

ACIR Meeting Minutes for 19 November 2014

Current as of: 12.3.14

Attendees, abbreviation for minutes, position (*voting member, #via phone):

#Bevis Longstreth (Trustee)**Charles Allison (Faculty, Chair)*****Susan Sawyer (Staff)****Ian Howland [IH] (Research Assistant)****Brandt Weathers (Research Assistant)****Tokumbo Shobowale (Chief Operating Officer)****Larry Woods (Office of Business and Finance)**

Topic	Discussion/ Action/ Proposal	Responsibility/Time Frame
1. Last Meeting Minutes	<p>Committee looking over minutes.</p> <p>Tokumbo recommends synthesizing minutes into shorter, easier-to-follow way.</p> <p>Charles moves to approve the minutes, Susan seconds.</p> <p>Minutes Approved, old minutes to be posted online by B/I.</p>	IH/BW: to post previous minutes online
2) Quick Updates	<p><u>A. Re-announce final meeting date of semester, circulate proposed dates for Spring 2015</u></p> <p>Committee discusses meeting on tuesdays instead of Wednesdays as Shannon cannot attend Wednesday meetings.</p> <p>Charles asks B/I to look at calendar and determine six-week schedule, and then send email to committee for date suggestions</p> <p>Bevis recommends fewer meetings of longer durations instead of our current monthly meetings</p> <p>Charles suggests every six weeks</p>	<p>IH/BW: look at calendar and determine six-week schedule, and then send email to committee for date suggestions; RAs to reform dean emails, submit to Charles.</p> <p>Charles: send out individualized emails to each dean provided by RAs.</p>

	<p>Brandt explains that charter might need to be modified</p> <p>Charles asks Bevis if 90 minutes every six weeks works for him.</p> <p>Tokumbo agrees with this decision.</p> <p>Committee agrees on this decision.</p> <p>Charles acknowledges this could be a trial-run and could be adjusted as necessary.</p> <p><u>B. Open positions Updates (USS proposal, draft emails)</u></p> <p>Brandt discusses the personalized letters to the deans for faculty/student messages.</p> <p>Charles recommends updating the website for the sake of incentivizing people to join the committee and Susan recommends specifying individual emails to deans from whom we only want students and from whom we only want faculty. Committee agrees.</p> <p>RAs to reform emails, submit to Charles to be sent in individualized emails to each dean.</p>	
3) Climate Change	<p><u>A. General Updates (Franta discussion, Stanford news, RI conference)</u></p> <p>Brandt and Ian discuss various updates and provide info about upcoming conferences</p> <p>Bevis notes upcoming conference at Columbia early Nov/late December about whether divestment is a good strategy.</p> <p>Ian notes another climate change event on 11/20 by SCEPA</p>	<p>IH/BW: look up info for all events discussed (TNS event, SCEPA event, RI event) and circulate to committee; hold conference call with Larry/Linda and Slocum on Investment Report, report back to</p>

	<p>B/I will look up info for all events discussed (TNS event, SCEPA event, RI event) and circulate to committee</p> <p><u>B. CCWG Investment Report updates (Slocum conference call, NRDC contact)</u></p> <p>Brandt and Ian provide updates regarding upcoming meeting with New School Investment Advisors (Slocum) to talk about report written over summer on how to pursue fossil fuel divestment at The New School (called the “Investment Report”)</p> <p>B/I go further to explain the uniqueness and relative sophistication of this report compared to paths taken by other universities (and organizations, such as the National Resource Defense Council)</p> <p>Committee expresses interest in feedback to be received from Slocum (to be presented by RAs at next meeting)</p>	<p>committee on feedback.</p>
4) Other	<p><u>A. Event update (proposal, feedback)</u></p> <p>In line with ACIR’s tradition of holding an event each Spring semester, the RAs provide a document with an event proposal and open the floor to conversation from the committee to get feedback and suggestions</p> <p>Charles notes a few inconsistencies in the program itself, but also poses his concern that the proposed event may not be sufficiently different from event held last Spring</p> <p>Bevis notes that this event might not be very useful, inasmuch as it doesn’t address the “big” issues and might be too technical for a general audience</p>	<p>IH/BW: RAs to hold a conference call with Charles and Bevis to hear out objections and find a consensus on the nature of the event.</p>

	<p>Tokumbo states that he thinks the event, as structured, would be a good contribution because of its ability to take a polarizing issue (whether or not to divest) and makes it a more nuanced conversation about the details of carrying out such a plan.</p> <p>Brandt suggests RAs to hold a conference call with Charles and Bevis to hear out objections and find a consensus on the nature of the event. All agree.</p>	
5) Summing Up Volunteer Responsibilities	Committee briefly discusses list of responsibilities to perform before next meeting.	