ACCRIP Meeting April 27, 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT
Vazira Zamindar
Naoko Shibusawa
Fulvio Domini
Ann Furuyama (on phone)
Katie Silberman
David Muller (on phone)
Caitlin Murphy
James Kase (on phone)

GUESTS
Anne Sharpe
Erica Nourijan
Molly Landis
Joshua Kennedy, Investment Director (and alum)

AGENDA:
1. update on fossil fuel proposal (see BDH article)
2. proxy resolutions (see attachment)
3. new ACCRIP chair
4. approval of minutes from past meetings

DISCUSSION:
On the morning of the meeting, the text of the President's official announcement of the Task Force was shared with ACCRIP. We read the text and voted unanimously on a formal response: "We are pleased with the President's announcement and look forward to the recommendations of the task force in March 2018."

Proxy resolutions and revising proxy guidelines: We looked at memo prepared by chair on recent proxy resolutions that had come before ACCRIP but did not have an adequate guideline for voting - thus requiring an updating of existing guidelines. The Investment Office staff explained the process of voting against management when there is no guideline, as well as the process for creating a new guideline.

There was a discussion of a resolution calling for human rights reporting. There was an initial argument in light of the difficulty of creating new guidelines to abstain in the case of this specific resolution, but others argued that our human rights guideline in spirit allows us to vote "for" the resolution – ACCRIP voted unanimously to support the "for" resolution for human rights reporting.

For new guidelines: Additional language for existing human rights guidelines was discussed, (including the significance of "countries with human rights violations") and new guidelines for political contributions and lobbying expenditures. Investment Office explained that guidelines are ten years old and do not reflect new concerns that have been coming up in resolutions. Committee voted unanimously to support the changes in the guidelines. Final document for presenting to the president would be circulated via email.

Interim chair – with the departure of two faculty members and one on leave, it is important to have an interim chair who has already served on the committee. Therefore the need to adapt the committee rules to allow a non-faculty member to chair the committee was discussed. Katie Silberman was nominated and unanimously voted as interim chair for Fall 2017. The committee may further review rules for chair in the fall.

It was decided to approve Meeting Minutes via email.