

Journalism Advisory Committee Meeting

Tuesday, April 23, 2024, 3:30 PM

Present on Zoom: Eric Bonds, Kimberley Kinsley (chair), Juliette Landphair (ex officio), Marie McAllister (secretary), Farhang Rouhani, Sushma Subramanian (ex officio), with new member Swati Agrawal.

I. NEW BUSINESS

Members and officers for 2024-25: The committee welcomed new member Swati Agrawal, and will welcome new member Hilary Stebbins in fall. Sushma volunteered to organize the committee's August meeting, at which officers will be elected.

II. OLD BUSINESS

a. UMW FOIA policies related to OSCAR with reference to response from UMW's Director of University Communications

See February 2024 JAC minutes for an overview of this ongoing discussion.

In fall, the committee will attempt to get a definitive answer to the question of whether the outcomes of OSCAR violations involving violence should be public knowledge, and thus FOIAable, if anonymized. Juliette will look into the issue now. The Committee may invite Sandy Gregor, UMW's Senior Assistant Attorney General and University Counsel, to a future meeting.

[Note to next year's committee: see February 2024 minutes and also an email from Juliette Landphair, sent at 5:24 pm on 3/26/24, which includes information from Amy Jessee about FOIA and from Juliette about how the Code of Conduct was updated last year. Also see follow-up email from Juliette, sent at 7:46 am on 4/26/24.]

b. Local journalism panel

Sushma has found a donor to sponsor a panel discussion on the death of traditional local journalism and the implications for democracy, and on the new shape of local journalism in Fredericksburg. She will reach out to panelists over the summer. It was suggested that a representative from *Weekly Ringer* be invited, and Kim offered assistance. Sushma requested that interested and supportive departments find ways to publicize the event to their students so it is well attended.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

a. Location of *The Weekly Ringer* offices

Students are managing in "the Clubhouse," but the hope is that a more central permanent space can be found once some of the emergency building repairs are completed. Juliette suggested that the editor-in-chief speak with her about space, as part of long-term planning.

b. Thanks

The committee thanked Kim for two years' valiant service as chair. Marie was also thanked for her service as secretary this year.