

UNM Student Publications Board Meeting
Friday, December 3, 2010
Marron Hall, Rm. 131

Present: Leslie Donovan (Chair), Robert Trapp, V.B. Price, Michael Thorning, John Luna, Sunny Liu, John Luna and Leland Churan

Ex-Officio: Jim Fisher, Pat Lohmann, Jay Reidy, Chris Quintana

Also Present: Carolyn Souther, Ryan Tynan

Absent: Miguel Gandert, Jakob Schiller

Leslie Donovan called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

Donovan asked for a review of the October 22 minutes. Michael Thorning made a motion to accept the minutes. Sunny Liu seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Donovan asked Chris Quintana for the *Conceptions Southwest* editor's report. Quintana said he has added members to the staff including 3 honors students and feels that things are back on schedule. He said there was a lot of interest in *CSW* from attending the publications fair. He said he is looking forward to judging submissions and noted that the final submission deadline is December 10. Quintana said he is currently working on getting some specific people to submit for the magazine. He said he is also working on the *CSW* Web site.

Donovan asked Jay Reidy for the *Best Student Essays* editor's report. Reidy said that things are a little behind schedule with the fall issue. He said that due to the poor quality of the writing of the submitted essays there has been a lot of time spent on additional editing. He said there have been minor format changes and finally has a printer selected. Reidy said he wanted to give *BSE* a more formal look like *Conceptions Southwest* or *Scribendi*. He said *BSE* has been eight and one half by eleven inches for many years but now will be smaller and thicker but will have gloss paper and great photo quality. Reidy said that the *BSE* Web site went live today. He said that only one issue is currently online to view but expects to have more up soon. He said that some older issues need to be digitized to be viewable online. He said the new Web site address is www.beststudentessays.org. Reidy said he has compared the new *BSE* site to peer institution's Web sites and feels it compares favorably with best of them. V.B. Price asked about the editing process for *BSE*. Reidy explained some of the issues he had with the quality of submissions and the extra time that was taken in editing. Reidy said he plans on debuting the fall issue once the spring semester is underway. He said the fall issue will include two photo essays, eight or nine essays from UNM departments such as Archeology, English, University Honors, History and independent study.

Donovan asked Pat Lohmann to report on the *Daily Lobo*. Lohmann said things have been going well since the last meeting. He said he felt that news coverage has been good. He said he felt that staff members seem to be over most hurdles and ready for the spring semester. Lohmann said he had met with the editor of the *Albuquerque Journal* and the executive director of the New Mexico Foundation for Open Government regarding obtaining the UNM salary book in an electronic format. He said he was hoping to have the support of the UNM faculty but said that unfortunately the UNM Faculty Senate voted the resolution down. Lohmann said that NMFOG is going to submit a request on its own for an electronic version. He said the *Albuquerque Journal* is considering doing a story on the issue as well. Lohmann said the *Lobo* had started a series on non-traditional students a few weeks ago, which he said will be a ten-part

series. Lohmann also added that representatives from the Black Graduate and Professional Student Association BGPSA and other groups would be coming to do a sensitivity training on Sunday, December 5. He said the *Daily Lobo* is going to video the meeting for future training. He said the *Lobo's* position for the meeting is to not defend editorial decisions but to learn from what the presenters have to say. Bob Trapp said he disagrees with the decision for the staff to meet for a sensitivity training. He stated that the *Daily Lobo* is in a business where half of the people are going to hate you and no amount of meetings can ever make them happy. He said he feels that Lohmann is being way too accommodating.

Lohmann discussed an issue with University Communication & Marketing and the UNM Real Estate office regarding the Lobo Development Corporation signup sheets to see who is attending the meetings. He said that *Daily Lobo* reporter, Chelsea Erven, went to pick up the sheets and was given a hard time by representatives of UNM Communications and Marketing and the UNM Real Estate Office regarding her coverage of the Lobo Development Corporation and was not given the copies of the forms after being promised they would be available. Trapp asked if the documents requested were UNM documents and if the people involved were UNM employees. Lohmann said that one was an outside consultant and the other two were UNM employees. Lohmann said that the *Daily Lobo* had now filed a public records request for the forms. Price said that he is glad the *Lobo* is looking into this issue.

Jim Fisher congratulated Lohmann for continuing to pursue the salary book issue.

Donovan asked Fisher to give the *Daily Lobo* financial statement. Fisher reviewed the October financials. He said that October looked much better than September did for revenue. He said that November revenue is good as well, better than past Novembers in recent memory. The advertising staff has been up-selling many existing clients. He said December so far is looking good for revenue as well.

Thorning asked Fisher about the reserve sweeps that the UNM administration is currently conducting. Fisher said he has not heard yet which departments are being affected. Fisher said the reserve is important to assure that the same opportunities exist for students even in a bad economic year.

Donovan noted that the Journalism & Mass Communication representative Board vacancy has been filled by Leland Churan.

Donovan then addressed the Student Publications Board policy statement review done by a committee comprised of Fisher, Donovan and Thorning. She said that they had worked to make language and style consistent throughout the document and revised items that were out of date. She said one major deletion was striking a reference to the ASUNM constitution in section I. A. Donovan said that section I. C. -4 now states that one Board member will be selected from among undergraduate students by the UNM student chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists. She noted that at present no such chapter exists but has hopes that one will by next fall when it will be time to select a board member.

Donovan then noted potential changes to sections II. B, III. B, IV. C, requiring editors be a UNM student in a degree-granting program. Donovan asked for discussion.

Fisher said that the *Daily Lobo* editor position is paid through student employment and in order to be paid the student has to be in a degree-granting program. Reidy said as far as the magazines go that there are various speeds of progress to obtain a degree and there would be some people with talent who would not be eligible if the Board required applicants to be in a degree-granting program. He said the Board has the tools to make a decision and felt it is not in the Board's interest to cut off the pool of talent potential applicants. Price said he prefers dedicated undergraduates for all the editor positions because of the valuable experience they would gain and what that could mean to their careers. Reidy said that he did

agree with Price that the experience could be very valuable to a student's development and said that he was living proof of that point when he held the position of *BSE* editor as an undergraduate. Liu said the issue was concerned with whether the Board is looking for talent or looking to provide an undergraduate experience. Reidy said it is not in the Board's best interest to have its hands tied regarding selection of magazine editors. Donovan said that since the *Daily Lobo* editor is paid through student employment that the degree-granting requirement should apply to that position. Sunny Liu asked if a clause could be inserted that the board could change the policy. Donovan replied that a clause is already in place that allows the Board to deviate from the policy.

Price asked about the SPJ issue. Donovan said she hopes there will be a student SPJ chapter on campus in the future. Trapp said if the Board changes this now, it may have to change it back if there is no SPJ chapter next year. But Trapp agreed that the best course of action would be to change the item as proposed for now.

Donovan said asked for a motion to accept the proposed Board policy changes along with striking the degree-granting program requirement from section III. C and IV. John Luna made a motion for the Board to accept the proposal as amended for a vote. The motion was seconded by Liu. The motion passed.

Donovan asked for a vote of the Board to accept the changes to the Student Publications Board Policy Statement approved. The Board unanimously approved.

Donovan asked for new business.

Fisher asked Trapp if he had been reappointed by the NMPA for another term to the Board. Trapp said he been reappointed.

Trapp asked about the status of Marron Hall. Price and Thorning both said they are not getting any answers to inquiries. Thorning said that currently it appears that no one really knows the future of Marron Hall.

Donovan said the next meeting would be in February. Fisher said he would contact Board members about possible dates when the spring semester begins.

The meeting adjourned at 4:24 p.m.