

UNM Student Publications Board Meeting  
Friday, October 4, 2013  
Marron Hall, Room 131

Present: Leslie Donovan, Robert Trapp, Miguel Gandert, Taylor Bui, Jordan Burk, Austin Megli, Jamillah Wilcox, Sophie Martin

Ex-officio: Jim Fisher, Gianna May, Antonio Sanchez and Anna Adams

Also Present: Carolyn Souther, Richard Holder, JR Oppenheim, Ardee Napolitano, Ilia Rodriguez

Absent: GPSA Representative

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

Donovan asked Jim Fisher to discuss the Board's adoption of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act. Fisher said the NM Open Meetings Act applies to the UNM Student Publications Board because it determines public policy. He said the act, as it applies to the Board, requires that all meetings are held in public and that advance notice of meeting dates and times are given to the public. He said that minutes of Board meetings are to be made public. Fisher said that meetings are usually closed to discuss personnel matters such as interviewing applicants for editor. Taylor Bui made a motion to adopt the NM Open Meetings Act for future Board meetings this year. Bob Trapp seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Donovan asked for a review of the June 21, 2013, meeting minutes. Trapp made a motion to accept the minutes. Bui seconded. The motion passed.

Donovan asked Gianna May for a *Conceptions Southwest* editor report. May said the work for the magazine is progressing well. She said one change this year is that *CSW* will no longer allow *CSW* staff to submit entries. May also said she has established new editor positions that will involve more volunteers to fill those spots. She said she and her staff are visiting classes and distributing flyers about submissions. She said *CSW* will participate in the publication fair next week outside of the SUB along with *BSE*, *Scribendi*, *Blue Mesa* and *Bound*. She said *CSW* attended the Discovery Fair during fall orientation in August and has been doing outreach to faculty. She said she has at least 15 staff with some returning from last year. May said she has updated the *CSW* website and created an account for submissions using Submittable. She said *CSW* is adding new submission categories in short film, music, foreign language and other mediums. May said there are now some past issues of *CSW* available on the *CSW* website. She said *CSW* has already received about 20 submissions. May said December 9 is the submission deadline. She said it is a hard deadline, without extensions. May said she is working on a code of conduct for staff members.

Donovan introduced Dr. Richard Holder, Faculty Senate President, who addressed the Board. Dr. Holder said he was happy to reappoint Dr. Donovan as one of the Faculty Senate representatives to the Board. He said he knows how much she cares about students and publications and thanked Donovan for her continued service to the Publications Board. Holder said he is glad to see that the Board is working and thinks the job the Board does is a very important one and appreciates the work the Board performs. Holder wished the Board the best for the upcoming year and said to contact him if there is anything he can do for the Board.

Donovan asked for a *Best Student Essays* editor report from Anna Adams. Adams said she has a full volunteer staff that includes two former staff members from last year. She said the extended submission deadline for *BSE* will be October 15. She said that *BSE* will also be participating in publications fair. Trapp asked when the fall magazine will be distributed. Adams said the magazine should be out the first week in December.

Donovan asked for a *Daily Lobo* editor report from Antonio Sanchez. Sanchez said his staff has been very busy with a lot of hot topics so far this semester. He said that over the summer daily online content was added in addition to the weekly print edition. He said the Lobo has featured more original content and less AP stories. He said communication in the newsroom has been really strong with writers and photographers working well together. Sanchez said he is pushing for more multimedia projects. He said the Lobo has hired more reporters and a lot more photographers. Trapp asked if the new hires are sticking around. Sanchez said so far they are. He said JR Oppenheim is working on the Lobo's online presence and a website redesign. Oppenheim passed out schematics of the new website design and discussed features of the new site. He said the Lobo website is now using Facebook for the comments section. He said that means people comment with their profile and can no longer be anonymous. Oppenheim said the number of comments has dropped but he expects them to come back. Trapp asked if the change produced more productive comments. Oppenheim said when the paper he worked at in Alamogordo used Facebook for comments they were more issue driven. Bui said he applauded the Lobo's online and Twitter presence. Sanchez said the Lobo will be featuring a monthly photo context as a way to get the readers more involved. He said the Lobo is also considering expanding coverage to UNM West. Ardee Napolitano asked if the *Daily Lobo* could be distributed to UNM West. Carolyn Souther suggested mailing a small number of papers to the UNM West campus. Sanchez said the newsroom has been reaching out to journalism classes to recruit reporters. Donovan asked Fisher for his thoughts on how things are going in the newsroom. Fisher said he thought the atmosphere in the newsroom is much improved over last year. He said the staff appears to be much more dynamic and excited to be doing the jobs they were hired to do. He said he feels that Sanchez is doing a great job and is pleased with how things are running in the newsroom. Donovan asked how the Lobo could get more reporters. Napolitano said he has reached out to the journalism classes for reporters and asked about class credit for writing for the Lobo. Rodriguez said contacting Mike Marcotte, who teaches intermediate reporting, would be good to pursue that idea. Napolitano said he is concerned about quality opposed to quantity. Iliia Rodriguez said that the student SPJ chapter is up and running with 10 to 12 members and it looks like there will be a chapter of the National Press Photographers starting on campus.

Donovan discussed President Frank's media team report. She said the team's recommendations for the Student Publications board were:

1. Clarify Board operations and reporting. In other words, to whom or to what group does the Publications Board report?
2. Clarify relationship of the Board and the Lobo and mechanisms for holding accountable Lobo students and staff.
3. Add at least one more C & J faculty member to the Board, preferable someone with strong professional journalism credentials.
4. Consider overlapping terms and term limits for Board members to ensure influx of new thinking.

Donovan said some of these recommendations are things the Board should be thinking about and working on this year. She said some would involve Board policy changes, which would need to arrange a committee to address these recommendations. Gandert said he couldn't remember a time that the Faculty Senate did not appoint at least one member of the C & J faculty to the Board. He said he believes adding another C & J faculty member disrupts the balance of the Publications Board. He said students have always had the majority vote on the Board and that balance should remain in place. He said the *Daily Lobo* is an independent student newspaper with student Board members needing to have the majority vote on the Board. Sophie Martin said that she sees some potential issues with recommendation number two. Donovan suggested the Board revisit these questions at the next board meeting.

Donovan asked Fisher for a Student Publications financial report. Fisher said the *Daily Lobo* ended the year in the black. He said expenses were reduced from the previous year and revenue held steady. He said the summer papers did fairly well for revenue and ended up in the black as well. Fisher said so far the fall semester is on budget. He said web and mobile advertising have been increasing. He said things have been going well with

Vanguard printing and would like to renew that contract. Fisher reviewed the 2013-2014 budgets for all three publications. He said both *CSW* and *BSE* ended the year financially strong.

Donovan asked Fisher to report on the *Daily Lobo* homecoming reunion. Fisher said the reunion held in Hodgkin Hall went really well. He said upwards of 250 people attended. He said every decade was represented from the 1950s on. He said Kate Nash, *Daily Lobo* writing, coach had produced a great video that featured interviews with past *Daily Lobo* editors and staffers. Fisher said that he had the opportunity to communicate with many past *Daily Lobo* staffers and many said their time at the Lobo was one of the most significant and important times of their lives.

Donovan asked Fisher to review the *Daily Lobo* policy draft. Fisher said he needs more feedback on the draft. He will set up a meeting with Antonio Sanchez and Kate Nash for further review.

Donovan scheduled the next meeting for November 15 at 3:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 4:36 p.m.