Advisory Committee on Corporate Responsibility in Investment Policy (ACCRIP)
Minutes on the Meeting October 22, 2012
DRAFT

Present:
Christopher Bull (Chair)
Naoko Shibusawa
Jamie Dunn
Sandra Seibel
Daniel Moraff
Anne Sharp
Ian Trupin
Garry Padula

By Phone:
Sean Dinces

Absent:
Vazira F-Y Zamindar
Stanley Griffith
Fred Alper

AGENDA:

1. Introduction of research assistant

   Leanza was introduced as the Committee's new research assistant.

2. Approval of minutes from last week

   The motion made to accept minutes from the Oct. 1, 2012 meeting. The motion was approved and all of the previous meeting's minutes were accepted with all in favor.

3. Review of SJP letter

   The Committee discussed various edits to a draft of the SJP letter. It was agreed to add to the letter that the BSJP cited abuses cited by the United Nations Human Rights Council and the International Court of Justice. A number of other alterations to the content & language of the letter's text were made, including a commitment to readdress the issue next semester and a call for expanded campus dialogue. The final edit will be sent to members of the Committee for voting purposes. Although the Committee was fairly close to consensus on the letter, the Committee debated whether to send the letter to the BDH or the BUCC in addition to the President and the BSJP. It was decided that sending it to the president and the student group would be more consistent with the Committee's charge.

4. Presentation by representatives of Divest Coal campaign (Emily Kirkland and Katie Cohen)

   Kirkland and Cohen gave an overview of their group's proposal to get Brown to divest from companies extracting coal. Their presentation offered a description of campus activity around the issue, elaborated on the environmental & health hazards of coal production and provided evidence to counter-act the argument that closing coal plants will result in a major loss in jobs. Their overall thesis was that the negative consequences of coal production outweigh the loss in revenue sustained by Brown as a result of divestment from coal companies. After their presentation, a discussion ensued in which Padula (Investment office) answered questions related to the endowment posed by Committee members. A much less controversial issue than the JSP proposal, the Coal Divestment campaign will be looked over again at the next meeting once further research has been conducted. Shibusawa has suggested that the question of what type of push-back the Coal Divestment campaign has received should be inquired to the group via email.

   Their email addresses are:
   Emily_kirkland@brown.edu
   Kathyrn_cohen@brown.edu

5. Decision on INCR (Investor Network on Climate Risk) dues

   The decision on whether or not to pay the INCR dues, totaling $1,500, was postponed until the next Committee meeting.