

Minutes
President's Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility
Wednesday, February 22, 2012

Present: Amber Albee, Kelsey Barringham, Gina DeVivo Brassaw, Kimberly Fearney, Shareen Hertel, Nina Hunter, Leslie Langworthy, Kyle Muncy, William Simpson, Waldo Klein

Absent: Robert Bird, Phil Dwire, Peter Kochenburger, Susan Randolph, Rachel Rubin, John Sears

Meeting called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chair Hertel.

Minutes: Chair Hertel asked for approval of the minutes. A motion was made by Dennis Pierce to approve the January 12, 2012 minutes. The motion was seconded by Kyle Muncy and approved.

Update from Dining Services re: fair trade coffee sourcing and water bottles
(Dennis Pierce):

Prior to the meeting, Dennis Pierce provided the Committee the report "Impacts of Rainforest Alliance Certification." Dennis gave an overview of the certification process and case studies from sourcing sites in El Salvador (coffee); Kenya (tea); Colombia, Peru, Nicaragua (all coffee); and Chiquita Banana. There are over 31,000 Rainforest Alliance Certified (RAC) farms, 20 crops in 24 different countries. Over 2,000 companies source RAC products, 2% of world's coffee (\$700MM ERV), 3% world's tea (\$1 billion ERV) and 15% of world's bananas (\$700MM ERV). RAC focuses on sustainable farm management certification; 1.35 million acres certified in 24 countries. Discussion centered both on how social standards are covered under RAC (since this is not a fair trade certification program with a floor price) and on how UConn's main coffee supplier, Omar's, would coordinate rollout of newly certified RAC coffee on campus. Dennis Pierce will invite representatives of both Rainforest Alliance and Omar's to speak with the PCCSR on these issues.

On the water bottle front there is an ongoing search for a "Made in America" BPA- free, no-leak, small spout water bottle that could be embellished with a colored logo; ideally, the wholesale price would be roughly \$4.00. PCCSR members have brought examples of bottles for consideration, but these earlier bottles were cost prohibitive since they were made of aluminum. Gina DeVivo-Brassaw will share additional information on potential sources with Dennis Pierce, since Student Affairs has looked into similar purchasing and compiled related information on bottles. Dennis can then work with Purchasing on an RFI.

Residential Life is in the process of purchasing five bottle filling stations. Other areas that could use bottle filling stations would be the Library, Wilbur Cross and Departments.

Kelsey Barringham commented that students are concerned about the removal of water bottles because in Shippee dorm the water from the faucets is brown. Kim Fearney also mentioned that

in Brown Building the water is also not potable. Shareen Hertel will talk to John Sears and Rich Miller regarding water safety concerns. Nina Hunter will share a weblink link which is used to invite students to take part in a new online dialogue called *Ideascale*; students have already posted concerns, ideas and changes they would like to see at UConn around water quality issues. For details, see:

<http://uconn.ideascale.com/a/ideafactory.do?id=15415&mode=top&discussionFilter=byids&discussionID=17621>

Labor issues and the Storrs Downtown Partnership (Bill Simpson): Bill Simpson gave an overview of the Storrs Downtown Partnership and noted ongoing faculty concerns regarding labor policies at the construction site. An OSHA investigation into a workplace accident at the site is still being conducted. A group of faculty members who have concerns have met with Bill Simpson and Shareen Hertel, and Bill has arranged a meeting to involve those faculty in conversation with representatives of Leyland Alliance, the Town of Mansfield (Matt Hart and Antonia Moran), and Cynthia van Zelm (Storrs Downtown Partnership). The meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday, March 30, 2012. The Board is intent to resolve these issues and to address faculty and community concerns.

Discussion of potential contracting language on CSR (Leslie Langworthy): Leslie provided the Committee a draft final CSR contracting language used in crafting the RFP for the recent Pouring Rights contract. The Committee discussed what would be the proper steps to be taken before posting this language publicly to the President's Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility website. Kim Fearney would draft the language in consultation with Leslie Langworthy. Discussion also centered on developing a broader CSR policy for the University; Kim Fearney can spearhead this process, as it unfolds, since she has crafted broader guidelines related to policy development for the University more generally.

Leslie mentioned that Coke and Pepsi are scheduled to make presentations in the conference room of the Procurement Department over the next week. An invitation was extended to the Committee and Leslie will send meeting request to the members; Dennis Pierce, Nina Hunter, Tim Tolokan, and Shareen Hertel will all attend at least one (if not more) of the sessions by the three companies which will make presentations.

Update on Licensing (Kyle Muncy):

Kyle Muncy informed the Committee that he had provided information to the US Department of Justice as requested, in connection with the DOJ's ongoing assessment of competitive practices in collegiate licensing nationwide. Kyle is confident that UConn's licensing practices will be deemed appropriate by the DOJ.

Kyle reported that the Nike branding specialists will visit UConn on February 28, 2012 to begin a process of advising the University on consolidating its logos and marks. They will be meeting with Core Committee members, Senior Athletic Staff, Student-Athletes, and Coaching Staff, to review Athletic Uniforms and will also meet with President Herbst. By fall 2013 the school should have in place new logo and uniforms.

Chairwoman Hertel concluded the meeting at 4:05 p.m.

Next meeting is March 21, 2011, at 3:00 p.m. in Gentry Building, Room 246.