUNM's president earlier this year, and I've had with previous presidents of the GPSA and ASUNM. It's about the challenge of being a leader and actually reflecting all of the students. There's a tendency to, it's a hard thing to do because not all of our students are involved and ready to stand out and say what's on their minds or what they think they need, and yet, really, you're called on to reflect, you know, the full representation of the student body. [P] And that's, I think, one of the biggest challenges that our leaders face. I mean, any leader, if you're in a role like a president of a university or, you know, the president of a GPSA. So, you know, I think it's really, you know, making sure that that voices are heard and that those are then reflected back through forms like this, but really most often through making sure that the leadership is aware and conveying that information to the leadership. And those one-on-ones are not just with me, you may have something to add, because you have those meetings as well, and as do some other leaders.

1. Barbara Rodriguez: I look forward every month to my meetings with student leadership. And through those meetings, I have asked our leaders to keep me abreast of the student perspective. [P] What are the students feeling? What are the students' concerns? What are their needs? [P] How can we better support the student experience in student success? And through my work alongside Travis, we were able to co-sponsor A Know Your Rights series. That's So with our wonderful work together, we were able to bring together the community to support our community members facing challenges around immigration, visa holders. [P] In this particular environment, we really needed to step up and provide some supportive information for the community. And with Travis, alongside myself, our faculty union, our graduate student union, we pulled together a



session that was very successful that occurred early in the fall. Later, this academic year, a subsequent know you right session occurred, and that one was focused on academic freedom. [P]So we're hoping, I'm hoping that that kind of collaboration can continue so that we can through other venues address the issues that graduate students are interested in and concerned about. So I've really been pleased to work alongside our student leaders. The other aspect of that is advocacy going to the state, working together to go to the state to talk about what is it that the university needs not only from a student perspective, but from the broader institutional perspective, and the student perspective is so corded that. [P]So working with our leaders has really kept me focused on what do students need? What are they thinking? What are their successes, what are their challenges? And in my role, how can I reduce some of the barriers to student success?

- m. Gavin Rogers: Thank you for your time. I yield my time.
- n. Jacob Griego: American Studies?
- o. Hennessy Star: We have, this is mostly for President Stokes, but if you would like to refer to Provost Rodriguez. We have on our list, which of the candidates, right, you believe would be the strongest replacement? [P]And I understand that you might not be able to answer that as clearly as perhaps we would hope. But I'm going to amend that to say, are there any qualities in the candidates that you see that you believe would make them a strong president for the university? And that give you hope, right, for the future of this university?
- p. Garnett Stokes: I'm glad you made some attempt to qualify that. I am. [P]You know, I do believe there's one member of the room who's actually on the president's search committee. Am I correct? president. [P]Okay. So, you know, I will say that, that I did not personally, I do not personally know any of the five individuals that we are interviewing on campuses for the presidency. I know people who know them. [P]I know, sometimes I know their institutions. You know, I. I think that for me, I'm having the opportunity to have lunch with each one of the candidates. And I'm bringing them to, they're coming to university house to have lunch with me in part because we hope the next president will live on campus just as my husband and I have, because we see that as important. [P]But, you know, that's a negotiable thing, I'm sure, with the Board of Regents. You know, I said, oh, I've certainly seen these folks on paper, and I would say that based on the roles that they've had, they certainly appear to have had experiences that would allow them to be successful. And so I'm excited to have conversations with each of them. [P]You know, when I look at these candidates



and talk to them, my role really is to help create a smooth transition. and to me, that's, you know that's what this institution has had for decades. And so, you know, my goal is to really help with that transition. And, you know, so in some respects, you know, the conversations I have are really about getting to know a person, understanding the ways in which they lead, because the ways in which people lead and the type of the ways in which they engage with their community and with the people that they work with. [P] [SEP] To me, they are part of the success or failure. You know, I've read plenty of stories about the derailment of university presidents. And so what I hope for for this university is a president that comes in and engages, pushes this institution ever forward, and who is able to have enough support in the community and on campuses to be in place for two terms. [P] [SEP] You know, that's what I want, because I've discovered that this place has really thrived with some element of stability rather than chaos. What people experienced, and I don't know in what sense students experience this much, if you're here for three or four years, but certainly the people that are here, they're on pins and needles all the time. That's no way to live your life, your work life. And so I'm looking for the characteristics that I think will manage the challenges that I know exist in a job like this one. But I don't think there's, you know, like one thing. [P] [SEP] I do think, though, management style can be important because it's what, you know, I see some very effective leaders who appear very effective, but some people do a better job of managing up and they don't really manage down very well. And I see disruption created by people who do that. So those are the things I kind of looking for, but I'm really revealing what I hope for for the universities, which is that you've got general support across all these constituent groups, which is no easy task given how many there are and how many different perspectives exist.

- q. Barbara Rodriguez: If I may add to the discussion here, as I mentioned, I've been here a long time. So this institution means a lot to me. I grew up in Española, I arrived here at the age of 18. [P] [SEP] I've done other things. But I've come back, and this place means a lot to me.. It means a lot to my community. It means a lot to the state. [P] [SEP] And what I'm hoping for, I'm not going to speak about a particular candidate because we still have a few more to visit us on campus. But what I'm hoping for is that we appoint a president who is humble, who is empathetic, who can listen to our communities and understand our strengths and the assets that we bring to this institution. I'm hoping for a leader who has integrity. [P] [SEP] I'm hoping for a leader who remains committed to access and excellence, and that cuts across the entire institution. So I care very deeply about this place, and I'm on pins and needles because I have lived through the challenge of instability, and I've seen



how much progress we have made under President Stokes' leadership. I'm just hoping and praying and lighting candles that we continue to move in that trajectory.

- r. Hennessy Star: Oh, I yield. Thank you.
- s. Jacob Griego: Native American Studies please.
- t. Marisa Page: Yes, thank you both for being here today. I appreciate it. So I'm gonna ask my two questions and they're for both of you. And so what do you think your biggest accomplishments have been and also what advice do you have for the next generation of GPSA leaders?
- u. Barbara Rodriguez: I yield to you.
- v. Garnett Stokes: I yield to you. I knew it! You know, I think, I said in my in I think it was in my opening comments that that others will, will comment freely about what they think, what for them has been the most impactful thing that we've been able to do. Over eight years years, I feel like there have been so many things that I've been in the middle of. And when I think about the goal of advancing New Mexico. I really do believe that a flagship research university has to have in front of them the ways in which it can really strengthen the state. And there are there are many things to ways that we could possibly do that. Higher education has to be careful, researching university have to be careful because you can end up trying to be everything to everyone, and that's impossible. So they're always, there are always disappointments, things that are wanted from us that they just don't fit the mission in the institution. But I will say that. recognizing the health care crisis, there is more than one crisis, but the healthcare crisis was one that I am very much aware has an impact on our capacity to even recruit and retain faculty and staff. It has impact on our students. It has impact on virtually every person in New Mexico. And so I am really excited by the fact that we've been able to make investments in healthcare and that the state has decided to make investments in healthcare access over time. And so there's a whole lot of work left to be done and things to be dealt with. But I think that the relationships that are being built, the funding that's been received, the programs that will be able to be put in place because we've made an investment in medicine, and we have already been making investments in other health related areas, colleges and programs that serve the needs of the state, but have the potential to really lift everyone. That is something that I'm really pleased about. When I arrived at UNM, kind of in a different area, I knew that New Mexico's, one of the things people know about New Mexico is it's artistic communities, broadly defined. And the cultural richness of that artistic community. And so I really saw the need for trying to



strengthen facilities for our programs in the arts. And so that center for collaborative arts and technology that's going up now on Central, I mean, that was that was being talked about and proposed when I first came here, and finally, seeing that go up and knowing that it's going to serve members of the community and send a signal that the arts really do matter in New Mexico, and the richness of that is, to me, pretty important. I would say that well, there's probably a lot more I could say. [P] [SEP] You know, I don't even, you know, I think about the challenges that, you know, I got thrown at me early on, just getting through them and arriving at a place where we're stronger and better, you know, athletics isn't something everybody really supports, but, you know, the turnaround in athletics when there was such an issue with it, when I arrived, so many audits, so many controversies, so much that was going on. And that world of athletics nationally and higher ed, that's tumultuous. But to see us arrive at a more stable place where their support in the community, I say, is a success. [P] [SEP] And I will say it's really a function of the leaders we've been able to put in place.. So those are big things. You know, some of the accomplishments turn out to be really small and quiet and nobody knows them. [P] [SEP] And, you know, that's just what it means to be in these jobs. I hope that answers your question.

- w. Barbara Rodriguez: So, biggest accomplishment. I'm gonna focus on this year, because I've been here a long time. As you know, I'm interim provost. So on July 3rd, I started that appointment, and I grappled with, what does it mean to be interim provost? [P] [SEP] The word interim was looming on my mind and kind of clouding my thinking. Until one day I spoke with a mentor of mine who's a president of a university in California, and he said to me, Barbara, he says, you lead. You lead as though you are the provost. [P] [SEP] And that set me off on my way to do the following. In a short period of time, I've been working with academic leaders across campus to ensure that we have graduate education programming aligned with research initiatives to meet the demands around the ever-growing quantum science ecosystem, and we'll have some more to say about those accomplishments as they become more public. We're working on, again, behind the scenes, we're working on all of these things. [P] [SEP] The other thing that I'm proud to say that I've been working on is communicating very clearly and closely with our state leaders, the state treasurer, the state auditor, to really understand from their perspective what are the workforce needs that they see at present and down the road? So again, in partnership with academic leaders are deans,, myself, pulling together our creative juices and thinking about, how can we support? Given the current constraints that we have, how can we really meet the state



needs? ^[P]_[SEP]And I think that I just sent a letter to the state auditor yesterday outlining our ideas. He wrote back within 15 minutes and he said, this is wonderful. Let's sit down and talk more. ^[P]_[SEP]So engaging with our state leaders and really understanding our state needs and how we embed those needs in our academic programming, without losing sight of our broad academic mission. I think we have to be clear about the importance of the humanities and the arts along with STEM and how all of those things together create the kind of citizen that our state, our city, our state, and more globally, the world needs, particularly at this point in time. So in addition to that, I've launched and charged the AI steering committee, and I will say that I attended an academic program review exit meeting. ^[P]_[SEP]And what I learned from that is that grad students are desperately asking for the university's guidance around AI and academic integrity, and we have not yet pulled together sufficient information to guide our students and our faculty and our staff. So we have a steering committee that I charged to do that work. So my greatest accomplishment is to not lead as an interim, but to lead as the leader that this institution deserves.

- x. Garnett Stokes: The one we needed. Absolutely.
- y. Jacob Studies: Chicanx Studies?
- z. Charlotte Auh: This is for Provost Rodriguez. I know you have your monthly Querencia at UNM and I just wanted to know if you have advice for us again, as the next generation of GPSA leaders –
 - aa. Garnett Stokes: We forgot to answer that.
 - bb. Charlotte Auh: Thank you for referencing my monthly communication. I'm really proud of it, because I think it strikes an important message for our community. And that is that we belong, and that we as an institution have to think about structural systems that are big and broad, and how those might impact a student's feeling of belonging. ^[P]_[SEP]But all the way down to in a department, how we support our faculty, staff, and students to also understand that their contributions are incredibly important to the broader system. So belonging to me means being really rooted in this place and rooted in this place to know that what we do in the classroom, what we do in the laboratories, what we do in our communities, it all matters. And by doing that, we advance our communities even more so. ^[P]_[SEP]So belonging and querencia is really focused on the people, the amazing people of this institution. It's not focused on me. I seek out the incredible stories of our graduate students, of our faculty, of our undergraduate students, and our staff. ^[P]_[SEP]And I highlight the ways that they are the small and big things that they're doing to ensure that our community understands that we see the assets that



you bring to us, and we are here to nurture, support and guide you through your journey here at the university. So I believe very much in being rooted here and the importance of where we are.

cc. Charlotte Auh: Thank you

dd. Jacob Griego: Alright, History, this is your last time.

ee. Gavin Rogers: This is a kind of a follow up question based on what you both said about serving two constituencies or multiple constituencies. And as a grad student who grades a lot of papers, I'm sure a lot of us do here. I've noticed that the constituency below us, the secondary education of the state I see, you know, of course, the opportunity front has allowed a lot of students who come to the university and wouldn't otherwise come to the university, and I appreciate that. But is there a way we can serve as graduate students and as a community, as a whole, to reach out to that secondary education throughout the state to bring those people up to the standards we really need here at the university. ^[P]_[SEP]Is there a need, like,, maybe a thought towards making some kind of a program to reach that kid in Española or Chimayo or Silver City

ff. Barbara Rodriguez: Or Truchas.

gg. ^[P]_[SEP]Gavin Rogers: Or Truchas, yes.

hh. Barbara Rodriguez: You name it. So I see our K-12 system as presenting us with incredible assets as well. Sometimes those assets are not necessarily aligned with the preparations for math or you name whatever discipline fill in the blank. What I see as an opportunity for this institution is not only our graduate students, but are faculty and staff really engaging in some summer bridge programs, some boot camps that help support our students to not only be academically prepared, but to see themselves here and to see that they belong back to querencia and that this is a place for them, and that this place is here to support them along their journey. But there is something about, there's that unhidden curriculum that some of us have and some of us don't have. ^[P]_[SEP]I didn't have it. My parents didn't go to college, so that written curriculum could become more visible for our students through a summer program, through engagement in the high schools and middle schools. When I was a speech language pathologist, I worked in Gallup, in Cuba, in Los Lunas, in Belen, and worked with students to connect with not only their community and the resources that they had at their particular school, but to help them see if it was within their thought, see paths in other ways, be it a two-year institution, I think our branch campuses provide us a unique opportunity to be out there in the community in Taos, Valencia, Gallup, Los Alamos. ^[P]_[SEP]We need to



capitalize on our locations much more effectively than we are right now. So thank you for that question.

- ii. Gavin Rogers: I would agree with that statement. I've been to like the Valencia and other campuses, and sometimes they're ghost towns, you know, like I would love to see some kind of engagement bringing students onto those campuses. If they wouldn't have an opportunity to drive up here to do so.
- jj. Barbara Rodriguez: I think we're doing that. We have dual credit, students who are engaged at the branch campuses, but it doesn't mean that we can't do more and we can't do better.
- kk. Gavin Rogers: Thank you. I yield my time.
- ll. Jacob Griego: Electrical Engineering, you had your placard up next.
- mm. Milan Joshi: Thank you so much for President and the Provost. I thank you so much for joining us at our meeting today. So I have a question for my side, like for your legacy that will continue to impact the lives of students in future years?
- nn. Garnett Stokes: I'm sorry?
- oo. Milan Joshi: So for your legacy that will continue to impact the lives of students for years to come?
- pp. Garnett Stokes: I'm not – you're asking about the impact on lives for years to come, but you're asking about what we do to do that? I'm not sure.
- qq. Milan Joshi: So the question is how you will impact students for years to come.
- rr. Garnett Stokes: So my apologies, I'm still not quite sure I know what you're trying to want me to talk about, but you know, I guess what I would say is that so much of what we do in higher education has an impact on people. I mean, that's one of the reasons why many of us are leaders in higher education, because we know that the experiences and the education that people get can change the individual, true, but they really change the opportunities around them and the communities that they come from. And so, to me, there are so many ways in which this institution, our faculty, even our students, and I know our staff are having that kind of impact on the lives in the communities of New Mexico and beyond.
- ss. Milan Joshi: Thank you so much yeah, and I have another question from my side. What going to miss from UNM after you leave?
- tt. Garnett Stokes: What am I going to do after I leave?
- uu. Charlotte Auh: What are you going to miss?
- vv. Garnett Stokes: What am I gonna miss? Well, one of the attractions for coming to the University of New Mexico was the incredible cultural history and the people of the state. And I've formed some wonderful relationships, so of course, the thing



you miss the most are the people that are part of your life every day. Even some of the experiences with people that I don't see very often. Not having those, I'm going to be moving to places where my grandchildren are. I'm 70, my husband just turned 79. We're headed to grandchildren country, which is the West Coast. And so it means that I'll literally, there'll be people that I will need to stay in touch with, but I just won't have the same relationships, you know, it just isn't the same. I'm going to miss the food. I will. I don't know where I'm going to get some of this food. I'm going to get it mail ordered. We talk about that. And I'm going to miss the natural beauty of the place. I have loved living. It's a strange thing, but I got here, and, you know, the thing that astonished me, I mean, I had the privilege of living in a university house, and I walk up that front gate, and I'd look up at the sky and the clouds, and I felt it just seemed so beautiful. And I haven't lost that sense of just what it means to be in this state and that the place and living in this area. I've seen beauty all over the state, but that daily experience of just being here. on a day like today. I'm going to miss that too.

ww. Jacob Griego: Do you yield?

xx. Milan Joshi: Yes.

yy. Jacob Griego: Law's up next. Leave yours up so that way I call you. Yes, thank you.

zz. Mason Leachman: So, sorry to go off the script, but you kind of got me thinking, uh, especially Provost Rodriguez in response to, uh the representative history. Um So I am a proud graduate of Las Cruces High School, from Las Cruces, um and I have really been very pleased with my experience at UNM. I'm graduating in just a couple of weeks and I thoroughly loved my time here. What is the university doing to appeal to Southern New Mexico more and I guess just my plea can they? When I was even interested in pursuing an undergrad pathway, uh, UNM wasn't on my radar. I ended up going to Texas Tech.

aaa. Garnett Stokes: No!

bbb. Mason Leachman: I just felt, I think it's very true for a lot of my classmates from high school that for whatever reason, UNM just wasn't in the cards. So I'm curious, are there any ongoing efforts to reach southern New Mexico? And if not, are there any plans to try and get more students from southern New Mexico here?

ccc. Barbara Rodriguez: Well, go bulldogs, right? Las Cruces. Another bulldog back there. I'm really pleased that you left Texas Tech and came back to your home state.. I'm really pleased to hear that. We have efforts every single day to recruit students from across the state that includes southern New Mexico. So I



have a niece who's graduating from high school this year. She's at Cibola High School and I could have bet a lot of money that I had convinced her to come to the University of New Mexico. So I gave her a wonderful UNM sweatshirt for Christmas. [SEP]I was getting her prepared. And not too long ago, she broke the news to me that she was headed to New Mexico State. She's not going to live that down. [SEP]I'll say that. But, you know, the different institutions kind of match different students' needs and interests. And for my niece, at this particular moment in her life, the smaller campus for her makes sense. [SEP]For someone else, the larger, more urban campus makes sense. But I assure you that we have an incredible enrollment management team who is working hard every single day recruiting undergraduate students, recruiting residents, non-residents, international students at the undergrad and grad level master's doctoral, even non-degree. So we're covering the entire mass map, not only of New Mexico, but more broadly, regionally, and beyond, because we see the great value and strengths that this university has to offer that would match many, many students' interests out in the broader community. [SEP]So, you know, I lost one. Hopefully, I'll win another one with my family. And they'll be a lobo just like me.

ddd. Mason Leachman: I yield.

eee. Xiqing Xie: Okay well thank you so much for your answer. I really liked your answer that you're going to miss the people here. So this is a question for President Stokes. So when you speak to the student leaders over this year, what do you see in terms of leadership quality and style as a reflection of the students they serve and the wider university?

fff. Garnett Stokes: So are you asking me whether, you're asking about the leadership of the leaders that are student leaders here on campus. And whether I see them as reflecting the university as a whole, or whether they're representing a particular community.

ggg. Xiqing Xie: I think it's both. They can also serve the student body that they serve or their department or as a student community as a whole.

hhh. Garnett Stokes: So, you know, it's really interesting. [SEP]We all have to define, we all kind of think about what our roles are. If you're here reflecting, if you're here as a representative of economics, then, you know, there is, of course, the constituency of the graduate students who are in economics. And so I would think your department would hope that you would reflect whatever the issues are within your department. [SEP]But I think what I've come to know is the extent to which there are so many commonalities and the issues across many departments. So kind of understanding that there are some common challenges and some



common strengths that can exist. But we all are defined by more than one thing. There are so many ways in which we, our histories, you know, things are intersectional. And so, you know, as leaders, you know, we reflect that. And I, to me, one of the most valuable things for a leader to recognize is, you know, what those are, what those things are that you represent, what the groups are, what the, you know, just how you see yourself and what the parameters of that are, but also an openness to those of different different experiences. And I see that as a valuable thing, but I don't mean that in a way that's intended to suggest that one should, you know, lose sight of one's own identity. I just recognize identities as being quite complex and experiences as influencing people in unexpected ways and in openness to learning what that's like and growing as an individual, I've seen it serve leaders very well. So I'm not sure if that gets to exactly what you were asking, but that's what I think I want to think about your question.

iii. Xiqing Xie: Thank you. I yield.

jjj. Jacob Griego: Okay, Law? Sociology, leave it up and I'll call you next.

kkk. Luisa Garcia-Teran: Thank you both for being here today. Since we're on the topic of student leadership, and I appreciate that both of you make time in your very busy schedules to meet with student leadership. But I'm curious as to how much, um resolutions have we passed here through the GPSA Council actually make an impact, um, specifically, I'm referring to the resolution that GPSA passed is Resolution 003 regarding concerns that law students have regarding the dean of the Law School. So, how much do these types of resolutions regarding student opinions of deans just in general, or specifically with our situation, impact your decisions when it comes to things like retention.

lll. Garnet Stokes: So, I've been asked this kind of question before, so I'm going to take this question beyond your specific resolution, because I think that, you know, there is a bigger question here. And the bigger question I hear is, you know, if our student government, undergrad graduate, there are other other forums for students to be engaged. If our students share information with leadership of the university, we always pay attention. So I would say that the advice I gave three or four years ago was, we were getting like massive numbers of resolutions from AU&M. But the thing is, we weren't getting them as leaders. They would be sent to 100 million people, and you wouldn't feel like you had any special responsibility to pay attention. So I did tell student leaders it would be helpful if, you know, you didn't copy everything to the president of the United States and every senator in in Congress. And, you know, if you want the university leadership to pay attention, tell us what you want us to pay attention to. And I've



seen really nice changes in the resolutions that we now get from student government. [P]So many of you, some of you are looking at me like you're a little shocked by what I'm saying, but maybe you've never seen the things we used to get. I would get get pages of things that would come to my office and I'd look at who it was sent to and it's like, well, what would you like for me to do about this? So, but when we get things that come from our students that raise issues of concern for our campus, we are paying attention to them. [P]Now, does that mean that we take action on everything that comes to us? And the answer to that is, it really depends on what it is.. And, you know, I think we almost always look into things that are brought to our attention. [P]I mean, we get resolutions, but I get individual emails, all of all of our leaders. do. We have people that come to meet with, I have people who meet often with my chief of staff to let us know about things. So, you know, I will say that but the resolution that came from GPSA, you know, we had seen, we've seen these. [P]I mean, it wasn't as though that the particular resolution that was sent from GPSA was a surprise in terms of the information that it had in it. So I will say of course, we look at some of these things. I will say too, that many times, you know, what people, there's more information to be had. [P]Rarely do we get something that captures all the information that's out there for us to understand. So we look into things. But I think it's important for you to know that we absolutely do pay attention to the things that GPSA, ASUNM, or other student groups or individuals would actually bring to our offices.

mmm. Barbara Rodriguez: [P]Yeah. So, I fully agree with President Stokes's response. Any information that comes forward to academic affairs, my office, either expressed by a student, a staff member, a faculty member, absolutely, I read every piece of information that comes into my office. [P]It's also my obligation to ensure that I'm sifting through all of the information and making sure that as a really important part of my responsibility is the appointment and reappointment of academic leaders across all the schools and colleges and the branch campuses. So I have to take a really thoughtful, deliberative, objective data informed approach to making those incredibly important decisions and experiences, opinions, thoughts, concerns that are expressed by members of our community. Certainly, I listen to, and I try to weigh out all of the information that I'm gleaning to make the important decisions.

Jacob Griego: Sociology, you're next.

nnn. Kodiak Ly: Did she yield?

ooo. Gavin Rogers: She did yield.



ppp. Kodiak Ly: So, what I understand so far is President Stokes, you've left us with a legacy of inclusion, diversity, belonging, right? ^[P]_[SEP] This is something you've talked about throughout this semester and perhaps even a further, beyond the history of, uh, in Mexico, we've had a lot of political right regarding diversity, that's directly impacted the experience of our graduate students in particular, I can name that, our research funding and sociology has been threatened on multiple fronts because it comes from diversity and equity funds. And I was wondering as this is a legacy and priority of yours, whether you have a contingency plan or when the next president comes to address these issues move forward.

qqq. Garnett Stokes: I would say that the entire university leadership has been paying attention to this. It's been a major challenge across many, many areas. And as you've said, you've mentioned sociology, but you've also recognized that it's been a major concern for scholars all across our university and it's had a tremendous impact on our graduate students. What I know is that or what I expect, what I've heard so far and what I will expect from the other other presidential candidates, there is no one in leadership in higher education who isn't paying attention to this. ^[P]_[SEP] There is no one who would want to come to the University of New Mexico, who wouldn't have this as something that really mattered to them. And the fact that we are a place where we are trying to manage the national impact of ships in thinking about what should be prioritized in science and humanities and all of things that higher ed does. You know, the the attraction is to be in this place and to try to serve our students and our faculty and staff and the communities here. ^[P]_[SEP] So, you know, I couldn't, Barbara may have a little more information. We have had, we've had leaders at the vice president level and beyond really focus on the avenues for trying to maintain funding for the work that people are doing. We are trying to help shape things in ways that they can still be funded and the work can continue. ^[P]_[SEP] And I know that I don't know how many of them continue to go out, but we've had a lot of communication to faculty about our monitoring of the situation coming out of our vice presidents for research, both on the health side and for the rest of campus. And so I don't know what that's like sitting in your seat. But I don't expect any of this focus on these issues to go away with a transition in the presidency. You've been in the midst of this yourself.

rrr. Barbara Rodriguez: I've been in the throes of all of this, alongside faculty department chairs and deans, this is an incredibly difficult time, and we are unapologetically who we are at this institution. At the same time, we recognize the threats that exist with respect to funding to do the kinds of work that we very



much believe in. ^[P]_[SEP]So what we did last spring when all of a sudden we were getting stop work orders. There were contracts and grants that were discontinued. Academic affairs put in place a pot of money to ensure that grad students who were on these particular contracts and grants, that we could continue to fund them through the rest of this semester and not present a last minute minute adverse situation in that the graduate students would continue to get their salary as a research assistant, a teaching assistant, a graduate assistant. ^[P]_[SEP]So we had a pot of funds set aside so that the faculty department chairs could access those funds to keep the graduate students harmless. I meet with the vice president for research on a biweekly basis, and we are talking about what to anticipate, try to anticipate in the coming months and years. It's hard to know what direction things are going to go in because it has been so abrupt. ^[P]_[SEP]The changes have been really abrupt. So we're trying to keep our eyes on where we think things are going while ensuring that our faculty are supported to pivot in ways that will result in competitiveness for different kinds of funding opportunities so that those opportunities can continue to support students' work.

sss. Kodiak Ly: Thank you. I yield.

ttt. Jacob Griego: Are there any other questions? We have about nine minutes left before our standing rules say we cannot continue with questions anymore. So, if not we can cut it a little better, but are there any like last minute burning questions? Seeing that, would you mind posing in a picture for us really quick, and we can all take a group picture?

uuu. Garnett Stokes: You make me wish I'd worn a tie.

vvv. — Chatter as GPSA Council takes pictures with President Stokes & Provost Rodriguez —

4. Officer Reports

a. Jacob Griego: So with that, we can move on into the president report. So, Travis, you're up.

b. President Report: Travis Broadhurst

- i. Okay, I'll give myself my own timer, I suppose. Okay. Hi, Council, as most of you know, my name's Travis Broadhurst. I had the honor and privilege to be your GPSA president for this past year, and it's been absolutely fantastic. The first thing that I want to say is to thank President Stokes and interim Provost, or Provost as she leads by, Rodriguez for their time for being here. Thank you both very much. And I would also like to echo their comments that we do have the president, the provost search happening, what Provost Rodriguez neglected to say, and it is public



information, so I can say this now, is that she is one of the candidates for our new provost, and will be officially here on campus doing interviews for that role and having a public forum for that role next Thursday. So if you want to see Provost Rodriguez again and maybe ask her questions in light of a new role, right, not interim Provost to full Provost, you can do that on Thursday, and there's another candidate coming up. ^[P]_[SEP]Wednesday. Jacob has been, the GPSA representative on the UNM president search Committee. I've been the representative on the UNM Provost search Committee. So it's been an awesome opportunity, and I think we've both done a pretty good job with picking some good candidates for campus, so please participate in those interviews. Obviously, we don't have the capacity to speak for every single graduate student, nor do we try to, so please comment and voice your own opinions. Have your own questions. ^[P]_[SEP]It is pretty important and we're in a big stage transition for the university. So that's all happening next week. The first provost candidate did come yesterday, which was good, and I think is a really strong candidate, but we still have two more coming next week. ^[P]_[SEP]And for all that information, it's publicly available, you can literally Google. If you would improvost candidates and it'll pop up and you can see the schedules and everything like that. A couple other things that I want to talk about. ^[P]_[SEP]We have a Board of Regents meeting coming up later on this month. It's going to be in two weeks. It's going to be May 19th, I believe. ^[P]_[SEP]It's two weeks from this coming Tuesday, so whatever that day is. Marisa will officially be our new president at that time. But I'm still going to go just because it'll be her first Board of Reefs meeting and so we can kind of give the Board of Regents a transition into our new leadership. ^[P]_[SEP]And we have two big things that we're promoting at that meeting. The first is that we have amendments to our Constitution, that we have to present to the Border of Regents and get passed by the Border of Regents. So even though our Constitution first goes through LSC, then goes to council, then it goes to the whole GPSA body. ^[P]_[SEP]After all that said and done, it still has to to be approved by the Board of Regents. So we're almost done with this big year long effort that we' course to spearheaded by Jacob and David, Kudos to them for their leadership and getting that done. ^[P]_[SEP]And we'll push it over the finish line, so that'll be great. The other big thing for the Border of Regents coming up is that the institutional bond that was proposed last month to essentially not change the student fee for most students, but it



would add fees for students on the opportunity in lottery scholarships, so undergraduate students. That institutional bond did not pass to the Board of Regents meeting last month, which would have been an institutional bond to grant the University several million dollars to complete construction of the Humanities Building and start construction on some improvements in Johnson. Luckily, at the urging of a lot of students, and I think with a lot of debate, both among the Board of Regents and even at the state level of the New Mexico Department of Higher Education, the Johnson Center improvements are going to be postponed until we have a better understanding of what those improvements will specifically be. And then the Humanities Building is actually going to be funded through a grant from the New Mexico Higher Education Department, not passed on to students. So that's kind of nice. We'll all see a reduction in our student fees as some of the institutional bonds that were issued 30 years ago are paid off this year by us, and then we won't be issuing new institutional bonds because that will come from the state. So, you know, it's great news. I think it's good for a lot of students. The other institutional bond that was proposed as part of that is an institutional bond to cover the costs of a geothermal district heating system that UNM is hoping to install on the North campus golf course. I'm happy to tell more about it because geothermal is my area of expertise in my area of research and what I'm going to school for. But also that institutional bond is going to be proposed as this main meeting won't come at any expense to students. They're actually going to leverage the university's utility payments to help cover the cost of that geothermal installation system. So part of the payments that we get from PNM to cover back to New Mexico for the solar that we generate, some of those what's the word? It's not a refund, but essentially money that we're getting back from PNM is going to be leveraged to cover the cost of this geothermal system. So, no additional cost to students, which is great. The university is going to be shouldering that cost. And then this geothermal system can result in enough to 65% of campus heatings and cooling. Up to 65% savings on campus is heating and cooling costs once the whole system is installed and the benefits are realized. So I think it's pretty cool. So we're going to be speaking to that at the Board of Regents meeting. Oh shoot, I have no more time left. Never mind, I'll email you all later.

- ii. Jacob Griego: I can extend you 10 minutes.



- iii. Travis Broadhurst: Oh, great.
- iv. Jacob Griego: Because it's the last one.
- v. Travis Broadhurst: I don't need that much, but yeah, that'd be great. Okay, I'll keep it going. Thanks. last thing, kind of a slew here of updates.
Well, I have two more updates and then I'll go to the final thing. We do have our social coming up on Thursday that Ryan talked about. It'd be great to see a lot of you all there. Free food. Don't miss it. And then we have our officer installation ceremony that's going to be happening next Friday. or no, sorry, two Fridays from yesterday, so that's on May 15th. It's the same day as graduation, end of finals, everything like that, but that's when we'll actually see our new officers get installed. I also do want to congratulate Charlotte for our new council chair. Which of course happened last week, but you know, always great. So yeah, we'll officially change over and pass the torch, so y'all are welcome to come. There'll be snacks and stuff like that. And then Jacob and I will speak one more time, and then you won't have to hear from us anymore. anymore. Maybe you will. I won't. The other thing is that I had a one on one on Thursday with the Dean of Graduate Studies. The New Mexico Higher Education Department Scholarship, and the New Mexico Higher Education Department STEM Scholarship are both open, so those are scholarships that are administered through the higher education department with an allocation to UNM, but the actual selection of students for the scholarship happens internally at UNM through the graduate studies office. So if you want to apply for those scholarships, please do, they're open now. The STEM scholarship is for high school graduates of New Mexico that are then enrolled in a STEM graduate program. STEM is taken very loosely because the state has allocated a lot of money for this. So even if you're not in a traditionally STEM field, like a social science, for example, that still looped under the science part of SEM. So if you're a New Mexico high school graduate and you want funding to finish your degree, please apply for that scholarship. The other scholarship is the general New Mexico Higher Education Graduate scholarship that we have been advocating for at GPSA for a number of years and have had some legislative success and also some legislative headaches over it. And Marisa, you'll be inheriting those next year, so it will be great. But that scholarship is open and so please apply for that. And there's open any student pursuing any sort of degree. So it covers the full cost of tuition



fees each semester for their students. Nothing beyond that, but that's still pretty great. Okay, the last thing I want to say is that when I ran I ran with several goals to accomplish throughout the year. I'm happy to say that most of those have been accomplished and I'll briefly touch on them.

The first thing was to have a program where we would be able to provide dental cleanings for graduate students after a lot of help from Ryan, Karl, folks at SGAO, and other leaders across campus and even folks that we worked with on North campus at the Dental Hygiene Clinic. Thanks to our North Campus Liaison Haydee for facilitating a lot of those connections. We officially launched that program last month, and we've already had over 10 students take advantage of this free dental cleaning, where you can earn a coupon by attending a GPSA event and entering a raffle, you take the coupon to the dental cleaning clinic, you have your cleaning, you present the coupon, and the cleaning is free for you, which is pretty great. We've had a lot of positive reviews from students that that system is really efficient, it's easy, and it runs really, really well. The only hindrance is that if you have additional work that needs to be done on any part of your mouth, teeth, anything like that, that's not covered by the coupon because it doesn't apply to every single student, so we didn't want to cover that, right? We wanted to just cover a baseline, cleaning for all students. But I think it's good to get into the clinic, and if you do have a bunch of cavities, now you know. And then it's up to you to go and address that. on your own. Sorry, not sorry. But overall, I'm really happy to say that that program has started and has run really, really well. I also wanted to expand the laptop loaner program here at UNM. When I emailed those folks back in the fall, they actually said that the program was underutilized and that really they have more laptops to loan to students than students take advantage of the program, which I thought was great. So there was no expansion that we really needed to do, which is fantastic. But UNM does have that program, so if you are without a laptop or your laptop breaks, or something happens and you need a free laptop each semester, you can apply for one through UNM and they have a surplus of laptops. So they have plenty. So, you know, it's really like your computing accessibility is not a hindrance to your education. And I really like that. Just to test the system out, my laptop actually broke this semester, so I requested a laptop loaner and went, and the system was super easy. I picked up the laptop, they set it up for me, I was done in



20 minutes. And it's in Woodward Hall, so it's right on campus. Pretty convenient. So that's great. [P] [SEP] We also wanted to increase parking equity and change the parking system a little bit. We did officially start the PATS advisory committee. And there's going to be a new subcommittee that looks on different ways to fund PATS. PATS is in a funding deficit or will be next year. And so there is a subcommittee that we helped start to try to look at different ways to fund PATS. and then also includes examining some graduate parking equity. There's a lot of spaces on campus that are reserved for 24/7 that aren't utilized because most folks, other than us, aren't on campus super late, but we are. [P] [SEP] And wouldn't it be great to be able to park next to your academic building at midnight when you're finishing up an experiment and walk right out to your car instead of walking across campus in the dark. So PATS is actually doing a study to look and see how many of those 24/7 spots are utilized at those odd hours to see, is there justification for making them not 24/7? Which I think would be great. [P] [SEP] We also wanted to have new programming as part of GPSA, which we successfully did this year. One of those big things was the Paint and Sip event that we had during grad student Appreciation Week. That was pretty cool, really well attended. [P] [SEP] And then we also, like the Provost said, had some new collaborations with her between immigration law, funding fairs, academic freedom, all of these new programming that hopefully will help students. We also worked really well with the grad workers union. We had multiple events collaborating with them. [P] [SEP] We have gone to speak at some of their events, some of their bargaining committee meetings, not as GPSA, because we can't speak to the organization, but as graduate students who are graduate workers ourselves speaking at those meetings. And then we've also had a permanent liaison, our attorney General, attending every single grad Workers Union General Monthly meeting to help facilitate that collaboration. So those are all the big things. [P] [SEP] Thank you, everybody, for your time. Sorry I went over, but I really do appreciate your time, your attention to detail, everybody that served on LSC. Of course, David and Jacob, for your tremendous leadership this year, everybody on council. [P] [SEP] I know it sucks being here on a Saturday, right? You've been doing a lot of other things, but it is important, and I really appreciate you being here all year. So thank you. [P] [SEP] And I, whenever we're doing the appropriations, I'll



be grabbing y'all some little promotional items that we just gave to the president, so you can also take those home. Thanks.

c. Council Chair: Jacob Griego

- i. Jacob Griego: Thank you, Travis. So, I am kind of gonna split mine, because I do have closing remarks at the end to say goodbye because I appreciate you all so much. But to start, I do want to say that all of your of your stipends, if you qualify, based on what we have gone over this last semester, but if you have only missed two meetings or left less than you qualify for the stipend, have been processed and sent to SGAO. Again, by the time you get them, I couldn't tell you. But they'll be processed, because then they have to get processed from them, go to the bursar's office. So it's a process, but they're at least submitted. So we're good on that. Thank you for being here for the last meeting. So I'm going to start with my thank you's, so that way that's separate from my closing remarks. So I want to start by saying, "David, I knew you first as a one out, the man with the broken leg and two broken arms. Although in different sections and seemingly world apart, I've always respected you in your work. Seeing you take on the decision and listening to my taught me so much more than I could tell you. Thank you on documents and members. I never, because I knew you would always take care of it, and that is the highest level of praise I could ever give you.
- ii. David Lonergan: Thank you.
- iii. Jacob Griego: Next up, we have Soumyo. Thank you so much. for being such a positive, calculated and prepared finance chair. I thoroughly have enjoyed working with you and seeing you thrive. Graduate students from every department are so lucky to have you be their finance. I hope you take pride in yourself because you've your position extremely well.
- iv. Travis, my partner in crime, you deserve a medal of honor for all of your kindness and friendliness. You compliment my structured and sometimes cold and standoffish approach to life in such a way that I knew I could always lean on you. I think you are one of the most emotionally intelligent people that I know. And I do think you have a skill for making anyone think they are the center of the world. You always seem so calm, cool, and collected, and I aspire to be like you in that way. You carry yourself with such poise and openness that I can only one daydream, to emulate, not me getting emotional.



- v. Okay. So Ryan, it's been a wild seven years. From ELL, Greek life, all the way through the end of the world. Until now, you and Lisa have been a blessed constant in my entire adult life. I always knew you had my back and I knew that you've gone to bat for me in rooms that I wasn't in. I see what you have done for me in so many other students. The late nights planning, the early morning phone calls, and institutional knowledge that have been guiding force in my success. I am so incredibly thankful for you and all of them should be too. Thank you for the seven amazing years.
 - vi. Charlotte. I know you're gonna do amazing things, and I'm always just a call away. I am so thankful for the support you've given me this year, but what I'm really excited to do is see you make this position your own and be able to see the change that you're gonna make. I am privileged to have been able to work with you and also call you a friend. But anyway, that's as emotional as we're going to be for now. We're going to return. We're going to return for sure.
 - d. Elections Director: Wilfred Osei Padmore: Elections Director isn't here, so we're just going to skip right over that and go into committee reports. Finance, you're up first
 - i. None.
5. Committee Reports
- a. Finance Committee: Soumyodipta Karmakar
 - i. David Lonergan: Are any of the mics working?
 - ii. Jacob Griego: I don't think they're connected to speakers. I think they just turn on, which is awkward.
 - iii. Soumyodipta Karmakar: Thank you, Council Chair. And for your kind words, I was like really emotional. That was great, actually. Okay, so hello, everyone. This is the last report of my term. I don't know whether I will be here or not. Anyway, so I would like to say a few things, like I will take a few minutes. So, first of all, I would like to thank our GPSA leaderships, like our President Travis, LSC Chair David, like Grants Director Bhawana, and. Okay, and the most important person, like the vice chair Charlotte. and without them, it would have been impossible to do this kind of work. And I would also like to thank the director of SAC Ryan. Like whenever I had any issues or I need any guidance, I always like messaged him and he was always there. So I'm really grateful for that. And also to all the finance committee members for their continuous contribution and support and all the council members as well, because



without your final approval, it would have been impossible to allocate this amount of money. Anyway, so I would like to go through like the achievement of progress we have done throughout this academic year. So I think I mentioned a few times. So like through the appropriation, we have given a lot of amount, like a lot of funds to all the CSOs. Like, for example, I put some notes there. So in last semester, Fall 205, we have allocated to 47 appropriations about around \$130K. It was like unprecedented. And this time after today's allocation, like we will allocate fund to 40 appropriations around \$76K. So all total, this academic year we will like, we will be allocating after this, \$200K+, \$206K, I say. [P] [SEP] So one important thing, like all the time we are kind of detached from the north campus, but I would like to mention like among around 97, appropriations, maximum are from law and medicine, so which was great. So they applied and we supported for their events, especially for their conferences, so it was great. So through the annual budget process for the next academic here, like I would first like to thank our vice chair because I was kind of absent. [P] [SEP] I was out of the country, so she totally handled the hearing and other stuff. I like handle the paperwork. So we allocated to around 18 bodies, including like decision making bodies like GPSA Executive, Council, Judicial branches, one service entity, the SAC publications and to 14 charter student organizations, which is kind of increased from the last year. [P] [SEP] Last year it was like six or seven CSOs, they applied for an annual budget. So all total, we have allocated around 255K, which was quite high from the last year. So like because we also increase the number of the maximum location. [P] [SEP] So these are allocations or fund we supported throughout this year. And what we have done, like I personally tried to like give some like inputs to the GPSA beyond the finance committee that is is like when I first got this position, I like going through the I was going through the what amount we have, what was the like leftovers, why we are not able to give that amount of money to all the CSOs, even though we are getting we have increased the GPSA fee. So first, what I discussed with our president, like to increased the salary of all the GPSA members from members to the director at chair. [P] [SEP] So thanks to president to listen to my request and went through that and increased everyone's like stipent. based on their contribution, right. So I'm really grateful. The Constitution, I like thanks to our LSC Chair and Council Chair, I give some opinion, like spaceships, the fixed percentage, like allocation from GPSA fee to PB



funds to grants and scholarships. ^[P]_[SEP]So that I revised because I saw, like, there were like lots of block unused money. So based on like previous year's allocation, I changed the PB funds. I increased the grant scholarships and changed the language so that graduate students will get benefited from that amount. ^[P]_[SEP]Recently, we have updated bylaws thanks again, our LSC Chair, and I attend it and I'm really careful they listened to my requests on everything. So we updated many parts, especially under finance. And also there I like I tried like to support grants. ^[P]_[SEP]So I change the languages so that whenever they need fund through appropriations, they can apply under executive branch and they will get fund to support graduate students to different kind of grants. Lastly, I would say, like, we have set a huge benchmark, the finance committee. So I believe the next finance committee will like go from this onward and try to give more, because that every academic year, the GPSA fee will be increased by too long. ^[P]_[SEP]So I believe, yeah, that much I would like to say, thank you again for everyone and I will come back after a few.

iv. Jacob Griego: Thank you.

b. Legislative Steering Committee: David Lonergan

i. Okay, so, next up is going to be the legislative steering committee.

However, I'm going to take a point of personal privilege and actually relinquish the microphone to David and then I'll take it back whenever I come back. So you're going to also chair for a minute.

ii. David Lonergan: Sounds good. Lots of responsibility. Well, I'm just going to stay down here since you all know me and you have heard me talk enough this semester. ^[P]_[SEP]I'll keep it short, but I do want to thank everybody for your help in getting both our constitutional amendments passed as well as our bylaws amendments passed. Literally, none of that could have happened without the support of council members like yourselves, whether you're on the LSC, like Marisa and Kodiak and Mason as well, or whether you're just a council member that sits in on these meetings and votes on the final bylaws after they've made it through LSC, you all are an extremely important part of this university, and I cannot stress that enough. You've been a massive help in getting the bylaws comprehensible, getting them updated to where they actually apply to our current situation. ^[P]_[SEP]And on top of that, making them reflect what actually has been happening over the last few years. The bylaws didn't reflect reality. In a lot of ways, the bylaws and some parts of the Constitution just



didn't reflect what actually happens on the grounds in GPSA, in the finance committee specifically, a lot of the things just didn't make sense temporarily. [P] [SEP] You couldn't do some things in the way that the bylaws mandated them to be done because it just didn't make sense with how the chain of events happened. So with the help of a lot of our members, as well as Soumyo, who very helpfully attended our last meeting for the bylaws revisions, and then Bhawana, our grants director, who submitted a very comprehensive bill for the grants code. [P] [SEP] We were able to really, really make a lasting change and something that I truly hope will last for years to come here. I think we've done a fantastic job of making everything future proof as much as we possibly can. Marisa, as I'm sure you will realize, coming into your new role as president, future proofing is not always future proof itself. [P] [SEP] So, yeah, I'm sure you will do a fantastic job in your role as president. I mean, I've seen how involved you are in the LSC, and I know you're going to take that involvement and that initiative into your new role. So I will leave you with this. [P] [SEP] I hope everybody has a phenomenal summer regardless of what you're doing, whether you're studying for the bar as three of us will be or working on future course work. you are all going to do amazing things and yeah, I swear, my arm is a paid actor. I don't know. I didn't know Jacob put anything in his speech about my injuries and this thing flared out this morning. [P] [SEP] So yeah, it's a paid actor. Thank you all for your support and your help and I will yield the floor.. And I will yield the gavel back to Jacob as he has returned from his personal privilege.

6. Action Items

- a. Jacob Griego: Thank you. So with that, we have no mandated items, no emergency items, no unfinished business. So that brings us to new business, finance.
- b. Mandated Items
 - i. None
- c. Emergency Items
 - i. None
- d. Unfinished Business
 - i. None
- e. New Business
 - i. Finance Committee



1. Jacob Griego: Finance Committee, you're up for the last appropriations of the academic year.
2. History, I saw you go first, so what is your motion?
3. Gavin Rogers: I motion to open the appropriations.
4. Jacob Griego: Was that a sweeping motion to open up all the appropriations?
5. Gavin Rogers: Yes.
6. Jacob Griego: All right. So there's a motion to open up. Okay, second by Chicax Studies. Any questions on the motion? Any discussion on the motion? All those in favor say aye. All those opposed say nay. Any abstentions. So just one abstention for now. Okay, so, motion passes regardless. So they're now all open.
7. Soumyodipta Karmakar: Thank you, concert chair. Hello, everyone. I came back. So this, in our last approbation cycle, we received approbation requestment from 13 appropriations, like from 13 CSOs, I would say. So the request for around 31K and we allocated by maintaining our standing rooms around 12K. So I will go one by one. ^[P]_[SEP] Thank you.
8. Appropriations
 - a. Appropriation#28S – American Institute of Architecture Students (AIAS)
 - i. the first one we received from American Institute of Architecture Students. So mainly, it was kind of a mixed appropriation. It's not an RDSA, so they have underground and grad. ^[P]_[SEP] So mainly the president submitted the appropriation and she applied for fund to attain a national leadership conference, Grassroots 2026, which will be held in Washington, D.C. So, and it is about 1 graduate student, about or. So we, as per our standing rules, we allocated the conference fees, then the second line item, we allocated for like mainly lodging. So that is like \$340 and lastly, it is like as per our standing rules, we allocated like maximum 75% of the airfare, which is \$377 So all total, we allocated \$1,023 to AIAS.
 - b. Appropriation#29S – Critical Care Interest Group (CCIG)

- i. Now, the next appropriation was from Critical Care Interest Group. And if I'm not wrong, this is a new student chartered organization. and they requested a very nominal amount, like they are planning to do two different kind of one-time small specific events like to attract all the graduate students to their new student association. ^[P]_[SEP]So mainly they are planning to do in the spring and summer. So that's why they, whatever they have requested like \$120 for one event and \$80 as far as standing rules, we allocated the full amount. So total \$201, we allocated to CCIG.
- c. Appropriation#30S – Latiné American Law Student Association (LALSA)
 - i. The next one from Latiné American Law Student Association. So they requested a lot of stuff, mainly supply and stuff and equipments. ^[P]_[SEP]So the first one, they requested about a printer and a pointer, so as far as standing rules, we allocated to 70%, there's line item 1. Then in line item two, they requested like different kind of operational materials, like cables and display holders and others. So we are allocated the full amount in line item two. So what we have done, like under office supplies, we can allocate at most \$150, but they used office supplies in line item two, seven and eight. ^[P]_[SEP]So we just summed it up and allocated the full amount in line item two and line item seven and eight we allocated zero. And line item 3 and four, they requested funds to create a banner by using their logo of different sizes. So we allocated like 70% to each one of them. ^[P]_[SEP]Then in line item 5, they requested for like promotional items, like stickers, badges, etcetera. So we allocated 70%. Line item six, they requested for like to print different kind. to be Sure
 - ii. Gavin Rogers: Can I request to make it a little larger? Thank you.

- iii. Soumyodipta Karmakar: So in line item six, they requested to print different stuff related to their associations. So we allocated the full amount, \$200 is the maximum. And line item 9, they requested for their general body meeting, like their planning. ^[P]_[SEP]So under food, we have allocated a full amount. And lastly, like the for supply costs related to food, like utensils, cleaning materials, etc. So we are allocated to 70% in line. ^[P]_[SEP]So all total, we allocated \$1,273 to LALSA.
 - d. Appropriation#31S – Campus Bike Club (CBC)
 - i. The next appropriation received from Campus Bike Club. So this is a new chartered student organization, so for like to advertise about their student organization, so they requested funds for their promotional items. ^[P]_[SEP]So that's why you can see. So what we have done similarly what we did last time, like we summed the whole amount, like \$125 and we allocated to 70% to line item one, because all under same promotional item, like same category as we allocated zero to line item 2. So all total, we allocated \$106 CBC.
 - e. Appropriation#32S – Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA)
 - i. The next appropriation we received from Latino Medical Student Association. So they requested fund to make a table cloth, like for their promotional events like tabling events. So we allocated the 70% of the requested amount and all total we allocated \$89 to LMSA.
 - f. Appropriation#33S – Graduate Art Association (GAA)
 - i. Next one is from Graduate Art Association. So they are planning like yearly event, like to attract all their graduate students. They named it Art History Symposium. ^[P]_[SEP]So it is an REDSA and they have around 70 graduate students in their department, but they requested for like around \$1,500, which is like

a large event. So we've verified it with them like what is the number of expected graduate students will be in the event. So they make sure like it will be around 70 at the most. And the like, as you know, like this amount we try to give to the graduate students, mostly, like not the undergrad and not the community members. We allow some portion, but not it should not be the maximum. So that's why we considered it as a small event and we allocated the maximum \$500 to GAA.

- g. Appropriation#34S – Native American Studies Graduate Collective (NASGC)
 - i. Now, the next appropriation we received from Native American Studies Graduate Collective, this is also an RDSA. So they are planning to attend a conference in the summer. It is like Native American and Indigenous Studies Association Conference in Chile in July. So they only requested for per diem for their graduate students who will attend. So as per of our standing rules, we have allocated the maximum \$1800 by maintaining our standing rules per conference. So yeah. So all total, we allocated \$1809 to NASGC.
- h. Appropriation#35S – Resolanas
 - i. Now, the next appropriation is from Resolanas. This is also a new chartered student organization and they came to our GPSA office to understand how to fill up their appropriation. They know nothing actually. So I tried to help them. So they are planning to do their first, like a get together event to promote about their association. So they just request requested for \$77 and we allocated the full amount of \$78 to Resolanas.
- i. Appropriation#36S – Graduate Students in Math and Statistics (GSMS)
 - i. The next appropriation we received from graduate students in math and statistics, this is also an RDSA

of Math Department. They are kind of inactive for a long, long time. You can see they don't have any representatives here as well. So our future council chair talked to them and requested them, like, to come. So they are planning to like make their RDSA more active in the upcoming semesters.

So as a first step, they requested like a \$200 to do like a get together event to tell all of their graduate students about their association. So we allocated the full amount, \$201 to GSMS.

j. Appropriation#37S – Cricket Club

- i. The next appropriation is from Cricket Club, so it's a sports kind of club. It is also a new chartered student organization. and they requested a lot of stuff related to cricket. Whoever knows about cricket, it is like very popular in South Asia, Africa, and even in Europe. So it is also becoming popular here as well. So they mainly request a lot of stuff related to that sports. But the number of graduate as graduate students associated to this club is very few. And this is a new chartered student organization, since the amount is very high, the request amount. So the whole fans committee discussed with them and tried to give a balanced amount because they also requested to ASUNM as well. So we maintain a balanced, like an allocated amount. So, for example, like a generally under supply costs and other, like where there is no specific maximum allocation mentioned in the standing group, so we generally gain up to 70%, but based on the very few number of graduate students. So what we have done for like line item one through three, we like first calculated the 70% of the quoted price and then allocated the 50% of that one. So 50% of 70% of that quoted. So that the whole finance committee decided that that would be a generous, like, uh by maintaining everything, the number of graduate

students and art stuff. ^[P]_[SEP]So they also requested like uniform, like jerseys, like vests. So we also followed the same way to allocate that amount. Line item 5 is about their general body meeting. ^[P]_[SEP]So line item five and six, more or less same, so we summed up and allocated like for four general body meetings for like in this semester and the summer. So 150 times four, it is \$600. And lastly, line item 7, we allocated the full amount, like under copying gen, like to print posters and flyers. ^[P]_[SEP]So all informations are public and all like the potations of those east lines items. So if you are interested in what kind of sports stuff they want to buy, you will see everything. Anyway.

k. Appropriation#38S – Immigration Law Student Association (ILSA)

- i. So the next appropriation is from Immigration Law Student Association. So they are planning to attend a conference in the summer to American Immigration Lawyers Association Annual Conference in California. So for that, they requested fund for their travel for two graduate students. ^[P]_[SEP]So we maintain our standing rules and we allocated the amount. So line item two is kind of different from their travel requests. It is they are planning to do a small event or general body event, like to gather all their graduate students. ^[P]_[SEP]So we allocated full amount. Line item 3 and 4 come under like lodging and meals. So we allocated the full amount to line item 3, so we made it like line item 4 zero and others are conference. ^[P]_[SEP]So total \$2,195 we are located to ILSA.

l. Appropriation#39S – International Law Society (ILS)

- i. Now, the next appropriation is from International Law Society. So like the graduate students who requested for immigration, so there was the same graduate student. So they are also planning to attend

a national international law conference. So they put it in that way in their appropriation anyway. So what happened here, so they couldn't understand. So this conference will be held in October, It's the next cycle, like fall. So they did not know about that because we, this is a semester specific, so appropriation is semester specific. ^[P]_[SEP]So we can only allocate a fund for this one or maybe immediate one. So if there's any conference in summer, we will also allocate. But not for fall, you have to apply like fall appropriation cycle. ^[P]_[SEP]So we did not allocate any fund to travel related, we only allocate fund to line item 2. It is kind of like they are planning altogether to attend an event related to their like association's mission or region. So that's why we allocated like 70% of them, \$1900. ^[P]_[SEP]And so it is kind of, they did not explain it properly. Either they are planning to attend or either they are like planning to rent a place. So our SGAO head told us allocate the fund under other operating costs.

- m. Appropriation#40S – Public Administration Graduate Student Association (PAGSA)
 - i. So the last but not the list of 2025-2026 academic year appropriations cycle So it is from Public Administrator Graduate Student Association, PAGSA it is also an RDSA. ^[P]_[SEP]So they requested fund for a lot of small specific events also for their general body meetings. So the first two is kind of a specific events for MPA related event, like MPA is a degree, I think masters in public administration. Then the next one is related to Masters of Health Administration, if I'm not wrong. ^[P]_[SEP]So we allocated a full amount because it is maintained like satisfying our standing rules. The line item 3 is related to their general body meetings. We allocated the full amount. ^[P]_[SEP]Line item 4 is about like they were thinking to give away T- shirts So we which is

like violating our anti-donation policy, so we did not allocate any fund to line 4. Line item 5 is about like stickers, badges, small promotional stuff, so we allocated 70%. And line item six is they are planning, like that means that their graduate members of their association. ^[P]_[SEP]Altogether, they will go to attend a baseball match there. So we like support this kind of like initiatives. So we allocated like 70% for their event fee. ^[P]_[SEP]So if they buy the tickets to attend the Isotopes games altogether as a group. So we can allocate it. It is a good thing to tell you, all of you that if your association is planning to attend anything kind of, like events as a group to promote their groups and et cetera. ^[P]_[SEP]So you can request money. So anyway, so all total \$847, we allocated to PAGSA.

- n. Soumyodipta Karmakar: So by, like this in this appropriate April 226 appropriation cycle, we have allocated \$11,816 to 13 appropriations. Thank you everybody.
- o. Jacob Griego: All right. Are there any questions on any of the appropriations? Is there any discussion on any of the appropriations? ^[P]_[SEP]Seeing none we'll do our last role call vote.
 - i. American Studies, Hennessy Star - Abstain
 - ii. Chicax Studies, Charlotte Auh - Aye
 - iii. Economics, Ziqing Xie - Aye
 - iv. Electrical and Computer Engineering, Milan Joshi - Aye
 - v. History, Gavin Rogers - Aye
 - vi. Law, Mason Leachman - Aye
 - vii. Law, Luisa Garcia-Teran - Aye
 - viii. Law, Vivan Tsai - Abstain
 - ix. Medicine, Julie Emeanuwa - Aye
 - x. Medicine, Roni Parrales - Aye
 - xi. Native American Studies, Marisa Page - Aye
 - xii. Occupational Therapy, Deandra Sisneros - Aye
 - xiii. Sociology, Kodiak Ly - Aye



- p. Appropriations #28S-#40S passed via roll call vote (11 y 0 n 2 abstentions)
 - q. Jacob Griego: With 11 ayes and two abstention, the motion passes, and all of these are to be signed into a law once the president signs on. So thank you, Soumyo.
 - ii. Legislative Steering Committee
 - 1. Jacob Griego: Legislative Steering Committee has no business because we took care of all of it last week. And with that, we are going to move into council announcements.
- 7. Council Announcements
 - a. Chicax Studies, Charlotte Auh - Chicana/o Studies, no announcements, but thank you all for a great semester. And if you're graduating, congratulations and if you're not graduating, I'll see you next semester. Here, right? Okay.
 - b. Economics, Ziqing Xie - Economics, no announcement, and I'm really well, I actually missed quite of the few meetings due to my hand injury, but I'm really happy to be back. and it looks like I'm going to be here for the next semester, so I hope to see you all. Thank you so much.
 - c. Electrical and Computer Engineering, Milan Joshi - I don't have any announcement from ECEGSA.
 - d. History, Gavin Rogers - HDSA, no announcements.
 - e. Law, Luisa Garcia-Teran - Law, no announcements, but thank you, Jacob and David for all your hard work.
 - f. Medicine, Julie Emeanuwa - I'm Julia Emeanuwa, medicine. I thank you all for being here. Thank you, Jacob, and I'm so sorry for missing a few meetings.. Thank you, Travis, for being a great president. I'm sorry. I can only come to like one meeting per semester because it's the only one that lines up with my schedule, but I'm glad to be here. And congratulations to who's graduating this year. Thank you.
 - g. Native American Studies, Marisa Page - I have a couple of announcements, but thank you, everybody, for all your leadership. Thank you, Travis. Thank you, Grants. Thank you, Finance. Thank you, Joseph. Thank you, Ryan. So I brought a little bit or a little something for everybody here. But yeah, and congratulations to everybody who's graduating. And I look forward to being here next year and seeing most of you guys, or hopefully most of you guys. So thank you. That's, I guess I only had one real announcement, but please come to me after, because I'll give it.



9. Adjourn
 - a. Meeting adjourned at 12:14 PM.