

2-18-2011

GPSA Council Meeting, 2/18/2011

Graduate and Professional Student Association

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GPSA Constitutional Committee
Friday, February 18, 3-8 pm

- Committee edited definitions section, deciding on what terms to define and how they would be defined
- Committee finished edited the Executive article

Definitions

ARTICLE IX. DEFINITIONS

These definitions are the working definitions for the GPSA Constitution and shall apply throughout.

ARTICLE I.

ARTICLE II.

ARTICLE III. LEGISLATIVE

ARTICLE V. FINANCE

ARTICLE VI. Elections

ARTICLE VII. Amendments

ARTICLE VIII. Referenda

Currently in Constitution

Academic Day^{2,3,6,8} - Any day in which the University has regularly scheduled classes, unless specifically noted otherwise. This excludes holidays and days which the university is closed, or partially closed due to exigent circumstances.

*Academic Semester*³ **The periods of time that compose the first and last days of the fall and spring semesters, when the GPSA Council is in session.**

Academic year^{2,3,6,9}

*Academic Year*_c - Academic year shall be defined as the year starting the first day of the fall semester through the day proceeding the first day of the subsequent fall semester.

*Academic Year*₆ - the dates between and including the first day of the Fall Semester and the last day of the Spring Semester according to the University of New Mexico's academic calendar

*Amendment*₆ - a change to the GPSA Constitution

*Amendment*₇(duplicate)

*Anticipated Revenue*₅ - Anticipated aggregate sum of GPSA fees to be incurred in the following fiscal year as determined by SGAO.

*Audit*₅ - [check with sgao on proper "terminology"]

*Ballot*₆ - the list of candidates and issues to be voted on in an election

*balloting material*_c- Any material relating to balloting. These may include voter sign-in sheets, ballot boxes, ballots, or anything else that is defined by the Elections Committee.

*Board of Regents*_{1,2,3,7} - the governing body of the University of New Mexico, appointed by the Governor in accordance with state law

*Board of Regents*₇ (duplicate)

*New Mexico Board of Regents*₂ – Governor appointed board of community members and students who are responsible for the assets and programs of the University, establishment of goals and policies and guide the University and oversight of the functioning of the University.

*Budget Revisions*₅

*Business Day*_{no where}

*business days*_c- This shall mean the days Monday through Friday with the exception of University holidays and student recesses. From the last day of the fall semester until the first day of the spring semester and from the last day of the spring semester until the start of the fall semester shall not be considered business days for the purpose of counting in a recall election.

*business days*_c- This shall mean the days Monday through Friday with the exception of University holidays. From the last day of the fall semester until the first day of the spring semester and from the last day of the spring semester until the start of the fall semester shall not be considered business days for the purpose of counting days to administer in a recall election. **(Should we just consider changing all business days to academic days)**

*Business Week*_{no where} **(Same as above define academic week as any week where classes are scheduled for more than three days)**

*Bylaws (GPSA Bylaws)*_{2,3,4,5,6,8} - active legislative supplement to the GPSA Constitution, which must not violate the Constitution but may further elaborate GPSA law

*Calendar Day*_{no where}- Any day within a year, regardless of weekend, holiday, or University circumstance.

*Calendar Week*_{2,3,4} **ANY WEEK WITHIN THE YEAR, REGARDLESS OF HOLIDAY OR UNIVERSITY CIRCUMSTANCE.**

*Chair (Committee Chair, Council Chair)*_{2,3,4,6} - the administrative head of a particular body (committee, the Council)

*Code (Election Code)*_{4(code of conduct)6} - the GPSA Bylaws particularly concerning GPSA election law

Committee^{2,3,4,6,8} - a group vested with powers in accordance with the GPSA Constitution and Bylaws for the purposes of effective governance, subordinate to the appropriate branch of government, composed and accountable according to the GPSA Constitution

*Constituents*₃ **PERSONS WHO AUTHORIZE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES TO ACT AS AN AGENT**

Constitution ^{2,3,4,5,6,7,8}- the [this?] instituting document of the Graduate and Professional Student Association of the University of New Mexico[, and the organization's ultimate legislative authority?]

Council ^{2,3,4,5,6,7,8}- the primary legislative body of GPSA, composed of the Council Representatives and Council Chair, WHO ACT in accordance with the GPSA Constitution and Bylaws

Council General Fund (General Fund)^{2,3} - The fund in which all reverted monies are transferred to and which is used for appropriations through the academic year. The Finance Committee oversees the Council General Fund with consent of the Council.
*General Fund – (duplicate)*₅

Council Representative ⁷- a voting member of the GPSA Council who serves at the discretion of his/her respective graduate student association

Council Representative (Representative) ³ - A voting member of the GPSA Council that has been properly selected and approved by their respective department and submitted the necessary credential forms to the Council in accordance to all GPSA law.

Current UNM Enrollment report ⁸ – REPORT THAT DETERMINES GPSA COUNCIL REPRESENTATION AND PB FUND ALLOCATION AS WELL AS TOTAL GPSA MEMBERSHIP.

Elections Committee ⁶ - the standing executive committee responsible for preparing, promoting, holding, and ensuring fair elections in accordance with the GPSA Constitution and Bylaws

Ex officio – COMMITTEE MEMBER WHO IS PART OF IT BECAUSE HE/SHE HOLDS ANOTHER OFFICE

Executive Board ² – Committee composed of the President, Standing Committee chairs and representatives from each of the schools and colleges.

Fee (GPSA fee) ¹- the amount charged of each graduate and professional student by the University of New Mexico for the purpose of graduate and professional student governance

Finance Committee – LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ALLOCATION OF ALL GPSA FUNDS

Financial Enjoinment ⁵ - A legislative action issued that prohibits a student group from engaging in any financial activities with the use of GPSA funds.

General Election ⁷- the annual election of the GPSA President, during which other ballot issues may be presented to the voting members

General Election (duplicate) ⁶

GPSA Election ^c- An election called by the GPSA Constitution or Council. These shall include the General Election, the Council Chair Election, Special Issue Election, or Recall Election.

GPSA fee ⁵- A fee levied upon all graduate and professional students that is distributed to GPSA.

GPSA Law ⁵

Graduate and Professional Student ¹ - a person enrolled in a graduate degree or professional license granting department or program of the University of New Mexico

The Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA) ³- The graduate and professional student body of the University of New Mexico main campus.

The Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA) _c - The graduate and professional student body and its representative government.

GRD ²- The Graduate Research Development Grant, set up to assist larger projects that require substantial funding. Students may receive up to \$3000 per academic year, \$5000 if the research is conducted with a New Mexico state agency.

Leave of absence – A PERIOD OF TIME WHEN A GPSA EXECUTIVE IS AWAY FROM HIS/HER PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY, WHILE STILL HOLDING POSITION.

Legislative Finance Committee (Finance Committee) ₅ - Constitutionally protected legislative committee that possesses the authority to review and revise all financial actions of GPSA through the consent of the Council.

Majority Vote ³- A vote in which more than fifty percent (50%) of the votes are cast in the affirmative.

***Measure* – A LEGISLATIVE BILL**

Meeting _c - For a recognized meeting to occur, Council, Boards, and Committees of the GPSA shall meet all requirements of the New Mexico Open Meeting Law. At the beginning of each term, the GPSA Council shall adopt an Open Meeting Act resolution. Unless otherwise defined in this document, all meeting of the GPSA shall be conducted according to the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

Meeting (Council Meeting) ₇ - a scheduled or special gathering of the GPSA Council in which a quorum of Council Representatives conduct legislative business

Meeting (Council Meeting) ₆ (duplicate)

GPSA Member (Member) ₃ - Any student enrolled in a graduate or professional degree seeking program at the University of New Mexico, main campus, and who has paid the GPSA fee for the current semester.

Member (GPSA Member) ₇ - a graduate and professional student who has paid the fee and has not resigned (relinquished membership?)

Member (GPSA Member) ₆(duplicate)

Member of GPSA _c- Any graduate or professional student enrolled at The University of New Mexico who has paid the GPSA fee for that semester.

1. Summer Semester: Continuing Graduate or Professional students who paid the GPSA fee in the Spring semester shall be considered GPSA members during the Summer semester.
2. Voluntary Resignation: Upon presentation to the GPSA Office of a written request, any GPSA Member may resign from the GPSA. Such voluntary

resignation shall not affect the obligation to continue paying the GPSA fee in future semesters.

a. All fees collected from persons who have resigned GPSA Member status shall be fully deposited in the SRAC account.

b. Persons who have voluntarily resigned from the GPSA shall lose all privileges and benefits of GPSA Member status.

c. Any person who has voluntarily resigned may once again become a GPSA Member by submitting a written request to the GPSA Office.

Official representative (COULD THIS BE CONSIDERED A DUPLICATE OF REPRESENTATIVE?)

Organization c- Any graduate group which meets the chartering requirements of The University of New Mexico.

Organization 1- The Graduate and Professional Student Association of the University of New Mexico

Plurality (?) 6- more than fifty percent (50%) of a designated group of voters (50% plus one?)

President's Education Grant₂- Shall remit up to twelve (12) resident, graduate tuition hours per semester at the rates published by the Bursar's Office. The President shall also receive Graduate Student Employee Health Insurance, on the plan offered by the Office of Graduate Studies with Assistantships.

Pro-Rated Benefits Fund (PB Funds)₅ - Grants of pro-rated benefits that are provided to Recognized Departmental Student Associations upon proper request each year to GPSA.

Proxy Vote – A VOTE THAT IS CAST ON BEHALF OF A REPRESENTATIVE BY ANOTHER PERSON.

recall election_c- The Elections Committee shall follow the format of a Special Issue Election for its administration, but follow the prescribed deadlines.

*Recognized Departmental Student Association c-*The organization empowered to certify representatives to the Council and to receive Pro-Rated Benefit (PB) Funds. Requirements for Recognized Departmental Student Association status are described in Section V.C.2.b.(i) through V.C.2.b.(iv) of this document.

Recognized Graduate Departmental Student Associations (RDSA) 5- The primary student association of each department OR SCHOOL? as recognized by GPSA that is eligible for PB Funds for their respective department.

Referendum 6- a legislative initiative put to popular vote in a general or special election

Referendum (pl. Referenda)₈ -

Semester 1- either the Fall or Spring academic term as determined by the academic calendar of the University of New Mexico [summer term]

Semester 3- To extend from the first day of classes in either spring or fall and conclude on the Friday of the scheduled finals week.

Semester 6 (duplicate)

Session – THE TIME BETWEEN THE START OF THE FALL SEMESTER AND THE END OF THE SPRING SEMESTER, WHEN GPSA COUNCIL IS IN SESSION.

Special Election 3- an election other than the annual general election called for a particular purpose, including recall of the President and referenda

SRAC 2– Student Research Allocation Committee Grant. Students may receive \$500 per academic year to fund research relevant to the applicant’s field.

ST 2– Specialized Travel Grant. Students may receive up to \$500 per academic year for expenses related to travel for interviews, mock-trials, auditions and conferences at which the student is not presenting his or her own research.

Standing Committee 2– Committees required by the GPSA Constitution to function on a year-to-year basis.

Statute 8

Student Fee Review Board (SFRB) 2– Advisory board that recommends the distribution of the student activity fee in the University budget.

Student Government Accounting Office (SGAO) 5- [check for proper and defined “role” from sgao]

Student Research Allocation Committee (SRAC) Endowment 3 - [look for clear description-SGAO?]

Term 3– one academic year, or part there of.

This Document c- shall refer to the integrated Constitution, and Codes and Bylaws of the Graduate and Professional Student Association of The University of New Mexico.

University (UNM) 1- The University of New Mexico

University (UNM) 3- The University of New Mexico, main campus.

Voting GPSA members 8-

B.6. Elections Committee

~~*adequate*—This shall entail at least one advertisement in the UNM newspaper and flyers being sent to each department for posting at least thirty days prior to an election date for notice of an election and fourteen days prior to a proposed election date for the ballot contents. Notice of a recall election and ballot contents shall be sent out when the recall petition has been validated by the Elections Committee.~~

~~*certify*—The Elections Committee shall approve the results of a GPSA election after it has been determined that all provisions of the currently published Election Code, Bylaws, and Constitution were followed and any challenge (s) was (were) resolved.~~

~~*challenge*—A challenge that the currently published Election Code, Bylaws, or Constitution had been violated in a GPSA election.~~

~~*oversee the process*—To make sure that all procedures are followed by the candidates, Council Chair, and GPSA President as defined in the Election Code, Bylaws, and Constitution.~~

~~*overt behavior*—Any actions that would show favoritism for or have a negative affect against any candidate or issue that might appear on the ballot.~~

~~*regular meeting*—Any officially called gathering of the Elections Committee to discuss issues pertinent to the committee. For emergency meetings and meeting to count ballots, no filing of an agenda or the one week period shall apply.~~

~~*twenty days*—This shall refer to business days.~~

~~*validated*—A petition shall be considered valid if the proper number of eligible signatures are on official Recall Petition Forms.~~

APPENDIX 3. GPSA ELECTIONS CODES

~~*20 days*—This shall refer to business days.~~

~~*announce*—For all GPSA elections, except the Council Chair Election, this shall entail at least one advertisement in the UNM newspaper and flyers to be sent to each department for posting by the established deadline. For the Council Chair Election, a flyer detailing who will be on the ballot shall be sent to each Council Representative with credentials on file by the established deadline.~~

~~*blanks*—This shall refer to underlines of specific itemized information to be filled in according to the definitions.~~

~~*Campaign Expenditure Form*—This form shall be an itemized accounting of all expenditures incurred by the candidate in the pursuit of office. They shall also sign the following statement: “All funds received and spent were from members of the UNM GPSA and no other sources.” and itemize their contributors. ~~campaigning~~—This shall include flyers, posters, and the like. It shall also include contact by the candidates or campaign workers.~~

~~*cause*—This refers to recall, impeachment, resignation, or death.~~

~~*Election Ballot Box Form*—This is a form used to request a ballot box and the associated balloting materials. The form shall include a place for the name of each monitor of the ballot box for each hour that the poll will open. The form shall also include a place for the requester to indicate how the ballot box is to be secured if it is to be held overnight.~~

~~*normal business hours*—This shall mean nine a.m. to five p.m.~~

~~*preside*—This shall mean the reading of the official roster of voters and asking them to step forward to vote.~~

~~*unsuitable*—This shall mean that the securing procedure is unsound, and that the ballot box runs a high risk of being tampered with.~~

~~*valid*—The credentials shall be considered valid if the proper form was completed and all eligibility requirements were met.~~

~~*validated*—A petition shall be considered valid if the proper number of eligible signatures are on the official Recall Petition Form.~~