Attendance: Sioban Harlow (chair), Allen Hicken, Peter Jacobson, Kristin King, Brad Farnsworth, Brian Talbot, Nancy Vander Kuyl (staff to committee). Two observers. Absent: Kristen Ablauf, Jennifer McLaughlin, Sam Vigersky, Megan Vogt

1. Announcements - Peter Jacobson will be on sabbatical for the winter term. The chair thanked him for his service on the committee.

2. Minutes of December 8, 2009
   Winter meeting dates are: Jan 14, Feb 11, March 18, and April 15 from 8:30am-11am

3. Monitoring Compliance/Licensing Issues
   · Russell Agreement
     The committee reviewed the recently announced agreement between Russell and the union in Honduras. Chair clarified that WRC had played a central role in these negotiations following Russell’s effort to reach out to the WRC in the spring. Chair reported that the agreement was forwarded to the President’s office. Members of the committee expressed satisfaction with the terms of the agreement, suggesting that Russell’s UM license should be renewed quickly to send a message of encouragement. Chair will ask K. Ablauf about the timing of the re-license process & if the possibility exists for Russell to renew early.

4. Research and Educational Leadership, no new business

5. Operational Leadership
   a. ER6 – Follow up
      Chair informed the committee that the Athletics Department will finance the ER6 agreement. No information was available as to whether any additional schools have signed on.
   
      b. Discussion of history of Designated Suppliers Program proposal and President Coleman’s Charge
      Chair reported that M. Vogt requested time in January or February for SOLE to discuss the DSP with the committee and the Chair agreed. To review, the LSHR committee discussed the DSP in 2005-2006 and subsequently wrote a letter to President Coleman in 2006 recommending that the UM not endorse the DSP program. The committee also recommended developing protocols with other universities and external groups (e.g., FLA, WRC, and CLC) to enhance monitoring and adherence to our code of conduct. The DSP program is currently under review at the Antitrust Division of the U.S. Department of Justice as USAS/WRC seek a favorable Business Review Letter. If it proceeds forward, the program would only apply to companies that produce textile-related products. The market for non-apparel licensed products has increased over the last few years and so has the scrutiny of compliance extending beyond the A&B size companies. The chair reported that Scott Nova indicated WRC is waiting for a decision from the Justice department on the anti-trust issue. The committee noted the number of questions and issues brought up in the prior committee report on the DSP that still require resolution, in addition to the anti-trust issue.

      The Chair recently spoke with Liz Kennedy and Scott Nova to gage the current state of communications between universities, the FLA, WRC and CLC. The CLC’s introduction of the ER6 program will require improved communication especially if perceived to be duplicating efforts by the other organizations. There is some concern about how, as the ER6 programs expands, tasks of company assessment and training will be distributed across the organizations. Scott Nova expressed some concern about the extent of the expertise and knowledge of the CLC to carry out the aims of ER6 beyond the early stages.
   
      c. Fee structures of WRC/FLA
      The Chair reported that she had requested the annual financial reports from the FLA/WRC and has asked each organization to re-justify their fee structures since those have not changed over the last 10 years despite growth in the membership base of universities and beyond that of just universities.

6. No New Business at this time