Minutes
President’s Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility
Wednesday, September 15, 2010
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.


Absent:  Shareen Hertel, Samson Kimenyi, Peter Kochenburger, and Ronald Schurin

Meeting called to order at 3:05 p.m. by Chairman Klein.

Minutes:  Chairman Klein requested approval of the April 28, and May 19, 2010 minutes. A motion was made by Timothy Tolokan to approve the minutes, William Simpson seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Update from the President’s Office:  Chairman Klein welcomed Susan Randolph who returned from sabbatical. He informed the Committee that he will be meeting with President Austin to provide an update on the Committee’s work regarding Russell and Alta Gracia. Chairman Klein informed the Committee that he was in touch with Dr. Julie Elkins, who was appointed Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Life and Learning, a joint position in both the Division of Student Life and the University College at Indiana University.

Russell Update:  Mr. Tolokan informed the Committee that Russell continues to make progress towards fulfilling commitments that were made with the union at the negotiation table and that we are in compliance with labor rights standards required by the Fair Labor Association (FLA). Russell would like to earn back the University of Connecticut’s business. Mr. Tolokan informed the Committee that as of today, Wednesday, September 15, 2010, at 1:00 p.m., 37 of 75 schools have signed back with Russell. Chairman Klein received an email from Scott Nova sharing a “statement that was issued jointly by Nike and worker representatives, announcing the agreement concerning the former workers of Hugger de Honduras and Vision Tex. Under this unprecedented agreement, Nike will: Pay $1.54 million to the workers – to be distributed by the WRC, the Solidarity Center, and worker representatives…”

Campus Community Outreach Plans – Discussion:  Chairman Klein asked to form a Subcommittee to formulate ideas, activities, and plan for an event for students which would inform and teach the students about sweatshops and what role the Committee members play. The members that will serve on the Subcommittee: Gina DeVivo, Leslie Langworthy, Susan Randolph and Waldo Klein.

Alta Gracia Update:  Chairman Klein shared with the Committee an article from The New York Times “Factory Defies Sweatshop Label, but Can it Thrive?” By Steven Greenhouse.
Updates from Campus:

**Dining Services**: Ms. Synnott reported on the recent purchase of a new dishwashing machine for South Campus that is energy efficient. The new machine uses less water than the old machine. “Retail operations are researching and changing over disposable packaging to items that contain a higher level of recycled materials in them and can be recycled again. Also looking for items that when disposed of and not recycled will burn more efficiently at the trash to energy plant where the waste ends up. Recently purchased a Somat eCorect machine for South Campus to reduce food waste going into the waste stream. The machine cooks down and dehydrates the food waste over a period of 16 to 24 hours and the end product is a compost material that will be given to landscaping to use on campus. The plan is to over time purchase more of these machines for other locations in the future to further reduce wet garbage waste.”

**Purchasing**: Ms. Langworthy will do research regarding the Coca-Cola RFD. Ms. Langworthy “clarified the unfortunate timing of this renewal, particularly pertaining to the inclusion of some social responsibility language in the RFP/contract. She was referring to the fact that we have not yet been able to develop the Vendor Code of Conduct and thus will not be able to make it one of the weighted criteria. Certainly, language can be included in the document(s) and she would be happy to propose some language to the PCCSR as well as the Evaluation Committee. In the research and discussions regarding the development of a Vendor Code of Conduct, there was language that could be tightened up and would be appropriate.”

The next Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 20, at 3 p.m.

Chairman Klein made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Simpson seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.