

## **Advisory Committee On Corporate Responsibility in Investment Policy**

**Minutes of the Meeting – 6<sup>th</sup> April 2012**

### **Present:**

Christopher Bull (Chair)  
Sandra Seibel  
Anne Sharp  
Sean Dinces  
James Dunn  
Naoko Shibusawa  
Stanley Griffith  
Vazira Zamindar  
Daniel Moraff

Nikoo Fadaifard (Research Assistant)

### **Agenda:**

- I. Welcome of new member Daniel Moraff, appointed by UCS
- II. Discussion of Response to Students for Justice in Palestine
- III. Plan review of proxy voting guidelines
- IV. Discuss other areas requiring action (Keystone Pipeline)
- V. New Business

Meeting commenced at 12:00 PM

### **Items:**

- I. Welcome of Daniel Moraff
  - a. Introduced to existing ACCRIP members and familiarized with ACCRIP's purpose
- II. Discussion of Response to Students for Justice in Palestine
  - a. Committee member acknowledged that the previous years ending debate on the subject was contentious, while acknowledging membership changes and possibility of a different consensus on the issue this year.
  - b. The committee members agree that SJP's concerns are an issue. It is agreed that the Chair will compose a letter to the SJP members informing them that the committee will further discuss the issue. The Chair will draft a response to SJP and send it to committee members for suggestions and is open to ideas for the response.
  - c. Committee member raised the impact of divestment, as well as the need to keep in mind the possible responses the alumni would have to divestment. . Discussion of divestment continued with reasoning that the university is a leader and divestment would be a symbolic gesture and set an example.
  - d. The committee agreed that the issue should be brought to the attention of the President in a letter. In the letter the committee must address the concerns of the SJP as well as ethical and moral implications. According to the Charter of the University the committee believes it does go against

the moral principles the university holds itself to and thus warrants a letter to the President.

III. Sudan

- a. The list of companies divested from has never been updated.
- b. The Committee has joined the Conflict Risk Network. The CRN is a non-profit network of institutional investors, financial service providers, and relevant stakeholders that are concerned with the actions of corporate actors in their responsibility to uphold and respect the standards of human rights. The CRN produces a Sudan Company Report that informs its investors of corporate actor engagement in the region. The committee will be given access to read about the criteria CRN uses to determine what companies make the report list.
- c. Two members have volunteered to vet the CRN and two other members volunteered to research what is currently going on in Sudan politically.

IV. Discussion of other areas requiring action

- a. The committee discussed a mechanism for people to alert the committee on issues of concern. Currently the issue of Keystone has had a large reaction among the students. Concern was also raised over the possibility of Brown's investment in a private prison.
- b. The committee agreed that further information regarding Keystone and the private prison were needed.

V. New Business

- a. The committee will need a new research assistant for the upcoming year. A suggestion to contact members of the Brown group Students for Responsible Investment was suggested. It is how the committee found their current research assistant.
- b. The Chair also brought up the need to discuss the issue of a new Chair for the upcoming year.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:30