

UNM Student Publications Board
Friday, October 24th, 2003
Communication & Journalism Room 131

Present: Bob Gassaway, Miguel Gandert, Jeff Kellywood, Karl Linzmeyer, Charlene Sevilla.

Ex-Officio: Marisa Demarco, Jim Fisher, Arthur Simoni,

Also Present: Daven Quelle, Johnyne Barraclough, Amy DeTavis, Marisa Magallanez, Julia Gilroy.

Absent: Leslie Donovan, Diana Sanchez, ASUNM Representative, GPSA Representative, NM Press Association Representative

Bob Gassaway called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

Miguel Gandert moved to accept the minutes from the Sept. 26 meeting. Linzmeyer seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Gassaway called for the Best Student Essays editor report. Jim Fisher said Diana Sanchez was absent.

Gassaway then called for the Conceptions Southwest editor report. Marisa Demarco said everything was going well. She said CSW received 180 contest submissions. She said her staff is almost through selecting the contest winners in each category. She said CSW will hold its last event of the year at Theatre X in December. Demarco said her staff is complete. She said she has chosen the format for the magazine and everything is on schedule to have the magazine out in late February or early March.

Gassaway asked for the Daily Lobo editor report. Arthur Simoni said everything is going well, and the paper is getting cleaner. He said the staff is getting used to the new writing coach and the relationship is going well. He said the news production staff is finally up to full capacity. He said the staff will attend the New Mexico Press Association writing workshops Oct. 25. Simoni said the Lobo is sending Marisa Demarco, Jeff Proctor and Ryan Floersheim to the Associated Collegiate Press Conference in Dallas Nov. 5- 9. Gandert said the Lobo is looking graphically better after meeting with the staff from the Albuquerque Tribune.

Gassaway then asked for the Student Publications financial report. Fisher asked the Board to review the past and proposed budgets. Fisher called attention to bad debts write off for the past three years, which is reflected in a \$28,000 loss for the last fiscal year. Fisher asked the board to approve the proposed budgets for all three publications. Sevilla asked Fisher about the amount of money in the rollover account. Fisher said that amount is a line of credit for the Lobo, which new equipment is budgeted from. Gassaway said

the reserve is like a savings account for the Lobo. He said the Lobo gets approximately \$40,000 from ASUNM annually and the rest of the budgeted income comes from advertising. He said the Lobo could not survive without advertising and this account protects the Lobo when an advertising downturn occurs. Gassaway asked for a motion to approve the budgets. Gandert moved to approve the budgets for all three publications. Linzmeyer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Gassaway then asked the Board to adopt the New Mexico Open Meetings Act for the 2003-2004 school year. He briefed the Board on the merits of adopting the Act as the Board's operating procedure. He said the Student Publications Board, unlike other Boards at UNM that only make recommendations, makes public policy and needs to operate according to open meetings rules. Fisher said the Board needed to address what constitutes reasonable notice of Board meetings. He said the Board currently posts a notice in the Lobo and posts a notice on the meeting room door. Gandert said that seemed to be sufficient notice with the possible exception of the UNM calendar on the Web. Sevilla moved to adopt the New Mexico Open Meetings Act. Jeff Kellywood seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Gassaway brought up complaints about advertising, which were addressed at the Board's last meeting. He noted that since the last meeting the ad from the Downtown Distillery had changed to a more acceptable format. He asked for a response from the Lobo advertising managers. Marisa Magallanez said the change in the ad was unrelated to the issues discussed at the last meeting. Julia Gilroy said a decision was made to honor the existing contract with the advertiser until the end of the semester. She also said the Weekly Alibi was currently involved in a lawsuit for changing ad acceptability in the middle of a contract. Gilroy said she would like to avoid the possibility of a suit against the Lobo. Both ad managers said they had sought outside advice from professionals on the issue. Gilroy said she and Magallanez had requested further information from the groups who presented at the last meeting. She said that so far no information had been received. Gandert said he felt the meeting went well because the ad managers had effectively mediated the situation by demonstrating how much thought and work goes into the advertising acceptability process. Simoni said he felt the Lobo ad managers had handled the issue perfectly. Simoni asked Gassaway if he had further contact with the group. Gassaway said he had not been contacted. Kellywood asked if there is a written policy regarding advertising. Gilroy said there are guidelines, but ultimately the decision is up to advertising managers. Fisher said he hoped the group appreciated the difficult real-world decisions made on a daily basis by the Lobo editor and ad managers.

The board decided to have the next meeting on December 5 at 2:00pm.

Gassaway asked for new business.

Fisher briefed the board on a pending lawsuit. He said he and former editor, Angela Williams, are scheduled to give depositions on Nov. 6.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.