

UNM Student Publications Board Meeting
Friday, October 24, 2014
Marron Hall, Room 131

Present: Leslie Donovan, Robert Trapp, Erinn Tibbs, David Ishmael, Gabriela Eldredge, Zoila Alvarez

Ex-officio: Jim Fisher, Jyllian Roach, Melissa Rinkenberger, Jordan Burk

Also Present: Carolyn Souther, Michael Warren, JR Oppenheim

Absent: Sophie Martin, Ilia Rodriguez, Lauren Wade

Leslie Donovan called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m.

Donovan asked for a review of the September 26, 2014, meeting minutes. Bob Trapp made a motion to accept as presented. Erinn Tibbs seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Donovan asked for a *Conceptions Southwest* editor report from Jordan Burk. Burk said things have been going smoothly. He said they have been running ads in the *Daily Lobo* and contacting faculty through listservs for submissions. Burk said so far they have received about 35 submissions. Donovan asked about the submission deadline. Burk replied the deadline is November 17. Jim Fisher asked how many students were on the staff. Burk said about 10.

Donovan asked for a *Best Student Essays* editor report from Melissa Rinkenberger. Rinkenberger said the submission deadline has passed and she has received 13 submissions. She said some submissions were without faculty nominations so only seven will be published. She said she hopes to have the magazine to the printer by Nov. 17. She said the release party will be Dec. 5 at 6 p.m. in the Honors College. She said she didn't receive cover art or photo essay submissions. Rinkenberger said she is extending those deadlines to Nov. 3. Fisher asked if Rinkenberger is happy with the quality of the essays that were submitted. She said they received a nice variety of good quality essays. Donovan asked about the BSE staff. Rinkenberger said she has the same five staff members but noted that two more will be joining soon. Jyllian Roach suggested that the *Daily Lobo* photo staff might be used for the cover photo or photo essays.

Donovan asked for a *Daily Lobo* editor report from Jyllian Roach. Roach said that the *Daily Lobo* sponsored debates had to be cancelled due to lack of candidates participating. She said three *Daily Lobo* staff members are going to Philadelphia for conference and networking at the end of the month. She said the newsroom has more staff and a lot of pending applications. Roach said it is a diverse group of students in the newsroom. She said she met with the professor of the NM Newsport and that most of the issues between the Newsport and the *Daily Lobo* seem to be resolved. Roach said that for the evening of election coverage, 13 reporters would be in the field at various campaign locations. She said The Howl will be live-streaming and working with KNME-TV election evening. Fisher asked if Roach was happy with content coming to the Lobo from the Newsport. Roach said yes, some of it. She said they pick and choose the content they want to use and not everything meets the *Daily Lobo* baseline standards.

Donovan asked Jim Fisher for a *Daily Lobo* financial report. Fisher reviewed the *Daily Lobo* financials through September 2014. He said that revenue versus expenses is a little better compared to the same time last year. He said that printing costs are up due to paying the printer for quite a few inserts compared to last year. He said national advertising, which used to be a significant portion of the budget, is now almost non-existent. Fisher said that overall the trends are not good. He said that the September bottom line was the second worst for the *Daily Lobo* dating back to 2005-06. He said the advertising department is planning on creating more special

issues to increase revenue. He said the lack of revenue is a problem happening with most every college newspaper in the country. He said that cutting publishing days could be a partial solution but much more analysis needs to be done if that were to happen. Fisher said that not much else could be cut regarding expenses.

Donovan asked Fisher to discuss the GPSA funding for the magazines. Fisher said a lot has happened since the last Board meeting, especially after a *Daily Lobo* story on the matter. He said at the last meeting he discussed the email from the GPSA president regarding the funding for the magazines and had characterized the email in a critical manner. He said the GPSA president had taken great offense at that comment and he has subsequently spoken to her and apologized for the comment. He said the comment came out of frustration because it appeared that there had been no progress on the issue but in fact people at GPSA had been working behind the scenes on behalf of the magazines. He said there was quite a bit of miscommunication all around. Fisher said the magazine funding was approved by GPSA in late September and made available in October. Fisher said part of the problem was that he and Dr. Donovan had been communicating with Luke Holmen, the previous GPSA representative to the Board, but subsequently discovered the Holmen's was an interim appointment. Fisher said he just learned about Holmen's status and was not sure if Holmen even knew that his was an interim appointment. Zoila Alvarez said she thinks Holmen failed to communicate when meetings were taking place and what some of the needs were. Fisher said he would like a guiding document from GPSA for the magazines about how to proceed in the future regarding the funding outlined in the bylaws. Alvarez said she would look into that issue.

Alvarez said that the *Daily Lobo* article upset GPSA because the matter had been taken care of well before the article was published. Fisher agreed that the matter had been resolved before the article was published. Donovan asked Roach why the story ran in the *Daily Lobo* after the issue had been resolved. Roach said the story was supposed to be about the problem and that the problem had been fixed. She said that part of the problem was in the editing and headline writing process. Roach said she has spoken with the editor and the person who wrote the headline for the story. Alvarez said one problem GPSA had with the story was that the quotes taken were not on the record. Roach said there was serious confusion as to what was on or off the record. Fisher said he had a problem with the story because he was quoted but never interviewed for the story. Roach said the reporter thought it was ok to use a week old recording from the last Board meeting. Donovan said more than week old news, when it was no longer news, is not news. She said that is a problem. Donovan asked who decides if the story should run. Roach said she takes full responsibility and said there have been measures put in place to see that this type of error does not happen again. David Ishmael said that ASUNM has pulled all of its columns from the *Daily Lobo* because of this story. He said they plan to restart the columns in the spring. Roach said she feels that poor communication is what caused this issue and feels that the lion share of blame should falls on the *Daily Lobo* but feels bad that ASUNM pulled their columns without any communication of that to the *Daily Lobo*. Ishmael said the one column that was submitted was edited to the point that it didn't make sense. He said he feels that it is best to have a clean start and the spring semester is the best time to do that. He apologized for not being as open with communication regarding the columns. Donovan said there are a lot of stake-holders on this Board and better communication among them is needed all around.

Donovan asked for old business. There was none.

Donovan asked for new business. Alvarez announced there would be a GPSA food truck fundraiser for scholarship for graduate students coming up soon.

Fisher asked about the date of the BSE reception. Rinkenberger said the reception is scheduled for Dec. 5, at 6 p.m. Members of the Board brought up that the annual UNM Hanging of the Greens is scheduled for the same time and date. Donovan suggested moving the opening to Dec 4, if possible.

Donovan scheduled the next meeting for November 21 at 3:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 4:01 p.m.