



GPSA Finance Committee September 2026 Meeting Minutes

1) Call to Order:

- i. The meeting began at 6:05 PM and was presided over by Finance Chair Soumyodipta Karmakar.
- ii. Roll Call:
 - i) Chair: Soumyodipta Karmakar (Non-voting member except in case of tie)
 - ii) Vice-Chair: Bhawana Kafle – Voting Member
 - iii) Member: Xiaoxuan (Shane) Li – Voting Member
 - iv) Member: Hope Smith – Voting Member
 - v) Member: Refat Mishuk – Voting Member
 - vi) Member: Nikhil Sain – Voting Member
 - vii) Member: Payal Banarjee – Voting Member
 - viii) Member: Rymer Hewitt – Voting Member – Absent
- iii. Quorum was established (7 out of 8 FC members present at roll call).
- iv. The agenda was adopted by motion (Motion to approve agenda – Moved by Hope, seconded by Bhawana. Motion passed unanimously).
- v. [Indigenous People's Land & Territory Acknowledgement](#) was read into the record by Bhawana.

2) Opening Business:

- i. Approval of Minutes: [August minutes](#) approved (moved by Bhawana seconded by Refat, approved unanimously)
- ii. Media, Gallery, and Public Comment: Council Chair Charlotte Auh shared that Rymer will no longer be able to serve on the Finance Committee. If you know anyone who might be interested or has any recommendations, please let her know.

3) Officer Reports:

- i. Finance Committee Members Report: None
- ii. Vice Chair Report: None



- iii. Karl: We have a total budget of \$100,000 for Fall 2026. Since we have already approved several requests, please be mindful of the remaining funds and spend wisely so we can continue supporting student organizations throughout the semester. Thank you!
- iv. Chair Report: Please follow the standing rules for appropriations. The preliminary screening has been completed, but we can still propose amendments and suggest changes as needed.

4) Business:

- i. Old Business: None
- ii. New Business
 - i. September 2026 Appropriation Requests
 - 1. Sweeping motion to open all appropriations on September 15, 2026, agenda – Refat moved, Payal seconded. Motion passed unanimously
 - 2. [Appropriation#8F](#) – Ear, Nose, and Throat (ENT) Interest Group
 - a. Line item 158 recommended at 0, motion raised by Refat, seconded by hope.
 - b. Line item 183 recommended at full amount.
 - c. Line item 208 recommended at full amount.
 - 3. [Appropriation#9F](#) – Graduate Association of Students of Psychology (GASP)
 - a. Line item 90 recommended at \$0, motion moved by Refat and seconded by Shane
 - b. Line item 158 recommended at full amount.
 - c. Line item 159 recommended at \$249 motion moved Hope and seconded by Refat.
 - 4. [Appropriation#10F](#) – Physics and Astronomy Graduate Student Association (PANDA GSA)
 - a. Line item 158 recommended for full amount.
 - b. Line item 159 recommended at \$70, motion moved by Refat and approved by Hope.

- c. Line item 183 recommended for full item.
 - d. Line item 184 recommended at \$14 motion moved by Payal and seconded by Shane.
5. [Appropriation#11F](#) – Women in Physics, Astro, Optics (WiPAO)
- a. Line item 83 recommended at full amount.
 - b. Line item 158 recommended at full amount.
 - c. Line item recommended at \$140, motion moved by Hope and seconded by Refat.
 - d. Line item 183 recommended at full amount.
 - e. Line item 184 recommended at \$140, motion moved by Refat seconded by Hope.
6. [Appropriation#12F](#) – Latiné American Law Student Association (LALSA)
- a. Line item 67 recommended at full amount.
 - b. Line item 68 recommended at \$434, motion moved by Hope and seconded by Payal.
 - c. Line item 70 recommended at full amount.
 - d. Line item 71 recommended at \$140, motion moved by Nikhil and seconded by Payal.
 - e. Line item 75 recommended at \$0, motion moved by Payal and seconded by Shane.
 - f. Line item 83 recommended at recommended at \$0, motion moved by Bhawana and seconded by Nikhil.
 - g. Line item 87 recommended at \$140, motion moved by Shane seconded by Hope.
 - h. Line item 90 recommended at \$0, motion moved by Nikhil and seconded by Shane.
 - i. Line item 91 recommended at recommended at \$140, motion moved by Refat and seconded by Hope.
 - j. Line item 92 recommended at \$0, motion moved by Refat, seconded by Nikhil.



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- k. Line item 183 recommended at \$1000, motion moved by Refat and seconded by Shane.
 - l. Line item 184 recommended at \$140, motion moved by Hope and seconded by Refat.
 - m. Line item 185 recommended at \$315, motion moved by Hope and seconded by Refat.
 - n. Line item 188 recommended at recommended at \$0, motion moved by Shane, seconded by Nikhil.
 - o. Line item 208 recommended at \$496, motion moved by Hope and seconded by Shane.
- 7. [Appropriation#13F](#) – History of Medicine Interest Group (HoMIG)
 - a. i. Line item 67 recommended at \$600, motion moved by Bhawana and seconded by Hope.
- 8. [Appropriation#14F](#) – Bangladesh Student Association at University of New Mexico (BSAUNM)
 - a. Line item 67 recommended at \$416, motion moved by Hope and seconded by Shane.
 - b. Line item 70 recommended at \$200, moved by Nikhil and seconded by Hope
 - c. Line item 84 recommended at \$0, motion moved by Payal and seconded by Shane
 - d. Line item 158 recommended at \$1000, motion moved by Nikhil and seconded by Shane.
 - e. Line item 160 recommended at \$263, motion moved by Hope and seconded by Shane.
 - f. Line item 163 recommended at \$105, motion moved by Hope and seconded by Shane.
 - g. Line item 183 recommended at \$0, motion moved by Hope and seconded by Shane.
 - h. Line item 184 recommended at \$25, motion moved by Hope and seconded by Nikhil.



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- i. Line item 208 recommended at \$1000, motion moved by Shane and seconded by Nikhil
 - j. Line item 209 recommended at \$105, motion moved by Nikhil and seconded by Shane
 - k. Line item 210 recommended at \$200, motion moved by Nikhil and seconded by Shane
 - l. Line item 213 recommended at \$140, motion moved by Hope and seconded by Nikhil
 - m. Line item 214 recommended at \$140, motion moved by Hope and seconded by Shane
 - n. Line item 215 recommended at \$88, motion moved by Nikhil and seconded by Payal.
9. [Appropriation#15F](#) – American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME)
 - a. Motion to table 15F, motion moved by Nikhil seconded by Hope
 - b. Motion to untable 15F, motion moved by Nikhil and seconded by Hope
 - c. Line item 112 recommended at \$300, motion moved by Nikhil and seconded by Payal
 - d. Line item 114 recommended at \$386, motion moved by Refat and seconded by Hope
 - e. Line item 115 recommended at \$62, motion moved by Hope and seconded by Nikhil.
 - f. Line item 117 recommended at \$510, motion moved by Hope and seconded by Shane
 - g. Line item 118 recommended at \$126, motion moved by Shane and seconded by Hope.
10. [Appropriation#16F](#) – Intellectual Property (IP) Society
 - a. Motion to table 16F, motion moved by Nikhil seconded by Shane
11. [Appropriation#17F](#) – Nepali Students Association (NSA)

- a. Line item 67 recommended at \$0, motion moved by Hope and seconded by Payal.
 - b. Line item 68 recommended at \$105, motion moved by Payal and seconded by Hope
 - c. Line item 70 recommended at \$0, motion moved by Shane and seconded by Nikhil
 - d. Line item 71 recommended at \$105, motion moved by Nikhil and seconded by Hope
 - e. Line item 158 recommended at \$500, motion moved by Payal and seconded by Hope
 - f. Line item 159 recommended at \$105, motion moved by Refat and seconded by Hope.
 - g. Line item 161 recommended at \$350, motion moved by Nikhil and seconded by Hope
 - h. Line item 183 recommended at \$1000, motion moved by Nikhil and seconded by Bhawana
 - i. Line item 184 recommended at \$35, motion moved by Refat and seconded by Payal
 - j. Line item 185 recommended at \$350, motion moved by Hope and seconded by Shane
 - k. Line item 186 recommended at \$175, motion moved by Shane and seconded by Hope
12. [Appropriation#18F](#) – Gender and Reproductive Rights Law Student Society (GRRLSS)
- a. Line item 67 recommended at full amount.
 - b. Line item 70 recommended at full amount.
 - c. Line item 71 recommended at \$105 moved by hope and seconded by Shane.
 - d. Line item 90 recommended at \$0, motion moved by Nikhil and seconded by Hope.
13. [Appropriation#19F](#) – American Civil Liberties Union - University of New Mexico School of Law Chapter (ACLU-UNM)

- a. Line item 67 recommended at full amount.
 - b. Line item 70 recommended at full amount.
 - c. Line item 71 recommended at \$105, motion moved by Hope and seconded by Nikhil
 - d. Line item 90 recommended at \$0, motion moved by Refat and seconded by Hope
14. [Appropriation#20F](#) – First In Medicine (FIM)
- a. Line item 67 recommended at full amount.
15. [Appropriation#21F](#) – Public Administration Graduate Student Association (PAGSA)
- a. Line item 67 recommended at \$0, motion moved by Nikhil and seconded by Refat
 - b. Line item 70 recommended at \$0, motion moved by Nikhil and seconded by Shane
 - c. Line item 78 recommended at \$0, motion moved by Refat and seconded by Payal
 - d. Line item 83 recommended at \$0, motion moved by Refat and seconded by Shane
 - e. Line item 158 recommended at Full amount.
 - f. Line item 183 recommended at full amount.
16. Motion to make recess at 8:25, motion moved by Hope and seconded by Nikhil for 5 min.
17. Motion to resume the recess at 8:30 moved by Refat and seconded by Shane
18. [Appropriation#22F](#) – Student American Society of Landscape Architects (SASLA)
- a. Motion to table appropriation 22F, motion moved by Hope and seconded by Shane.
19. [Appropriation#23F](#) – Chicana Studies Graduate Student Association (X-GSA)
- a. Line item 67 recommended at \$0, motion moved by Nikhil, seconded by Payal.

- b. Line item 71 recommended at \$88, motion moved by Shane, seconded by Hope
 - c. Line item 83 recommended at \$0, motion moved by Refat, seconded by Hope.
 - d. Line item 158 recommended at full amount.
- 20. [Appropriation#24F](#) – Anthropology Graduate Student Union (AGSU)
 - a. Line item 158 recommended at \$1000, motion moved by Shane and seconded by Refat
 - b. Line item 159 recommended at \$140, motion moved by Refat and seconded by Hope
- 21. [Appropriation#25F](#) – Badminton Club at UNM (Feather Flyers)
 - a. Line item 67 recommended at \$387, motion moved by Refat and seconded Shane
 - b. Line item 158 recommended at full amount
 - c. Line item 159 recommended at \$270, motion moved by Shane and seconded by Refat
- 22. [Appropriation#26F](#) – Business Law Society (BLS (UNM))
 - a. Motion to Table Appropriation 26F, motioned moved by Nikhil, and seconded Hope
- 23. [Appropriation#27F](#) – Hispanic Engineering and Science Organization (HESO)
 - a. Line item 67 recommended at full amount.
 - b. Line item 71 recommended at \$105, motion moved by Nikhil and seconded by Shane
 - c. Line item 72 recommended at full amount.
 - d. Line item 75 recommended at \$385, motion moved by Refat and seconded by Shane
 - e. Line item 79 recommended at \$0, motion moved by Nikhil and seconded by Refat
 - f. Line item 80 recommended at \$0, motion moved by Nikhil and seconded Refat

- g. Line item 83 recommended at Full amount
 - h. Line item 87 recommended at \$70, motion moved by Hope and seconded by Payal
 - i. Line item 90 recommended at \$91, motion moved by Hope and seconded by Shane
 - j. Line item 92 recommended at \$96, motion moved by Hope and seconded by Nikhil
 - k. Line item 112 recommended at \$900, motion moved by Payal and seconded by Shane
 - l. Line item 113 recommended at \$1275, motion moved by Nikhil and seconded by Hope
 - m. Line item 114 recommended at \$850, motion moved by Nikhil and seconded by Refat
 - n. Line item 115 recommended at \$56, motion moved by Refat and seconded by Hope
 - o. Line item 118 recommended at \$198, motion moved by Refat and seconded by Hope
 - p. Line item 158 recommended at \$500, motion moved by Shane and seconded by Refat
 - q. Line item 159 recommended at \$140, motion moved by Nikhil and seconded by Shane
 - r. Line item 161 recommended at \$140, motion moved by Hope and seconded by Payal
24. [Appropriation#28F](#) – Animal Legal Defense Fund
University of New Mexico Student Chapter (ALDF UNM)
- a. Line item 112 recommended at full amount.
 - b. Line item 114 recommended at \$1851, motion moved by Shane and seconded by Refat
 - c. Line item 114 recommended at \$1720, motion moved by Nikhil and seconded by Refat
 - d. Line item 117 recommended at full amount.
 - e. Line item 136 recommended at \$1494, motion moved by Refat and seconded by Shane



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- f. Line item 139 recommended at full amount.
- g. Line item 158 recommended at \$0, motion moved by Nikhil and seconded by Refat
- h. Line item 163 recommended at \$105, motion moved by Hope and seconded by Refat
- i. Line item 183 recommended at Full amount
- j. Line item 188 recommended at full amount.
- k. Line-item 208 recommended full amount
- l. Line item 213 recommended at full amount.

25. [Appropriation#29F](#) – Economic Graduate Student Organization (EGSO)

- a. Line item 114 recommended at \$3000, motion moved by Hope and seconded by Shane
- b. Line item 113 recommended at \$1800, motion moved by Shane and seconded by Nikhil
- c. Line item 112 recommended at \$900, motion moved by Shane and seconded by Nikhil
- d. Line item 119 recommended at \$0 Motion moved by Shane and Seconded by Nikhil

26. Sweeping motion made by Hope by seconded by Refat, unanimously approved

5) Closing

- i. SGAO Comment – Today we have allocated around \$41,194 to 19 appropriations requests. For the Fall 2026 semester, we had \$100,000 for appropriation requests, and as of now we have already allocated around \$67,989 to 26 appropriation requests. Now we have around \$32,011 for the rest of the semester. So, as we move forward, let's be mindful of our remaining funds and make thoughtful decisions to ensure we can support students throughout the rest of the semester.
- ii. Committee Member Comments – None.
- iii. Vice-Chair Comments – Thanked the finance committee.
- iv. Chair Comment – Thanks members for their hard work.



v. Meeting adjourned at 9:42 PM.

6) Chair's Post Meeting Note (for Council Public Comment):

- ii. Per Article XI, 2 (Posting of Minutes) of the initially approved Fall 2026 GPSA Finance Standing Rules, these minutes are posted as a DRAFT and are pending approval by the Finance Committee at its next regular meeting.