

President's Advisory Committee on Labor Standards and Human Rights

MINUTES

February 27, 2020, 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

B4584, Ross School of Business

Attendees: Ravi Anupindi (chair), Paul Labute, Richard Neitzel, Kiyoteru Tsutsui, Emma Waitzman, Amy Argersinger and Joon Lee (staff to committee)

Absent: Kristen Ablauf, Omolade Adunbi, Khaled Eid, Amanda Kaplan, Hannah Pierce

Guests: Dr. Shareen Hertel, Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Connecticut (UConn)

Chair Anupindi called the meeting to order at 12:17 pm and welcomed guest Shareen Hertel. He provided an overview of the FLA meetings he attended recently and discussed the rising momentum behind addressing the forced labor crisis in China's Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region. The FLA will be releasing a statement regarding this situation soon, and he will be receiving regular updates.

Introductions were made to guest, Shareen Hertel, and she inquired on structure of PACLSHR at U-M, as UConn has a similar committee. Conversation ensued regarding the PACLSHR's relation to the President's Commission on Carbon Neutrality (PCCN), specifically the impact that addressing labor standards and human rights in the supply chain could have on climate change concerns.

Chair Anupindi provided historical context of PACLSHR: the committee's formation in 1999 to address U-M licensed apparel, and how it has evolved over the years. He also described the PACLSHR's awards providing funding and opportunities for student fellowships, internships, and research assistantships.

The committee reviewed and discussed ranking forms for the 2020 Fair Labor Association summer internship application process. Based on this conversation and committee ranking forms, a shortlist of applicants was determined.

The minutes from the February 7, 2020 meeting were adopted and the motion to approve was seconded.

Shareen Hertel, presented her talk "Business & Human Rights in Practice at UCONN" to the committee. Conversation ensued comparing the U-M PACLSHR and the UConn President's Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility (PCCSR). The UConn PCCSR website is structured to showcase the various activities, both current and historical, of various CSR initiatives at UConn. Guest Hertel acknowledged the challenges that U-M faces regarding the decentralized nature of the institution, with Erb, SEAS, Graham Sustainability Institute, etc., as well as the size/scope of U-M. The U-M 2019 Conference on Sustainable Food Procurement by Institutions was also mentioned. Guest Hertel requested to receive the link to the [conference website](#).

Chair Anupindi reminded folks of Guest Hertel's lecture at 4:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 pm.