President’s Advisory Committee
on Labor Standards and Human Rights

MINUTES
March 27, 2015
11:00am-12:30pm
Law School, 1070 South Hall

Attendees: Ravi Anupindi, Kristen Ablauf, Kelsea Ballantyne (by WebEx), James Bruce, Khaled Eid, John Meeker, Maya Menlo, Tim Pavelka, Nicholas Rine, Susan Waltz
Absences: Kristen Ablauf, Khaled Eid
Guest: Kyle Richard, Corporate Social Responsibility Analyst, Procurement Services, University of Washington (by WebEx)

Committee Business
Committee approved the February minutes.
The next meeting is 4/24 at 1070 South Hall, Law School 11:00am-12:30pm.
Chair introduced new committee member James Bruce, Construction & MRO Commodity Manager from Procurement. James replaces Michael Counts whose availability for PACLSHR meetings changed this term.

Research and Educational Leadership

Since the committee’s last meeting in February, RAnupindi set up an internship opportunity on the topic of Mapping and Analysis of the University Apparel Licensing Supply Chain. The selected intern will work at Sumerra’s headquarters in Portland, Oregon. The application call ran from March 5-20 yielding 24 undergraduate and graduate applications. A subcommittee reviewed the applications and narrowed the candidate pool to eight. Interviews will take place in the next week followed by a decision. Considering the positive response from the student community, Chair will inquire with Sumerra about the possibility of their funding an additional intern.

NRine leaves for Cambodia next week. He has connected with this year’s Cambodia intern from the School of Nursing Master’s program. They have tentatively scheduled his start date in July but are still working out the internship details.

To expand the committee’s conversations beyond that of licensed goods, Chair set up a WebEx discussion with Kyle Richard of the University of Washington who spoke to the committee about the social responsibility and environmental sustainability of non-licensed goods at UW. Mr. Richard is an attorney who works primarily on issues of tax and procurement compliance. He started his career working for the University of Washington Controller as an intern, performing legal research to develop a Supplier Code of Conduct for the University of Washington. He has since gone on to manage the implementation of that Supplier Code of Conduct and the University of Washington supplier social responsibility program. Essentially, the University of Washington operates under three different codes of conduct with its suppliers including one for electronics. Most computer vendors are not FLA members. Some of those codes bear modifications.
KRichard will forward an example code of conduct with an accompanying modification for the committee’s further review.

Colin Anderson, Interim Director, Procurement Services, will speak to the committee next month on ethical practices and social responsibility with regards to the procurement of goods and services at the University of Michigan.

**Operation Leadership**

Updates on this topic will be communicated at the April meeting.

**Monitoring and Compliance**

Fire & Building Safety Issue in Bangladesh: MMenlo summarized the content of the monthly Accord newsletters. This process will become routine as the committee assesses whether the newsletters sufficiently inform on issues regarding: involvement of workers, public reporting on factory inspections, remediation and Corrective Action Plans (CAPs), guarantee of worker safety, addressing complaints and licensee production volume remaining intact. SWaltz wondered if any CAPs were still pending, how many were complete and if any factories had not yet been inspected. MMenlo and KEid will present again on Accord newsletters at the April meeting.

Chair had previously forwarded the committee the news on the pending sale of U-M licensee Knights Apparel to Hanes. Committee briefly discussed that Hanes is a signatory to the Alliance and Knights to the Accord and how it will comply after the merge is complete. A parallel situation may be JanSport and VF.

The FLA will confirm soon whether it will organize a Category C licensee training session in June or July at U-M.

**No new business was reported. Meeting adjourned at 12:30pm**