

**President's Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility**  
**March 28, 2007**  
**WCB, G29**  
**3:00 PM**

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Committee members in Attendance: Waldo Klein, Chair, Julie Bell Elkins, Shareen Hertel, Timothy Tolokan, Susan Randolph, Boris Bravo-Ureta, Peter Kochenburger, Lakshman Thakur.

Others in Attendance: Cathy Downs, Molly Kenefick, Ryan McHardy and Harriett Johnson.

Not in Attendance: William Simpson, Samson Kimenyi, John Schreiber.

Announcements

Shareen distributed a flyer on the Human Rights Awareness Festival being held on Campus April 9-14, 2007. Shareen also suggested a link be put on our web site to the Human Rights web site for this information. Shareen asked if Julie could represent the Committee by presenting the opening for the Sweat free Fashion Show. Julie agreed and will follow up with the students.

This Friday at noon at the Law School there will be a Women of Color event.

DSP Update

Julie attended the meeting of the University Caucus of the WRC held on March 13, 2007 at Georgetown. It was a very small meeting with only about 30 folks in attendance in comparison to about 60 the previous year. Julie outlined a couple of important items discussed at the meeting: discussion about not using the term "living wage," there have been a lot of "behind the scenes" meetings; and the 50/50 rule was discussed as well.

Julie has put in her name to be elected to the Board as a B school for UConn.

A very lengthy discussion took place on the pilot program and if UConn might have an interest in participating in this pilot program along with the other three schools? The Committee requested that Julie obtain an outline of the pilot program with more details before a decision is made. Julie agreed to do this and get back to the Committee with this information.

The sub group that Julie formed met at the Caucus and she will be putting together a couple of additional telephone meetings to move this along. USAS is troubled that we are having this conversation about alternatives to the DSP in case of a negative ruling by the DOJ.

On April 11 at Columbia there will be an Academic Panel about DSP with the Executive Director from FLA and WRC as panelists. Julie will be attending and if anyone else is interested in attending, let Julie know.

Licensee Update/BJ&B Update

Information was distributed on the BJ&B factory closure. There are two other factories that USAS had brought forward that have since closed as well. There is also a big move on the Philippines and South Africa and the issue of closing plants and reopening them a few months later with only contract workers. The use of contract workers allows companies to hire workers for a fixed period of time without any benefits. This means that contract workers are not eligible for health care, raises, reviews, and at times are forced to work overtime without additional pay.

Other

Cancellation of the Social Accountability Forum

Waldo explained to the Committee that two of the speakers withdrew so the Forum was cancelled. One of the speakers withdrew because of an illness in the family and the other, Coca-Cola, decided that they did not want to participate.

Coca-Cola had agreed to do this Forum quite a long time ago and it was scheduled around their speaker's availability, so it was very disappointing to the Committee that they withdrew at the last minute. Ed Potter will be having a conference call this week that Julie will participate in.

Waldo will be drafting a letter to Robby Mills at Coca-Cola expressing the Committee's disappointment with their last minute decision to withdraw and he will copy others at Coca-Cola.

Athletics is working on a template for RFP's with language that says that UConn can cancel the contract if the company does not follow labor laws, etc. Tim will bring copies of the language template to share with Committee members at our next meeting.

Transition Issues

Waldo Klein will draft a final academic report of this Committee and discuss the length of terms for each committee member as well as rotating the membership so that we have continuity. We should also develop a list of possible individuals we would like to serve on the Committee as well.

USG Update

Ryan distributed a draft copy of an act that he and Molly would like to present at the next USG meeting on 4/11/07. He asked that Committee members review the document and get back to him with input. Several changes/additions were suggested by Committee members.

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USG will be drafting a position on Human Rights at the University and that USG would like to see the President's Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility continue when a new President is brought to UConn.

It was suggested that Julie sit on the Task Force that USG is developing as a representative of this Committee and that Tim sit in on meetings where items need to be approved on a case by case basis.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility will be held on Wednesday, April 25, 2007 at 3:00 p.m. in Room G29 of the Wilbur Cross Building.