January Meeting

At a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Socially Responsible Investing, held on January 27, 2016 in the Burden Room 206, Low Library, the following members participated:

Michael Apfel  
Marshall Bozeman  
April Croft (non-voting)  
Stephen Christensen  
Ale Giannini  
Paul Goldschmid  
Jeffrey Gordon, Chair  
Sameer Mishra  
Gail O’Neill  
Ailsa Röell  
Maureen Ryan  
Anne Sullivan (by phone, non-voting)  
Ramon Verastegui

The following members of the administration were also in attendance:
Gail Hoffman

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m.

Minutes
The Committee approved the minutes of December 9, 2015.

Committee Members

Announcements from Chair Gordon
- The search continues for a replacement for Brennon Mendez.
- The February 10th meeting is cancelled. It was a placeholder for a possible dinner meeting with the Trustees Subcommittee on Shareholder Responsibility.
- President Bollinger is reviewing ACSRI’s recommendations resulting from the student fossil fuel divestment proposal. The Earth Institute is also preparing its own proposal. The Committee has played an important role in spurring discussion on the University’s engagement with the climate issue.

Subcommittee Reports:

Sudan
The Sudan Subcommittee presented its 2016 Sudan Recommendations /
for the Trustees. Subcommittee Chair Sameer Mishra thanked the subcommittee members for all their hard work. Discussion followed regarding the subcommittee’s research. A request was made to add a sentence to the Background cover page clarifying U.S. sanctions/policy with North Sudan. The 2016 Sudan Recommendations were approved.

**Discussion of Peer Review of Divestment Criteria and Divestment Proposal Protocol**
The Education / Communications / Criteria Review Subcommittee discussed its initial research on divestment criteria at peer universities. They plan to present their conclusions at the February meeting. In addition, the Subcommittee is drafting a protocol for the submission of formal divestment proposals.

**Fossil Fuel**
Ale Giannini, chair of the Fossil Fuel Subcommittee, discussed the possibility of Columbia University becoming a signatory to the CDP. The Fossil Fuel Subcommittee will draft a proposal for the February meeting.

Chair Gordon discussed ongoing review of possible service providers that could provide fossil fuel research.

**Proxy Review Process – Reduce paper waste at meetings**
Croft discussed how proxy review packets are posted online in advance of the proxy voting meeting. In the past, hard copies of the proxy packets were brought to the meetings for each committee members - resulting in hundreds of pages of paper being printed. Materials will continue to be posted in PDF format. Croft will test bringing only one or two complete sets to the first proxy voting meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
April B. Croft
Associate Director
ACSRI