

Minutes of the March 7, 2022 Meeting of the ASUCLA Communications Board

Board members present: Jessica Behmanesh, Jesse Coronado, Andrea Gambino, Steve Greim, Tim Groeling, Judy Hernandez, Alexandre (Alex) Holt, Sylvia Robledo, Navdha Sharma, Samira Singleton, Ida Tongkumvong, Doria Deen

Board members absent: Shantall Medina

Guests present: Justin Jung (Daily Bruin Assistant News Editor), Cecile Wu (Daily Bruin Managing Editor), Abigail Goldman (Student Media Adviser), Shirley Yao (Daily Bruin Digital Managing Editor), Genesis Qu (Daily Bruin Editor in Chief), Victoria Li (Daily Bruin Assistant News Editor), Jeremy Wildman (Student Media Business Manager)

Agenda

I. Call to order (Gambino)

Gambino called the meeting to order at 5:55 p.m.

I. Approval of the agenda (Gambino)

Coronado moved to approve the agenda. Groeling seconded the motion. The motion passed by consent.

II. Approval of February 7, 2022 minutes (Gambino)

Greim moved to approve the minutes. Singleton seconded the motion. The motion passed by consent.

III. Executive Committee Report (Gambino)

Gambino said the committee had not met but they were planning to meet soon to go over several items.

IV. Operations Committee Report (Singleton)

Singleton said the committee met on February 24. She said Qu reported that Daily Bruin had been busy in February because there were a lot of breaking news stories. He said they had just published their Black History Month package online and in print. They were on the newsstands. He said that Prime was being sent to the printer the day of the meeting so it should already be out on stands.

Venkatesh said that things were going well with Pacific Ties. She said they were publishing three to four articles per week. A few writers were late but their articles should have been out by the end of the following week. She said they were aiming to publish an online print magazine and were still debating whether to print a physical magazine next

quarter. She said all the pages were done. Singleton asked why they planned to print only virtually and not a physical print issue. Venkatesh said she didn't think the staff had time because some folks were still working remotely.

Goldberg said that Ha' Am had a backlog of articles waiting to be published. The articles were waiting on final edits. He said there were eight coming out within the next week/week and a half. Singleton said asked if they planned to publish a physical print issue, and Goldberg said they were planning to print one edition at the beginning of spring quarter.

V. Finance Committee Report (Coronado)

Coronado said the finance committee met on March 3 and discussed the December financial statements. He said the numbers looked good and were better than forecast. He said they also approved the 2022-2023 budget assumptions and were recommending approval from the full board.

VI. Media Director's Report (Deen)

Deen reported on the following:

Newsmagazine Posts per Week

Deen shared newsmagazine posts for weeks six through nine. All of the newsmagazines had published online and most were on target towards meeting the minimum one article per week requirement.

Past, Present and Future Projects

Deen said the external financial audit performed by KPMG was complete, and KPMG found that Comm Board's financial statements presented fairly. The UCLA Internal Audit was underway and would be wrapping up shortly. Deen said the UCLA Internal Audit was performed every five years. Lastly, she said she needed to revisit the UCLA Writing Center plan to add a class for academic credit for Student Media students. Groeling said a new class would be able to be added under Comm Studies.

VII. Public Comment (Gambino)

Qu said that the Daily Bruin had published their Black History Month package as well as Prime. He also noted that Daily Bruin won 20 CMA Awards. Wu said that the Daily Bruin had ramped up their editor in chief endorsement hearing process. They shortened the time allotted for deliberations, and they moved the hearing to Saturday.

New Business/Discussion Items

VIII. December Financial Statements (Deen)

Deen said that total income was \$93,276 and budgeted income was \$95,984 leaving us <\$2,708> (<3>%) under budget. Both Daily Bruin and Web were down to budget 48% and 9% respectively, but Outdoor was up 89% to budget. Total expense was \$98,979 and budgeted expense was \$107,829 leaving us \$8,850 (8%) better than budget. Net revenue was a loss of <\$5,703> and budgeted net revenue was a loss of <\$11,845> leaving us \$6,142 (52%) better than budget. Year to date net revenue was \$2,164 but budgeted net revenue was a loss of <\$40,416> leaving us \$42,580 (105%) better than budget. Cash reserves stood at \$903,000 leaving us \$617,000 above policy.

Deen forecasted that in February both Daily Bruin and Outdoor would be down 23% and 10% to budget respectively, but Web Media would be up 1% to budget.

New Business/Action Items

I. ASUCLA Communications Board 2022-2023 Budget Assumptions (Deen)

Deen presented the assumptions to the board, and there were some concerns and items that were requested to be changed. The original inflation rate was estimated at 2.9%. Groeling recommended changing it to 6%. The original CPI increase for PLEGE was estimated at 1%, but Groeling recommended changing it to 2%. The Daily Bruin print schedule was originally projected for two days a week, but Coronado suggested three times per week.

Greim moved to approve the amended 2022-2023 ASUCLA Communications Board Budget Assumptions. Robledo seconded the motion. The motion passed by a member vote of 10-0 with 1 abstention.

II. OutWrite 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 Editor in Chief selection (Deen)

A. Christopher Ikonou, candidate

Coronado moved to enter executive session at 6:59 p.m. Robledo seconded the motion. The motion passed by consent.

Groeling moved to exit executive session at 7:50 p.m. Robledo seconded the motion. The motion passed by consent.

Groeling moved to appoint Christopher Ikonou as the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 OutWrite Editor in Chief. Greim seconded the motion. The motion passed by a member vote of 11-0 with no abstentions.

III. Executive Session (Deen)

IV. Adjourn (Gambino)

Greim moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 p.m. Holt seconded the motion. The motion passed by consent.