

Media Advocacy Board

Public Editor Application 2010-2011

The public editor serves as the readers' representative: a critical voice that publicly speaks to campus publications on behalf of the Tufts community. Articles written by the editor appear regularly on the Public Editor blog; on-campus publications will also have the opportunity to print the editor's work. The editor is paired with Neil Swidey, a writer for the Boston Globe Magazine and Tufts alum, who will serve as a mentor.

The opinions of the editor will be his or her own but ought to represent the concerns and attitudes of the Tufts community. Articles could be about content deemed to be offensive, violations of journalistic ethics, or charges of bias. Beyond this, the public editor fields and address the legitimacy of complaints or concerns that are raised about the student media. This position does not serve as a punitive judge. It serves as the "conscience" of the student media and as a public mechanism for accountability and high-quality journalism within the university community. The position is largely self-directed and requires several hours of work each week.

To apply for the Spring 2010 position, complete the Public Editor application below and submit it to tuftsmedia@gmail.com along with your name, class year and contact information. Deadline is Friday, May 7th, 2010 at 5:00 PM.

- A. The Public Editor is responsible for regularly producing critical content about material published by members of the Tufts community. What specific past experiences will help you in this role? Please briefly discuss relevant experience in journalism or writing, especially at Tufts. If you like, include a copy of your current resume.
- B. The topic and scope of commentary published by the Public Editor is largely self-directed. Provide 2-3 ideas for pieces that you might write as the Public Editor. Ideas may be sourced from campus events, prior work on a campus publication, views of the campus media climate, or any other source you find appropriate. Be creative—ideas should be dynamic and original! Limit each idea to 100 words or less.
- C. Write your first piece as Public Editor. This can be an expansion of one of your ideas from part B, your take on an issue related to campus journalism, a response to a previous column by the Public Editor, or any other topic of your choice. If you are selected as the Public Editor, your response will be published as your first piece. Please plan for your article to be approximately 700 words.