

President's Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility
January 24, 2007
WCB, G29
3:00 PM

Committee members in Attendance: Waldo Klein, Chair, Julie Bell Elkins, Shareen Hertel, Timothy Tolokan, Peter Kochenburger, William Simpson, Susan Randolph, Lakshman Thakur, Samson Kimenyi and John Schreiber.

Others in Attendance: Cathy Downs, Harriet Johnson, Ryan McCarthy and Molly Kenefick.

Not in Attendance: Boris Bravo-Ureta.

Introductions

After introductions of members in attendance, Chairman Klein asked that we move agenda item number 5 to the top of the agenda since John Schreiber would need to leave the meeting early.

Student Government Initiative on Sweat-Free Tee-Shirt Purchases

USG has put together an ad hoc committee to review all of USG's rules and regulations. This committee has not met yet, but they hope to meet bi-weekly and this item is something that this committee can work on. John and USG will work to put legislation forward on sweat-free tee-shirt purchases.

Even if USG moves forward with this, the University is still all over the map with purchases. We need to get consistency on campus for logos, etc. Once we have the model from USG, this Committee will need to develop a set of recommendations for the University. Tim Tolokan will look into developing a list that we can send out to contract vendors.

DSP Update

DOJ Update Attorney Baker met with the DOJ the first week in January and offered a couple of phrases to be altered in the letter, but nothing of significance. Once we get a copy of this letter, Julie will forward it on to Committee members.

College Bookstore Letter Julie sent out the College Bookstore letter to the group in December for review. This letter raises a number of issues that might come up. Julie will resend the letter to the Committee to review.

El Salvador

Julie distributed a schedule for the Working Group's possible trip to an apparel producing country to visit factories and meet with garment workers. This Committee has some concerns about this sort of trip. Because we wanted to be clearer about the possibility of this trip, Julie distributed the information and schedule on this trip. Julie talked with Ron Schurin in the President's Office about this and he asked for the committee to make a recommendation to the President about participation with this trip. Dr. Saddlemire, Vice President for Student Affairs, has also offered his support of a student going on this trip.

Julie will continue to monitor the information about the proposed trip by the WRC and UCONN will participate if it is possible and meets the goals of the committee.

Meeting with Licensees

Jim Wilkerson has advised us that Attorney Baker will not be available for the Licensees meeting and that no other attorney is available for this meeting. Our AG's office has advised that an Attorney needs to be available for this meeting. Julie and Peter will be meeting with Nancy Steffan of the WRC, Jim Wilkerson chair of the DSP Working Group, and Attorney Baker to find a workable solution.

Workshop Review and Update

The Social Accountability Forum has been scheduled for March 20 from 2-5 p.m. Discussion took place on individuals who have confirmed attendance as well as those suggested individuals that will need to be contacted. Chairman Klein requested that Committee Members that could help with some of the requests, contact him. Mike Sarra will provide leadership for the publicity for the event. USAS and USG can help to get student involvement for the Workshop. We will need to obtain bios from all of the individuals who will serve on the panel so we can develop a program. A suggestion was made to show the movie, Thirst at the conclusion of the workshop.

President Austin

Participation in the Workshop President Austin will not be able to participate in the workshop due to a scheduling conflict. Ron Schurin will attend on behalf of the President.

Discussion of future issues Chairman Klein informed the Committee that he has raised the question on the future of this Committee once a new President is appointed. Our Committee will prepare a letter to the new President outlining the importance and purpose of this Committee to the University. USG will also prepare a Statement of Position from them for this Committee that will be forwarded to the new President, once appointed.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility will be held on Wednesday, February 14, 2007 at 3:00 p.m. in Room G29 of the Wilbur Cross Building. We will also hold a meeting on Wednesday, March 28, 2007 at 3:00 p.m. in room G29 of the Wilbur Cross Building.