President’s Advisory Committee on Labor Standards and Human Rights

MINUTES
February 20, 2015
11:00am-12:30pm
Ross School, R6320

Attendees: Ravi Anupindi (chair), Kelsea Ballantyne, Maya Menlo, Nicholas Rine, Susan Waltz
Absent: Kristen Ablauf, Michael Counts, John Meeker, Tim Pavelka, Khaled Eid

Committee Business
January minutes approved with a minor change to the recipients of the internship announcement extension. Remaining 2015 meetings are March 27 and April 24 from 11-12:30 at the Law School, 1070 South Hall

Research and Educational Leadership
The extended deadline for the 2015 Cambodia Internship applications was February 12. No new applications were received although there were a half dozen inquiries. Committee discussed aspects of the internship and communication process that may have discouraged applicants. One may be that the restriction to graduate students, required for safety reasons, is limiting the pool. Nick reported that the economic downturn of a few years ago effectively reduced the number of law student applications to his Program for Law & Development in Cambodia. Today’s law students seek training for the job market rather than service-oriented opportunities. Another barrier to the application process could be that the internship pitch is too broad. Students may be seeking more specific experiences with an identified NGO.

As the winter term is not yet near its midpoint, Ravi proposed setting up another internship with a very clear structure, likely within the US. Possibilities include connecting to one or more of U-M’s monitoring partners, the CLC or U-M’s licensing office. An intern could potentially work to complete aspects of the action list developed from the fall 2014 symposium.

Ravi will send out inquiries. Once something is drawn up and determined, he will set up a call for applications to be circulated across schools. The application due date will be March 13. Committee agreed to keep the application process consistent with the Cambodia process except that is will be open to not only graduate students but also undergraduates with at least two years of completed undergraduate work. Students will submit a resume, an informal transcript and a brief statement of interest, 150-300 words maximum.

Fall Symposium notes:
The notes are now combined into one file with the agenda. Once finalized, they will be emailed to attendees. Kelsea will do a last check before they are distributed.

Monitoring and Compliance
Chair had no updates from the WRC.
The FLA continues to explore training sessions at U-M for licensees. These would be in May or Summer. Fire and Building Safety: Khaled and Maya will look at the monthly reports from the Accord to see if they sufficiently meet the committee’s need for information.

Meeting adjourned