

Faculty Senate Agenda Item

No. 09-13

SUBJECT: Board of Student Publications and Faculty Handbook discrepancies

REASON: There appear to be some discrepancies between the Constitution of the Board of Student Publications and the Faculty Handbook. Since 2000, the Board of Student Publications has functioned within its constitution. Board members were unaware the Faculty Handbook has not been changed to reflect the practices of the board.

The Faculty Handbook suggests that the Dean of Students represent the Board of Student Publications at the Faculty Senate. As one member of the Board is from the Faculty Senate, it seems unnecessary and inappropriate for the Dean of Students to represent the Board at Faculty Senate meetings.

The Faculty Handbook also allows the Washburn Student Government Association to appoint four student members to the Board. This is an inappropriate requirement, as it, in effect, allows the government to control the press.

MOTION: In light of these and additional concerns, the following changes to the Faculty Handbook are proposed:

-----2. The Board of Student Publications (VPAA/VPSL)

The purpose of the Board of Student Publications shall be to set general policies for student publications (as outlined in the board's Constitution), to enforce the "Policy for Student Publications of Washburn University," and to encourage effective student publications at Washburn University.

The board reports to the Faculty Senate. ~~The Dean of Students~~ **The Faculty Senate member of the Board will represent the board at Faculty Senate.**

The board shall be responsible for safeguarding the editorial freedoms of student publications as outlined in the "Policy for Student Publications of Washburn University;" for selecting the best qualified applicants for the positions of Review Editor, Kaw Editor, Business Manager and Ad Manager; for interviewing and hiring a production adviser; and for reviewing and accepting into record an annual budget submitted by the Business Manager of the two publications at the first ~~March~~ **fall meeting of the board.**

Membership of the board shall consist of three members of the faculty ~~and staff~~ of Washburn University and four students in good standing at the University. There must not be more than one faculty member from any one academic department, nor shall student members be either elected officials of **members of WSGA**, be serving as an executive officer of that organization, or be on staff of student publications. The advisers ~~and editors~~, **editors, business manager, and advertising manager** of the Kaw and Review are ex officio members.

1. ~~The Vice President for Academic Affairs appoints the faculty members to the board. One member shall be a member of the Faculty Senate and the others shall not.~~
2. **Faculty.** The faculty members of this board will be appointed by the Vice President for Academic Affairs in consultation with the chair of the Department of Mass Media, and shall include: (1) a member of the faculty of Mass Media, (2) a member of the Faculty Senate, and (3) a third member of the faculty. There shall not be more than one faculty member for any one academic department.
3. ~~The Washburn Student Association will recommend to the Faculty Senate the names of four currently enrolled Washburn students meeting the qualifications outlined above.~~
4. **Students.** The four students will be appointed by the Vice President for Academic Affairs. The appointments will be made from a list of student applicants submitted to a review committee. The WSGA office and the Board of Publications will advertise the positions and take applications on an all-campus basis. No more than two students will have the same major. The review committee will be the Dean of Students, Chairperson of the Board of Student Publications, the Director of Student Publications, and the WSGA president. The review committee will meet at the end of April of each academic year to review applicants for the following year and make their recommendations to the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

~~There are two officers of the board, a chair appointed by the chair of the Department of Mass Media and an administrative assistant hired by the board.~~ **The chair of the board is elected by the members of the board.**

REQUESTED ACTION: Faculty Senate Approval

Date: September 14, 2009

Submitted by: Thomas Prasch
Faculty Senate President for
Kathy Menzie, Interim Chair
Mass Media Department