

**UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON
LABOR STANDARDS AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

**Meeting Notes for Tuesday, January 18, 2022
Zoom Meeting 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM**

The Chair welcomed everyone back for winter semester and asked for a review of the December 2021 President's Advisory Committee on Labor Standards and Human Rights notes. Leila Kavar moved to accept the notes and Khaled Eid seconded the motion. The full committee approved the December 2021 Committee Notes.

Licensing update - Kristen

Kristen Ablauf, Director for Trademarks, Licensing and Partnerships, reported that out of the 351 licensed manufacturers, 342 reported utilizing the corporate responsibility questionnaire and royalties of \$5.2 million were earned. Royalty numbers are up 20% from the 2020 reported earnings and more in line with 2019 numbers.

The Collegiate Licensing Company - Corporate Responsibility Questionnaire is now incorporated into the licensing renewal process. The first cycle of renewal is in June and the process will begin in April when licensees get their renewal paperwork. University licensees are required to participate in an auditing program annually. The University Trademarks and Licensing Program is working through issues where audits were not conducted due to COVID-19. There is an audit exemption path for those that had an audit done in the last 12 months. Sustainable Manufacturing Assessment Questionnaire (SMAQ) scores are also factored into the review process. We have only been requiring the SMAQ for the last 2 years with Sumerra, a Global Compliance Company. There may be questions about why the university requires both since the questions are similar.

University licensees have been notified they need to renew their affiliation with the FLA as part of their renewal process.

Chair Updates

I. The Sustainable Food Procurement Workshop

The University of Michigan Sustainable Food Procurement Workshop was held December 6-7, 2021. There were speakers scheduled for both days from Ecovadis, UCLA, NACUFS, North American Meat Institute, Georgetown Law and multiple breakout sessions. Program participants agreed that there must be some type of harmonized and collaborative approach to address the issues related to food sustainability and food procurement on university campuses. This is not an exclusive committee activity. Committee member Leila Kavar joined the workshop, found the information particularly interesting, and is looking forward to participating in future workshops.

On the environmental side, the issues are easier to identify but on the social side these questions are more difficult and leverage is also involved.

II. Donia Human Rights Center Lecture

The Center asked the Chair to recommend a speaker for the Donia Human Rights Center Lecture Series. Ravi recommended Dr. Bama Athreya, Economic Inequity Fellow from Open Society Foundations. The lecture will be Thursday, February 10 at 4:15p in Weiser Hall. She will be here for 2 days. We can reach out to her to see if the committee has an interest in having a meeting with her.

III. FLA Updates

By June 2021, 90% of accredited companies had collected wage data from a representative sample of their supply chains and 79% had drafted a fair compensation blueprint. In 2021, the Fair Labor Dashboard had begun being offered.

A call went out for applications for two FLA summer Internships, one in the manufacturing industry and one in the agricultural sector. The committee will send out a reminder regarding the call for internships.

Graduate Fellowship Applications

In the past, students who applied for the fellowship had to find their own project opportunities. The committee discussed at the December 2021 meeting that it might make sense to provide an opportunity that is already prepared for students to work on. It can be challenging for students to source their own projects and organizations. The committee can help with this if we are able to identify some organizations. With assistance from Committee member Omolade Adunbi, the Chair and Adunbi had preliminary discussions with representatives from the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) for possible partnership with the University of Michigan to host summer interns. . ECOWAS is a 15-member regional group with a mandate of promoting economic integration in all fields of activity of the constituting countries. It is anticipated that navigating the bureaucracy of the organization to establish opportunities for internship may take sometime and therefore may not be available for applicants during the current 2022 cycle.

The committee settled on February 21 as the deadline for this application cycle.

Winter Research Assistant Applications

The application period for the committee's winter Research Assistant student opportunities has closed. The selected students will have 8-9 weeks to work on their projects during the winter 2022 semester.