

**Graduate & Professional Student Association (GPSA)
Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 7, 2008 @ 10:00 a.m.
UNLV Student Union Room 222**

Members Present: Ryan Enlow (Proxy – Business), Katrina Harris (Education), Behrang Pakzadeh (Proxy – Engineering), Brian Marsh (Fine Arts), Sonia Randolph (Health Sciences), Michael Pius (Proxy – Hotel Administration), Colin Robins (Science), Jessica Lucero (President).

Members Absent: Tom Steiner (Liberal Arts), Gary McCormick (Urban Affairs), Heather Lusty (Vice President), Suzanne Becker (Treasurer), Candace Griffith (Secretary).

Others Present: Rebecca Boulton (GPSA Manager)

I. Roll Call:

The GPSA Council Meeting, held in the Student Union, Room 222, was called to order by President Lucero Monday at 10:00 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes:

President Lucero presented the minutes from the June council meeting and passed on motion made by Colin Robins (Science) and seconded by Katrina Harris (Education).

III. Speaker(s):

President Lucero stated that State Senator Dina Titus was unable to attend and went on to say that Senator Titus intended to discuss the state budget crisis. Katrina Harris (Education) noted that the state legislative contact information and information regarding the state budget is available on the GPSA website @ <http://gpsa.unlv.edu/Activism.htm>. President Lucero added that the legislative economic summit is held in December and then there after are 120 days to decide on the budget. In May 2009 the budget is then fine tuned. In the state's next biennium, 2009-2011, a 14% budget reduction has been proposed for state agencies. In the current biennium there was a 4.5% budget reduction, and with the recent special legislative session, state agencies received an additional 3.3 % reduction. Colin Robins (Science) mentioned the possibility of using the "rainy day" fund as a source of bailing out of this budget crisis. President Lucero remarked that increasing taxes are viewed negatively by the governor.

IV. Budget Report:

President Lucero explained due to Treasurer Becker's absence, she is attending at an international conference in Spain, Manager Boulton would give the monthly budget report. Manager Boulton detailed the changes this month in the budget indicated in the following expense lines: line 15 & 16: June wages and fringe benefits for the GPSA office staff and stipends for spring GPSA council members; line 21: Out-of-state travel expenses – no changes; line 30: operational costs - reflected are expenditures for the Xerox maintenance contract and routine office supplies and Treasurer Becker traveled to Reno for the Board of Regent meeting, June 11 - 13. Hence, travel expenses were incurred. VT (Voluntary Transfer Out) - this line is reflective of the grant money that has been transferred to the GPSA grant recipients for this year. Revenue lines: line 68: \$190,692.74 is the revenue that has been generated this fiscal year, by incoming student fees and line 79 is for the sale of items in the GPSA Lounge (snacks, water, CD-ROMs, Xerox copies, etc.). She added that to date \$2812.50 has been generated. President Lucero asked for a motion to file the budget for audit. Katrina Harris (Education) made the motion, Michael

Pius (Hotel Administration) seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

V. **Committee Reports:**

Grant Committee: President Lucero announced that Vice President Lusty was out of the country teaching at UNLV's Singapore campus. She went on to report \$500 was awarded to one grant applicant and that the summer emergency funds had been depleted. Colin Robins (Science) asked when would funding be available. Manager Boulton responded that funding will be available for those individuals that have been accepted to present at conferences during the fall semester. Michael Pius (Hotel Administration) asked what how emergency funds worked. Manager Boulton stated that they are funds available to those students that were accepted to conferences after the regular grant deadline has passed.

Activities Committee: President Lucero mentioned that the informal June Social held at Carnival Court was small but fun was had by all.

Board of Regents: President Lucero noted that Treasurer Becker attended the June 13 -14 meeting held at the Truckee Meadows Community College in Reno, NV.

VI. **Old Business:** President Lucero asked the council to break into small groups and for each to brainstorm three GPSA goals for the upcoming 2008-09 academic year. Discussion commenced and then the groups reconvened. The goals have been attached and will be made available online @ <http://gpsa.unlv.edu/council.htm> President Lucero stated that these goals would be compiled and voted on for approval at the August meeting and then presented at the first fall council meeting for approval as well.

VII. **New Business:** None

VIII. **Announcements:**

- President Lucero asked for a moment of silence for the tragic passing of three UNLV international graduate students: Yi Ding, College of Business; Di Qu; Department of Mathematical Sciences; and Xueling Liang Department of Electrical And Computer Engineering. She added that donations for the victims can be made online at: www.unlvcssa.net
- Michael Pius (Hotel Administration) announced he is teaching a one credit *Golf for Business and Life* (RLS 101) class and wanted to encourage all to attend and spread the word. He noted that the class is taught during the fall, spring and summer semesters. During the fall semester is meets twice a week and is 50 minutes long.
- Katrina Harris (Education) inquired if volunteers were still need for the upcoming TLC orientation workshop held August 19th and 20th. Lucero responded that help was needed in the morning at 7:30 each day to assist with registration. Also, on the 20th volunteers are needed in the afternoon from 12:30 -1:30 to handout certificates of completion. Ryan Enlow (Business) asked for those attending the TLC orientation if attendance is mandatory for both days. President Lucero responded that some departments had exempted their students from attending both days so it is best to check with your department.

IX. **Public Comment:** None

X. **Adjournment:** President Lucero asked for a motion for adjournment. Brian Marsh (Fine Arts) made a motion while Katrina Harris (Education) seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.