

UNM Student Publications Board Meeting
Friday, October 22, 2010
Marron Hall, Rm. 131

Present: Leslie Donovan (Chair), Robert Trapp, V.B. Price, Michael Thorning, John Luna, Miguel Gandert, Jakob Schiller, Sonny Liu

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

Also Present: Carolyn Souther, Junfu Han

Absent: Journalism & Mass Communication Representative

Leslie Donovan called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

Donovan asked for a review of the minutes from the September 24 meeting. Bob Trapp made a motion to accept the minutes. Michael Thorning seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Donovan asked Chris Quintana for a *Conceptions Southwest* editor report. Quintana said he lost some of his staff over the fall break. He said he is rebuilding his staff and pushing submissions. He said that *CSW* will participate in a publications fair on November 9. He said this event will include other on-campus magazines, including *Best Student Essays*, *Blue Mesa Review*, and *Scribendi*. Quintana said he plans to use the publications fair as a submission draw for *CSW*. He said he feels the magazine is a bit behind schedule due to losing some of the staff. Quintana said he is talking to beginning art classes in addition to speaking with creative writing classes. He said that although December 10 is the final submission deadline, he may consider extending that deadline but not past finals week.

Donovan asked Jay Reidy to report on *Best Student Essays*. Reidy said that the fall submission deadline was October 15. He said he received 30 submissions including nine photo essays and additional cover photos. He said he would like to run features and interviews on the Web site once the new site is up. He said he plans on doing weekly updates once the site is launched.

Reidy submitted a proposal to the Board and said he wanted to continue the discussion started at the Board's last meeting about the expansion of the submissions pool for *BSE*. Reidy said he believes publishing both student and alumni essays would enhance the quality of the magazine. He said that having both would create an inspiration value for students to see accomplished UNM alumni in the magazine. He said he felt *BSE* would also have a wider audience with the expanded submission pool. Reidy said the Student Publications Board Policy Statement says nothing about who is eligible to submit to *BSE* or *CSW*. He said that current policy allows anyone to make a submission but tradition has kept it to students. He said he feels the Board would need to amend the policy to establish a primary purpose of the magazine and for the Board to exert the power to verify that that purpose be followed. Reidy also suggested if the Board were to take that direction, then the magazine name might have to be changed. Miguel Gandert said he did not think the Board should have that much power over the editor and did not want to see a great deal of alumni in the magazine. Gandert said he felt that alumni should be published in other venues. Price agreed with Gandert and said he prefers the idea of a student non-fiction magazine. Trapp also agreed with Gandert and said he felt that a title change for the magazine might move the magazine in a non-student direction. Reidy said that after hearing from members of the Board he is ok with the current set-up. Donovan said it appeared that the Board had reached a consensus about keeping *BSE* policy as it has been and that this means the *BSE* editor is free to consider publishing alumni pieces, if the opportunity

arises to do so. Reidy said he was rescinding his proposal since the Board is ok with the occasional alumni piece being published in the magazine. He said the first week of December is the expected release date of the fall issue. Jim Fisher said that, when the Board hired Reidy as *BSE* editor, Reidy stated he wanted to grow the magazine and that he appreciated Reidy's efforts to do so.

Donovan asked Pat Lohmann to report on the *Daily Lobo*. Lohmann feels the paper has lost a bit of momentum in recent days, but to correct that he is working on more planning and staff communication and is trying to instill those ideas throughout the staff. He said he is continuing to pursue acquiring the UNM salary book online or at least having it in a digital format. He said that both ASUNM and GPSA had passed resolutions of support to have the salaries online. Lohmann said he is meeting with the UNM Faculty Senate next Tuesday about the issue. He said he would like to meet with UNM Staff Council as well, but noted it takes a great deal of time to get on their agenda. He said he would also like to meet with the UNM Regents about the issue.

Lohmann then addressed the letter sent to the Board from George Williams, the president of the Black Graduate and Professional Student Association. He noted that the letter stated many issues with the *Daily Lobo*, but that it specifically related to two items; the editorial cartoon about the Bishop Eddie Long and a headline above a photo of UNM head football coach, Mike Locksley. Lohmann said he feels that the letter is asking the *Daily Lobo* to recuse itself from the national conversation regarding the Bishop Eddie Long. He noted that when he spoke with a representative from Cagle Cartoons, the syndicate that provided the cartoon, the representative said the cartoon had run in more than 1000 other publications across the country. Lohmann said the letter had some recommendations for the *Daily Lobo* many of which he said the *Lobo* was already doing. Price said that these types of issues are best addressed on the editorial pages of the *Daily Lobo*. Lohmann suggested contacting Mr. Williams to see if he would like the letter he sent the Board published on the editorial page and then he could reply with an editorial. Lohmann said he had met earlier in the semester with Scott Carreathers, Director of African-American Student Services, about *Daily Lobo* coverage that included the headline above the photo of Locksley and a story about a football player break-in. Lohmann said Carreathers also asked if *Daily Lobo* Managing Editor, Isaac Avilucea, had a personal vendetta against Locksley. Lohmann said he assured Carreathers that Avilucea did not have a vendetta against Locksley. Lohmann said he would like to diversify his staff to include more people of color and those with various religious backgrounds. He mentioned that the *Daily Lobo* is currently publishing the Afro-American experience feature every week on Thursdays.

The consensus of the Board was that its role is not to be directly involved in content issues such as the ones brought up by Mr. Williams. Donovan and Trapp suggested that the Board send a letter to Mr. Williams stating that point. Jakob Schiller said he thinks that BGPSA wants to know how the *Daily Lobo* reviews and decides what gets coverage in the newspaper and had some concerns about his name being on the letter. Donovan said that only her and Fisher's name would be on the letter.

Junfu Han, *Daily Lobo* Web and photo editor said that the website will be updated soon and that the updates will enable the staff to have a much better system for handling comments on the *Daily Lobo* Web site. He said after the updates take place that all comments must have email verification before they are published.

Donovan asked Jim Fisher to give the *Daily Lobo* financial statement. Fisher referred to the September financial statement that was distributed to the Board. He said that the revenue numbers for September were very disappointing considering that revenue had been so strong over the summer and in August. He said that October revenue is looking better and that Web revenue is also improving.

Donovan asked Gandert to address the Communication & Journalism student vacancy on the Board. Gandert said he would like to suggest that the Chair of C&J appoint a student representative this year and give the Board and C&J time to come up with a better solution for the appointment for the future. Gandert made a motion to allow the Chair of Communication & Journalism to appoint an undergraduate student representative to the Student Publications Board for the current school year ending May 2011 or until the Board makes a policy change. Price seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Donovan asked for volunteers to form a sub-committee to review the policy statement and propose changes if necessary at the next Board meeting. Thorning, and Fisher volunteered along with Donovan to review the policy statement.

Donovan scheduled the next meeting for December 3, 2010 at 3 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.