

THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON LABOR STANDARDS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

MINUTES

November 27, 2012 8:30-10:00am

Ross School of Business, R5020

Attendance:

Bama Athreya (guest)

Committee members: Kristen Ablauf, Ravi Anupindi, James Atkinson, Arjun Bhalla, Khaled Eid, Jim Gannon, Allen Hicken (chair), Siobán Harlow, Abigail Williams, Dean Yang, Nancy Vander Kuyl (committee staff)

Committee Business

Meeting Dates for 2013 are January 18 & March 15, 8:30-10am. Approval of 11/1 minutes.

Research and Educational Leadership

The committee welcomed guest, Bama Athreya to the meeting. B Athreya is Special Advisor to the International Labor Rights Forum (ILRF) in Washington, DC. She is a guest lecturer on UM's campus this week for a class at the Ross School where she will also deliver a public talk on "Protecting Human Rights: The Challenge for Business in the World's Riskiest Places". B Athreya discussed her history and work with the ILRF providing a brief timeline of the labor standards movement since 1999. The recent Bangladesh garment factory fire on this committee's agenda launched her into conversation on the ILRF's fire safety initiative drafted this year in March that addresses the root causes of endemic fire hazards in that country's garment industry. She and the committee discussed where college licensing should be involved in these efforts.

Operational Leadership

Chair AHicken summarized his talk with CLC's EKennedy about Rutgers joining the CLC CR pilot program, the revision of the questionnaire for UM's licensees, the status of the CLC Code of Conduct and the topic of fire safety in the garment industry.

Monitoring and Compliance

AHicken provided an update on PT Kizone, mentioned the labor standards conflicts at the Flying Needle factory in Nicaragua and the FLA's recent assessment reports.

New Business

November Bangladesh garment factory fire

Meeting adjourned