President's Advisory Committee on Labor Standards and Human Rights

MINUTES
December 11, 2014
11:00am-12:30pm
Ross School, R4020

Attendees: Ravi Anupindi (chair), Kristen Ablauf, Khaled Eid, John Meeker, Maya Menlo, Tim Pavelka, Nicholas Rine, Susan Waltz, Nancy Vander Kuyl (staff to committee)
Absent: Kelsea Ballantyne, Michael Counts
Guests: Grace Adofoli and Janet Jansen

Committee Business
November minutes approved.
Thursday am is a possibility for the 2015 meetings.

Research and Educational Leadership
Janet Jansen and Grace Adofoli presented on their 2014 Cambodia Internships experiences working with Community Legal Education Center (CLEC). Janet is a second year Masters in Public Health student in the Health Behavior Health Education Program. Her internship poster was accepted for presentation at Henry Ford Hospital's October 10 Global Health Symposium: Building on the Power of Partnership. Her topic focused on What Causes Poor Health in Female Garment Workers in Cambodia. During the early weeks of her internship, she realized that the CLEC was not prepared to have a public health intern. She shifted her goals to establish links with Cambodia Children CARE and the Cambodia Childrens Fund, both groups she highly recommends for future public health student interns. CARE works directly with the garment workers offering women's empowerment in economic development. If the funding existed, she suggested that an intern could potentially facilitate expansion of an in-house life training program that Gap currently offers to workers in its manufacturing facilities be expanded to other factories
Grace is a dual-enrolled student at the School of Social Work and the School of Public Health. She worked with the Executive Director at CLE on a legal aid access project for which she also produced a poster for her Evaluation and Policy Program at the School of Social Work. Poster title: Legal Aid Access: Self-Financing Paralegal Feasibility Study in Phnah Penn. Grace collaborated on the project's final report that was just released and may appear on CLE's web site.

The committee funded a December 2 lecture at the Ross School of Business given by Kohl Gill, LaborVoices CEO and Founder. Kohl was a guest lecture for RAnupindi's session on social issues in global supply chain management for a seminar class titled "Topics in Global Operations". While at U-M, the Center for Positive Organizations recorded an interview with Kohl, which the committee will post on its web site when released.

The video footage from the committee's October 10 symposium was corrupted but the audio has remained intact. In January, the committee will follow-up on notes from those recordings.

Operational Leadership
KAblauf reported that Licensing sent letters to VF and Outdoor Cap in response to President Schlissel's acceptance of the committee's recommendations to not renew their contracts if they do not sign the Accord. Her department will handle the terminations. U-M's CR program with the CLC continues to incorporate more corporate responsibility in the renewal process. Ten companies have been identified to participate on a webinar event thru Sumera entitled Ethical Supplier Engagement.

Monitoring and Compliance
The FLA recently hired Jessica Rocha as the University Program Manager. Jessica spoke with Ravi and Nancy by conference call to discuss U-M's committee structure and history, and ways to facilitate communications between the FLA and universities.
Ravi is a member of an FLA committee that aims to develop monitoring and tracing tools that enhance the sustainability of global agricultural supply chains. They are investigating licensees such as Russell Stover to find out about the extent of their involvement in traceability products.

-Fire & Building Safety Issue in Bangladesh
Chair asked MMenlo to organize a list of schools that require their licensees to sign the Accord. The committee hopes to start a conversation chain with faculty/staff leads at those schools.

New Business
MMenlo inquired about a pending question from last month's meeting regarding the committee's jurisdiction over its other campuses especially as it relates to the President's decision that all licensees be required to sign the Accord. The Licensing Department and the President's Office agree that the jurisdiction extends to all areas under the U-M brand, including U-M Flint and Dearborn campuses. In the last few years, the bulk of sales on those campuses have been Champion and Gear products.