

Minutes  
President's Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility  
Wednesday, April 18, 2012

**Present:** Amber Albee, Kelsey Barringham, Gina DeVivo Brassaw, Phil Dwire, Shareen Hertel, Nina Hunter, Leslie Langworthy, Rachel Rubin, John Sears, Waldo Klein

**Absent:** Robert Bird, Kimberly Fearney, Peter Kochenburger, Kyle Muncy, Susan Randolph, William Simpson,

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 Waldo Klein to approve the March 21, 2012 minutes. The motion was seconded by Dennis Pierce and approved.

**Update on Code of Conduct discussions – HERTEL, FEARNEY:** Shareen informed the Committee that she met with Rachel Rubin regarding the possibility of developing a Vendor Code of Conduct for the University, and she was invited to make a presentation at Cabinet meeting on May 9, 2012.

**Update on Storrs Partnership (i.e., labor issues) – SIMPSON:** Shareen Hertel shared with the Committee the three proposals developed by an independent committee of concerned UConn professors, aimed at improving working condition at the Storrs Downtown site. That group of faculty met with representatives of the Town of Mansfield and the Downtown Partnership asked them to consider two concrete proposals for improving working conditions at the Storrs Downtown site and at future, publicly financed construction projects in Mansfield. Discussions between the concerned faculty and members of the Partnership are ongoing; Bill Simpson has played a key role in facilitating discussions between the parties.

**Update on Dining Services: Omar Coffee event; water bottle purchase for Fall 2012 distribution – PIERCE:** Dennis informed the Committee that the coffee vendor for Dining Services (Omar's Coffee) is working with Rainforest Alliance to purchased RA certified coffee for use by Dining Services. Dennis has invited representatives of Omar's and of Rainforest Alliance to the May 2012 meeting of the PCCSR, and he, Rich Miller, Gina DeVivo-Brassaw, John Sears, and Shareen Hertel will plan an outreach event in coffee sourcing and certification in the fall. Shareen Hertel also suggested that the PCCSR try to host an open learning forum regarding beverages and bottled water in the fall as well.

**Update on Licensing [DOJ and DSP] – MUNCY:** Mr. Muncy was not present at the meeting but shared with the Committee "My contacts at CLC have no updates to pass along to the group on either subject at this time. We have a seminar in late May in Atlanta that will be addressing the DSP language." Kyle will provide an update to the group at the August 22, 2012 meeting.

### Update on outreach events: Climate Change (MILLER):

Richard invited Carolina Somarribas to the meeting. Ms. Somarribas is a mid-career professional from San Jose, Costa Rica, participating in the United Nations University of Peace Women's Social Entrepreneurship mentoring program with UConn. This program has been grant funded, and is being administered through the University's Global Training and Development Institute. <http://www.gtdi.uconn.edu/CostaRica/index.html>

As part of this experience, Carolina has been attending meetings and activities related to environmental sustainability, social justice, and community empowerment; and she has been interviewing a wide range of individuals involved in similar projects and activities throughout the Willimantic, Mansfield, and Hartford region

Richard gave an overview of Climate Change Action Plan event that was held on Monday, March 26, 2012, to which the Committee was invited. There was excellent attendance. Speakers were President Susan Herbst, University of Connecticut, Professor Gene Likens, Member of the National Academy of Sciences & Board of Trustees, and Commissioner Daniel Esty, CT Department of Energy & Environmental Protection. President Herbst signed an updated climate change adaptation commitment expanding the University's existing Climate-Action Plan.

Update on outreach event: Robin Romano event (Gina DeVivo-Brassaw): Gina introduced Evelyn Arce Chavarria from Retro Juvenile <http://www.retojuvenilcr.org/centralamerica-volunteer/> who is participating in the program offered by the University of Peace and Continuing Studies in which part of the program involves a Cultural Exchange.

Gina informed the Committee that the film "*The Harvest/La Cosecha*" showed in the Student Union on Thursday, April 12, 2012; more than 100 students, faculty, staff and community members attended the screening. The film documents the life of migrant children and their families involved in the agricultural industry in the United States. Director Robin Romano joined for a dialogue immediately following the film. Romano has traveled extensively documenting human rights issues for advocacy organizations around the world. Thereafter, a dinner and structured dialogue event involving 60 students, faculty and staff was hosted in the Jorgensen Gallery; Food Services provided a locally sourced meal and related outreach materials.

This was Co-Sponsored by the PCCRS, SUBOG, Human Rights Institute, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Community Outreach, and the UConn Humanities Institute.

Gina also reminded the Committee that Earth Day celebrations will take place on Thursday, April 29, 2012. The outdoor festival will be sponsored by the Office of Environmental Policy and the Department of Dining Services, included local organic food for purchase, green technology and eco-friendly business displays, presentations by UConn's schools, colleges, and student organizations, and Mt. Sneaker, UConn's annual sneaker recycling initiative. Please mark your calendars.

Gina reminded the Committee that the annual "Give and Go" recycling program is scheduled for May 2 through May 6; there will be 14 locations for drop-off of usable donations (dorm supplies, etc.) on campus.

Chairwoman Hertel thanked Amber Albee for all her time as a Committee member. Amber will be graduating in May and we would like to wish her all the best. Shareen asked members to send her recommendation to fill Amber's student post on the Committee

Chairwoman Hertel concluded the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 16, 2011, at 3:00 p.m. in Gentry Building, Room 246.