

UNM Student Publications Board Meeting
Friday, September 26, 2014
Marron Hall, Room 131

Present: Leslie Donovan, Robert Trapp, Sophie Martin, Ilia Rodriguez, Erinn Tibbs, Lauren Wade

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

Also Present: Carolyn Souther, Michael Warren, Jonathan Gamboa, Stephen Montoya, Sergio Jimenez, William Aranda

Absent: Luke Holman, ASUNM Senate and President Representatives

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

Donovan asked Jim Fisher to discuss the Board adopting the New Mexico Open Meetings Act. Fisher said the main points of the act are that: all meetings are to be held in public, advance notice must be given, and must be advertised. Bob Trapp made a motion to adopt the act. It was seconded by Ilia Rodriguez. Motion passed.

Donovan asked for a review of the April 25, 2014 meeting minutes. Lauren Wade made a motion to accept the minutes. Erin Tibbs seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Donovan asked for a *Conceptions Southwest* editor report from Jordan Burk. Burk said he has about a dozen staff members. He said he has been posting flyers and visiting classes. Burk said *CSW* has received 10 submissions so far, and he has added another 100 contacts to the *CSW* listserv. He said he has moved staff meetings from Marron Hall to EECE pods to train the staff on InDesign. He said that November 17 is the submission deadline, which has been moved up from last year in order for the staff to have more time to select submissions and edit.

Donovan asked for a *Best Student Essays* editor report from Melissa Rinkenberger. Rinkenberger said the schedule is set for the semester but they are a bit behind. She said they are getting flyers out now and will start advertising in the *Daily Lobo* next week. She said that October 6 is the submission deadline with an extension to October 13. Rinkenberger said the date for the opening reception is already set for Friday, December 5 in the UNM Honors Forum. She said that six staff members from last year have returned to this year's staff and they have already received one submission. Rinkenberger said she is having outpatient surgery next week but it should not interfere with the magazine operations.

Donovan asked for a *Daily Lobo* editor report from Jillian Roach. Roach said she spent the summer training staff, overseeing some page redesign and adjusting some staff positions. She said she adjusted pay rates, giving reporters a slight increase in pay. Roach said she accomplished this by absorbing the opinion editor position into the editor-in-chief and managing editor positions. Roach said the summer mail-out edition was well received by the community and fun to produce. She said Channel 13 News did a nice feature piece on the mail-out issue. Roach said four *Daily Lobo* staffers have won New Mexico Press Association Awards that will be announced at the NMPA fall convention. Roach said that advertising designer, Jessi Swartz, was nominated for three Associated Collegiate Press Pacemaker awards. She said the winners would be announced at the ACP annual convention at the end of October. Roach said newsroom staff numbers are at about 60 with many more applicants in waiting. Roach said the *Daily Lobo* is participating in two new partnerships; the Central New Mexico News Exchange that has membership among the smaller papers in New Mexico and the UNM Communication & Journalism department's NM Newsport, which is an outlet for the news writing classes and includes some content exchange. Roach said many *Daily Lobo* staffers are in the classes. She said the *Daily*

Lobo would be holding general election debates in mid October. She said so far, about half of the candidates are committed. She said the debates would be an hour in length and would be held in the Anthropology auditorium.

Donovan asked Jim Fisher for a review of Student Publications financials. Fisher discussed the 2013-14 *Daily Lobo* financial reports as well as the *Daily Lobo* summer 2014 report. He said summer revenue was the worst in quite some time. He said 2013-14, unfortunately, not a good year overall. Fisher said national revenue, which used to be 15-20 percent of the budget was pretty much non-existent. He said, *LoboDeals*, the new *Daily Lobo* coupon book made \$24,000, which was posted as revenue in the August financials. He said revenue made the August report look good but is worried about the following months consisting of daily advertising. He said the advertising department is considering another type of book for the spring similar in format to *LoboDeals*. Fisher said that both *CSW* and *BSE* are currently both financially sound.

Donovan asked Jim Fisher to discuss the GPSA funding to magazines. Fisher said he was sorry that Luke Holmen was not present for the meeting because he felt Holmen could clarify many of the issues with the funding. Fisher said Kris Miranda, former GPSA representative to the Student Publications Board, had worked hard to secure funding for the magazines was written into the GPSA bylaws. He said he assumed the legal issues for that funding had been resolved but apparently the monies are not in the GPSA budget or were not budgeted. He said GPSA President, Texanna Martin, had emailed Carolyn Souther stating that the language in the by-laws had not been approved by legal counsel at the time the GPSA budget was in process and we would have to go through the regular process of requesting funding for the magazines. Fisher said this is frustrating because this is the same communication that was stated the previous year. Lauren Wade stated, since it is adopted into their by-laws and posted on their website, it is official and there should not be any issues with the funding. Fisher said he feels that the Board should draft a letter to GPSA asking for guidance about the funding. Donovan asked Fisher and Sophie Martin to work on the letter. Wade made a motion for the Board to send a letter and to further investigate the GPSA bylaws and funding. Martin seconded the motion. The motion passed. Fisher asked that Wade be included in drafting the letter. The Board agreed.

Donovan asked for old business.

Fisher said that the *Daily Lobo* Policies and Procedures Handbook and the employee agreements and freelance agreements have been completed. He said he felt this was a significant accomplishment for the Board.

Trapp asked about the status of Marron Hall. Fisher said that for the foreseeable future he thought the building was not in jeopardy of being demolished. He noted that the building had recently been re-stuccoed.

Fisher said he wanted to acknowledge Carolyn Souther for acquiring several computers for the *Daily Lobo* from Zimmerman Library. He said the computers had just gone out of warranty but were perfectly good for the *Daily Lobo's* use. He said she is keeping her eye open for other items on the UNM listservs.

Donovan asked for new business.

Roach said that there could be some potential issues with the Newsport - *Daily Lobo* partnership. She said that the *Daily Lobo* writing coach, Kate Nash, has been hired as editor of the Newsport. Roach said as editor, Nash determines which stories are selected to be posted for the site. She said that student's grades are determined in part by those postings. Fisher asked if there were any issues that directly affected the *Daily Lobo*. Roach said that 65 percent of the students in the two classes that comprise the Newsport are also *Daily Lobo* staff members. She said one requirement for class is that all students must fill out a source sheet that will comprise a database for everyone to access. Roach said she sees a real problem with the *Daily Lobo* staffers having to divulge sources in this manner. Roach said she has had to go to Nash several times for assistance dealing with these types of issues pertaining to the Newsport. She feels the dual role may be putting Nash in an awkward position. She said she felt many of the details about how the Newsport operates have not been well thought out. Donovan asked Roach to keep the Board posted.

Donovan scheduled the next meeting for October 24 at 3:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 4:09 p.m.