President’s Advisory Committee  
On Labor Standards and Human Rights  

MINUTES  
March 8, 2016, 2:00 – 3:30 PM  
W2719, Wyly Hall  

Attendees: Ravi Anupindi (chair), Kelsea Ballantyne, Khaled Eid, Stacey Glemser, Sioban Harlow, Eni Kruja, Nicholas Rine, Britney Rashleigh (staff to committee)  
Absences: Kristen Ablauf, Susan Waltz, and Rebecca Wren  

Committee Business  
As a result of committee absences, approval of the committee’s February 2016 minutes was deferred. Following the meeting, staff to the committee, Britney Rashleigh, will circulate these minutes electronically for committee approval.  

Upcoming Events  
Chair Ravi Anupindi reminded the committee of its last formal meeting of the academic year slated for 2 – 3:30 PM on Friday, April 8th.  

Chair Anupindi revisited the announcement of Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, Founder and Chairman of BRAC, as the newest recipient of the Thomas Francis Jr. Medal in Global Public Health. During the committee’s February 2016 meeting, Chair Anupindi shared that the committee was offered the opportunity meet with Sir Fazle during his visit to campus in April 2016. The committee overwhelming expressed interest in this potential given that labor standards and human rights are one of BRAC’s key focus areas. Chair Anupindi updated the committee on this proposal, sharing that the committee was slated to engage in an intimate conversation with Sir Fazle on the afternoon of April 7th. Committee members agreed to focus their conversation with Sir Fazle on the role BRAC could play in the committee’s objective of ensuring social responsibility of companies operating in Bangladesh, as well as how BRAC could provide a platform for research and student learning on social responsibility issues, perhaps through its own micro/small/medium enterprises. The location for this conversation is still being determined.  

Chair Anupindi also announced and invited the committee to attend the final presentation of Research Assistants Kristine Schantz and Ian Hecker, hired by the committee in December of 2015 to conduct an analysis by category of the University’s non-licensed goods procurement. This presentation is slated for April 22nd and the location still being finalized.  

Research and Educational Leadership  
In discussing the Research Assistant’s research projects, committee members remarked at how difficult social responsibility information is to find when no monitoring party is in place. Members questioned if the Fair Labor Association
(FLA) or Workers Rights Consortium (WRC) provided monitoring outside of just licensed goods and, if not, who could provide this service to the University. If an entity as such does not exist, committee members probed whether it would make sense to create a consortium of schools with aligned interests that partner together to ensure social responsibility accountability in non-licensed good procurement.

Chair Ravi Anupindi updated the committee on subcommittee review of applications submitted for the committee’s International Travel Awards and summer internship with Sumerra, LLC. He thanked the committee for their help in reviewing applicants and shared that Michael Jenuwine (undergraduate economics and mathematics student) was the successful applicant for the 2016 summer internship with Sumerra, LLC. He announced Mary-Catherine Goddard (graduate MPH student) and Erin Collins (graduate law student) as the 2016 International Travel Award recipients. With supporting funds provided by the committee, Erin will work with the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) as a legal intern in their Tunis office exploring the lack of adequate standards for victims of gender based violence in the home and workplace. Mary-Catherine will travel to Guadalajara, Mexico, working with the Centre for Labor Action and Studies (CEREAL). Her research will explore the applicability and effectiveness of labor laws for temporary electronics factory workers in urban areas and methods used by CEREAL to promote workers rights.

**Operation Leadership**

Kristen Ablauf, Director of Licensing, was unavailable to attend this meeting. Chair Anupindi updated the committee that contract negotiations between the University and Nike, Inc. continue.

**New Business**

No New Business to report.

**Meeting adjourned at 3:16 PM.**