GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION
graduate student government

GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

46th Session

EXECUTIVE BOARD RESOLUTION 46-001

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF DR. CHRISTOPHER HEAVEY AS PERMANENT PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS

WHEREAS, the Graduate & Professional Student Association (GPSA) represents the interests of graduate and professional students at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and works to advance student scholarship, research, academic success, and professional development;

WHEREAS, graduate and professional students are essential to UNLV's research mission, academic programs, and continued growth as a Carnegie R1 research institution, serving as researchers, graduate assistants, instructors, healthcare professionals in training, and contributors to scholarship and innovation across the university; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Christopher Heavey has demonstrated a commitment to strengthening UNLV's research enterprise, including supporting expanded resources and infrastructure for research, scholarship, creative activity, and sponsored projects;

WHEREAS, President Heavey has recognized that UNLV's continued growth as a research institution must include meaningful investment in the graduate and professional students whose work contributes directly to the university's research and academic mission; and

WHEREAS, President Heavey has engaged GPSA leadership in ongoing conversations regarding graduate assistantships and the need to identify sustainable approaches to maintaining and expanding graduate assistant opportunities as UNLV continues to grow;

WHEREAS, President Heavey has supported GPSA's efforts to strengthen its financial resources and expand the services, research support, professional development, and other

opportunities available to graduate and professional students, including assisting GPSA as it pursued an increase to the GPSA student fee; and

WHEREAS, these resources directly support GPSA's ability to invest in graduate and professional students, including research and travel funding, professional development, student organizations, and other academic opportunities, with research support remaining a central component of GPSA's mission and programming;

WHEREAS, President Heavey has maintained an open and collaborative relationship with GPSA leadership and has demonstrated a willingness to listen directly to graduate and professional students regarding the challenges affecting their academic, professional, and employment experiences; and

WHEREAS, President Heavey has expressed his intention to keep graduate and professional students at the forefront of university planning and recognizes that the continued advancement of UNLV requires intentional consideration of graduate education, professional education, research, affordability, student employment, and the overall graduate and professional student experience; and

WHEREAS, the GPSA Executive Board values university leadership that does not simply seek graduate and professional student input, but works collaboratively with student representatives to identify solutions and translate student priorities into institutional action; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Heavey's more than three decades of service to UNLV provide him with significant institutional knowledge while his tenure as Interim President has provided graduate and professional students the opportunity to experience his approach to university leadership firsthand;

WHEREAS, as UNLV continues to expand its research enterprise, academic programs, and impact throughout Nevada, the GPSA Executive Board believes graduate and professional education must remain an integral part of the university's long-term direction;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Board of the Graduate & Professional Student Association expresses its support for removing the interim designation from Dr. Christopher Heavey's title and appointing him as the permanent President of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this support reflects the Executive Board's experience working with President Heavey and his demonstrated commitment to research, graduate and professional education, graduate assistantships, student resources, and meaningful engagement with graduate and professional student leadership; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the GPSA Executive Board encourages continued partnership with President Heavey to strengthen graduate assistant opportunities, expand support for student research and professional development, address the evolving needs of graduate and professional students, and ensure their perspectives remain represented in the university's future planning; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Nevada System of Higher Education Chancellor, the Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents, Dr. Christopher Heavey, and appropriate UNLV leadership.

ADOPTED by the Executive Board of the Graduate & Professional Student Association on the 10th day of October, 2026.

Trey Curtis-Brown
GPSA Student Body President & Chair of Council

Nehemiah Afam Chukwuere
GPSA Vice President

Kalyani Ganapathireddy
GPSA Treasurer

Rachel DeWald
GPSA Secretary