Minutes
President's Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility
Wednesday, January 24, 2012

Attendees: Amber Albee, Nina Hunter, Kelsey Barringham, Phil Dwyer, Leslie Langworthy, Bill Simpson, John Sears, Gina DeVivo Brassaw, Rich Miller, Shareen Hertel.

1) Call to order – Hertel; request for notetaker; John Sears agreed to serve.

2) Approval of minutes – Rich Miller proposed; John Sears seconded; approved

3) Update on beverage contract – Leslie Langworthy noted there is nothing new to report yet.

4) Update on spring outreach:

   a. John Sears reported that Res Ed is progressing well with the “Times Talk” platform and collaboration with Gina will be a major anchor for Times Talks events this spring; Phil Dwyer has already given a well attended guest talk on labor rights in manufacturing connected with a NYT talk on Russell. Several spring Times Talk events are planned around themes related to national elections and the Dodd Film Series.

   b. Gina DeVivo-Brassaw reported that a February 2012 Community Outreach event will take place on healthcare for the homeless and will be coordinated with a follow-up dialogue through Times Talk.

   c. A screening of the movie, The Harvest, and talk with filmmaker Robin Romano will take place on April 5, 2012, focusing on labor and environmental rights in US agriculture. Catering will be developing a “Local Routes” menu for the event.

   d. A spring Careers for the Common Good event will take place – details forthcoming from Gina; Rich Miller is keen to link efforts so that sustainable employment options are included.

   e. John Sears inquired if the local and national coffee issues would be a possible Times Talk topic and Shareen Hertel agreed.

   f. Res Ed continues to encourage strong student participation in the Dodd Center Human Rights Film Series on “Human Rights & Ethical Consumption” (see: http://doddcenter.uconn.edu/dd/events/hr_film_series_2011_2012.htm)
5) Licensing: Phil Dwyer reported on behalf of Kyle Muncy and Tim Tolokan that the Dept of Justice inquiry (i.e., “Letter of Inquiry” and ongoing investigation of collegiate licensing practices) is proceeding. UConn continues to provide information to the DOJ upon request – this is a very standard practice, and UConn is confident that its policies will be upheld.

6) New Business:

a. Water bottles: Shareen Hertel reported that Dennis Pierce is still exploring various water bottle options so that Dining Services can provide sustainably produced water bottles to incoming first year students in Fall 2012. John Sears reported that UCPEA would be glad to sign on as a co-sponsor; Shareen Hertel reported that AAUP is similarly interested to purchase bottles for faculty. Both UCPEA and AAUP would likely coordinate distribution through Food Services. Leslie Langworthy can coordinate with Dennis Pierce on related contracting requirements; Bill Simpson and Rich Miller have information on products that they could share. One issue to consider would be logo/imprint on the bottles.

b. CSR language in contracting – Shareen Hertel asked if members of the PCCSR would be open to exploring how standard language on CSR could be added to UConn contracts; Leslie Langworthy and Robert Bird have previously worked on related University code of conduct comparisons, and Leslie would be open to coordinating on this effort again.

7) Adjournment