

University of Michigan Board for Student Publications

Minutes of the April 24, 2023 Board Meeting

Board members present: Peter Mooney (Chair), Ann Marie Aliotta, Alan Broad, John Copeland, Susan Douglas, and Jewel Gopwani

Board members absent: Andrew Grossman, and Walter Middlebrook

The Michigan Daily was represented by: Aaron Santilli, Shannon Stocking and Kate Weiland

The Gargoyle was represented by: Nick Dabagia, Gautham Jayaraj and Sarrah Ahmed

SHEI Magazine was represented by: Sophia Gajdjis, Melina Schaefer and Apoorva Gautam

The Michiganensian was represented by: Dyanna Bateman, Ella Goulet and Mishal Charania

The Student Publications Staff was represented by: Kathy Ciesinski, Brennan Lafferty, Kim Tackett, and Evan Taylor

Others Present: None

Chair Peter Mooney called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m.

Minutes

A motion to approve the March 20th meeting minutes was made by John, seconded by Ann Marie, and passed without dissent.

Introductions

With new student leadership in attendance, introductions of board members and professional staff took place.

Public Comments

None

Publication Year-End Recap and Looking Ahead

The Michiganensian - Reporting by Dyanna and Ella

- Dyanna's last board meeting
- Business and edit working well together
- Introduced Mishal as the FY24 EIC
- Highly successful grad extravaganza event - involved other publications
- Great book sales; ordered 2,000 copies
- Partnering with LSA Student Government and Central Student Government to offer 450 cap/gown/tassel vouchers

SHEI Magazine - Reporting by Sophia and Melina

- Proud of the print publications and their quality
- Expanded professional development opportunities
- Made copies of some of the digital publications to give to digital editors in recognition of their efforts
- Introduced Apoorva - the new Publisher for FY24
- Exploring ways to increase magazine sales

Gargoyle Magazine - Reporting by Nick and Gautham

- Pleased with the art & writing for all four print issues
- Proud of the growth of the staff
- Nick thanked Gautham for his contributions

- Introduced Sarrah Ahmed as the incoming Business Manager
- Looking to expand social media for FY24
- Planning to do a distribution rack audit over the summer

The Michigan Daily - Updates provided by Shannon, Kate and Aaron

- Informed board of summer leadership - Samantha Rich - EIC and Ella Thompson - Business Manager
- Bylaw proposal passed so editors are paid more for their work
- Thinking about future growth of the Daily's staff
- Reviewing and discussing the consultant's videos
- Speaker series for the staff
- Brought back Open Mic night and Standing Room Only
- Sales team is feeling more confident
- Rolled out social media offerings
- Post-pandemic office culture has improved
- Handing out graduation issues on Saturday
- Looking at additional bylaw revisions for the fall

Committee Reports

Finance and New Initiatives:

Kathy discussed the FY24 budget process.

A motion to approve the FY24 budgets was made by Ann Marie Aliotta, seconded by Susan Douglas, and passed without dissent.

Board Organization and Operations:

Alan provided a recap of the meeting he, Pete and Kathy had with Provost Laurie McCauley, and Pete added his key takeaways from the meeting as well. Kathy and Christine from Provost McCauley's office will schedule a follow up meeting.

Recruitment and Nominating Committee:

Jewel provided updates on the candidates with which she and John have been having conversations. Dyanna and Mishal also provided feedback on their interaction with Jillian. John, Jewel and Pete will schedule a meeting with Geoff. Final nominations and voting will take place over the summer.

New Business

Discussion of FY24 meeting dates.

A motion to approve September 11, and November 27, 2023, and January 22, March 18, and April 29, 2024, as meeting dates for FY24 was made by Ann Marie, seconded by Susan, and passed without dissent. Since we were able to find a location for the student scholarship and awards brunch early enough in September, the September 11th meeting was moved to Sunday, September 10th and posted on the board meeting page of the Student Publications' website.

Recognition of outgoing board members, Peter Mooney and Alan Broad. Both provided some reflections on their time as board members.

A motion to adjourn was made by Alan, seconded by John, and passed without dissent.

At 6:48 pm Chair Peter Mooney closed the meeting.

Actions Taken:

Motion to approve the March 20th meeting minutes: John Copeland

Seconded by: Ann Marie Aliotta

The motion passed without dissent.

Motion to approve FY24 budgets: Ann Marie Aliotta

Seconded by: Susan Douglas

The motion passed without dissent.

Motion to approve board meeting schedule for FY24: Ann Marie Aliotta

Seconded by: Susan Douglas

The motion passed without dissent.

Motion to adjourn: Alan Broad

Seconded by: John Copeland

The motion passed without dissent.

Next Meeting Date: Sunday, September 10, 2023, immediately following the scholarship brunch.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Ciesinski

General Manager

Office of Student Publications