

UNM Student Publications Board Meeting
Friday, November 10, 2006
University Honors Room 16

Present: Leslie Donovan (Chair), Stephanie Martin, V.B. Price, Matt Beck, Margi Miranda, Chris Downs

Ex-Officio: Jim Fisher, Scott Frank, Riley Bauling

Also Present: Carolyn Souther, Matt Gallegos

Absent: Monika Dziamka, Bob Gassaway, Kate Nash, ASUNM President representative

Leslie Donovan called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

Donovan asked for a review of the minutes of the September 30 meeting. Matt Beck made a motion to accept minutes, Margi Miranda seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Donovan asked Scott Frank for a report on Best Student Essays. Frank said that bids are out to printing companies for the fall issue. He said that his staff is currently copy editing and the magazine layout has been created. Frank said he hopes to have BSE to the printer before Thanksgiving. Donovan asked how many essays were submitted. Frank said that 11 essays were submitted and eight essays will be published. He said the fall issue will be 36 pages. Frank said that one essay submitted was excluded because it had not included a nomination form. He said that in order to be considered for publication, all essays must be nominated by a UNM faculty member. Frank said that the 1st and 2nd place winner went to Oliver Simon. Frank said Simon was chosen independently by four judges. Frank said he is currently reviewing artwork for the cover. He said that the magazine should be printed within 2 weeks after submission to the printer.

Donovan asked Riley Bauling for a report on the Daily Lobo. Bauling said that a new Daily Lobo Web site was launched on Nov. 6. He said there has been favorable response to the new site and that page views for the site are way up. He said that everything else seems to be going well at the Daily Lobo. He said the Lobo has broken a few big news stories recently, that even the local news stations have been contacting Lobo editors about. V.B. Price asked Bauling what were the top news stories so far this semester. Bauling said that the hazing of a blind fraternity member, the story on minority enrollment, fraternity rape allegation, and bookstore theft were the top stories. He said that people are contacting the Lobo with stories as well. He said that he is working on hiring new staff because there will be some turnover at the end of semester.

Donovan asked Jim Fisher for the Daily Lobo financial report. Fisher said the report included in the information handed out to the Board covered through September 2006. He said the Lobo is currently in good financial shape compared to the past couple of years. Fisher reported printing costs are up due to extra pages and additional advertising. He said that in October revenue had slowed down and that typically November was a slow month for advertising revenue.

Donovan asked ASUNM Senator, Matthew Gallegos, to speak regarding ASUNM Senate bills 13F and 14F. Gallegos said that ASUNM will be publishing an annual report for the first time. He said that all funding ASUNM provides to student groups is accounted for except the 8.5 percent that is allocated to Student Publications. He said if the voting student body approves the above bills on Wed. Nov. 15, the Student Publications Board will be required to provide a financial memorandum to ASUNM stating approval of funds and what the funds will be used for. Gallegos said that ASUNM has been allocating the 8.5 percent to Student Publications for a long time. He said that ASUNM has been allocating money

for the Daily Lobo in some form for at least 85 years. Gallegos said ASUNM wants to state why the money is allocated and what it is used for.

Fisher asked if the information provided in a scheduled Lobo advertisement was the full amendment. Gallegos said it is an abbreviated version. He stated the wording on the ballot is probably dumbed down to make it easier for the students to read and understand when they are voting. Gallegos apologized for the wording. Fisher asked if the wording in the advertisement was what will be on the actual ballot. Gallegos said he had already participated in early voting and believed it was the same as what is worded in the advertisement.

Donovan said she is concerned that the wording of the amendment and the advertising in the Daily Lobo is not reflective of the intent of the amendment. She said she is worried that the wording makes it look as though the Student Publications Board is doing something wrong and or is not currently fully cooperating with ASUNM. Fisher said he is concerned about the spirit of the wording, that it makes it appear that Student Publications is not fiscally responsible. Donovan asked if the wording could be changed.

Gallegos stated he would make sure a clarification is posted at the polls. He said that because ASUNM is now doing electronic voting he is not sure the ballot can be changed at this point. He said unfortunately since early voting has already begun, some students have already voted with the current wording. Gallegos stated he would try to get the situation fixed and is more than willing to write a letter to the Daily Lobo and grant interviews to the Daily Lobo or whatever else the Board would need. He said that he believes that Student Publications has been accountable with the funding and the ASUNM representatives on the Board have never reported otherwise. Fisher said that simply publishing the text of the amendment would be best so that the student body would get a true sense of what the amendment is about.

Gallegos stated the elections commission composed the wording for the ballot and the ad. He said he will talk to the ASUNM president, the Student Activities director and whoever else he can to get it corrected or at least have a clarification at the polls. He said he can't guarantee a change can be made to the ballot at this point. Bauling said they will work with Gallegos to get an article in the Daily Lobo clarifying the issue. Gallegos stated they have a good relationship with the Student Publications Board and they do not want to burn that bridge. He joked ASUNM does more apologizing than probably any group on campus. Chris Downs said he felt that eliminating the words – to increase the level of fiscal responsibility – from the advertisement would be sufficient to convey the true meaning of the amendment. Price agreed.

Donovan said that the Board needed additional information about the format of the required memorandum. She asked do they want detailed specifics or just a generalization of the usage of the funds from ASUNM. Gallegos said that it should be based on the current fiscal year budget. He said that itemization would be great, but not necessary. He said that a generalization of what the funds will be used for is fine.

Fisher said that originally the allocation was to be used for subsidizing subscriptions so that all students on campus would have access to a copy of the Daily Lobo. He said most of the 8.5 percent is spent on printing costs. Donovan asked if it would be reasonable to state in a memo that the allocation from

ASUNM goes to subsidize undergraduate student subscriptions and the money spent on printing costs. Gallegos agreed and asked that we attach a budget.

Gallegos said ASUNM will not issue the 8.5 percent until the memo is received. Price asked what the deadline would be for submitting the memorandum. Gallegos said they need the memo by the 4th week of the spring semester. Price asked if there is some sort of stamp or receipt to record when the memo is submitted. Gallegos and Beck said there is a person who records the date and time submitted and will give a receipt. Price questioned the usage of the term memorandum. He suggested better definition of what ASUNM is asking from Student Publications. He said he can see someone looking at the term memo and may envision a whole different level of reporting if there is a controversy between ASUNM and the Lobo.

Gallegos stated that he and ASUNM understand they don't have the authority to say how the 8.5 percent is spent. He said that ASUNM needs a general sense of what the money is used for. He said that ASUNM would not be voting on or approving the budget, but they just want it for their annual report to have a record of it so they can account for 100 percent of the ASUNM budget. It will help them account for the \$20.00 student fee that is taken from each undergraduate student. He respects the Board and did not want to give any surprises.

Beck said there is obviously a lack of communication on the part of ASUNM. He said that the bill was passed on to elections commission but obviously wasn't proofread well enough. He is not sure at this point that the wording can be changed on the ballot. Gallegos said he will look into to a better clarification regarding the content of the memorandum and see that a clarification of the amendment is posted at the polls.

Donovan asked for a report on the status of Marron Hall. Price said he has been trying to contact someone in UNM Facility Planning but has yet to receive a response. Fisher said the Biology renovation project has been delayed until spring at the earliest. Fisher said he feels that Marron Hall will eventually be a parking lot. Price and Fisher said they are going to continue trying to get answers to the fate of Marron Hall.

Donovan said that Monika Dziamka had a scheduling conflict but she did submit a written report. Fisher passed out the report.

Donovan asked if there was any new business.

Fisher said that he is working with Rivkela Brodsky to create a Daily Lobo alumni Web site and hopes to have it up and running by December 1. He said it should be interesting to get updates from prior staff and see what they are doing now.

Donovan scheduled the next meeting for Friday, December 1 at 3:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.