JANUARY 25, 2011 MINUTES

At a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Socially Responsible Investing, held on Tuesday, January 25, 2011, in the Burden Room #206, Low Library, the following members participated:

Jack McGourty, Faculty (Chair) Arnie Friedland, Alumnus
Kesha Cash, Alumna Leslie Hannay, Student
Marco Castaldi, Faculty Shearwood McClelland, Alumnus
Carlos Cuevas, Student Marc Levy, Faculty
Klaartje De Schepper, Student Peter Rosenblum, Faculty
Alison Ferris, Student Anne Sullivan, Administrator

The following members sent an explanation of their absence:

Matt Roskot, Alumnus

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

Call to Order

The Committee approved the minutes of its meeting on November 16, 2010.

Approval of Minutes

The Committee approved the 2010-2011 Annual Agenda. The Annual Agenda is presented by a Committee member to the University Senate in the winter and it serves to briefly and concisely outline the Committee’s agenda for the year. The Annual Agenda is scheduled to be presented by alumni member, Arnie Friedland, to the University Senate on February 11th.

2010-2011 Annual Agenda

The Communication / Outreach Subcommittee presented its initial “Plan of Action” for winter / spring 2011. The Subcommittee recommended first to define the Committee’s audience, and then to decide how best to reach the varying parties. The Subcommittee defined the Committee’s audience as affiliates of the University (faculty, students, alumni, and administration), and non-affiliates of the University (socially-minded non-profits, SRI Committees at other colleges and universities, etc.). The affiliates can be categorized as those with a financial and/or social interest in the Committee. The next discussion will revolve around communication and outreach methods to reach the varying

Communication / Outreach Subcommittee
This year, the Sudan Divestment Subcommittee used a new service provider, IW Financial. IWF provided the SDS with a universe of non-U.S. companies with publicly-traded equity currently operating in Sudan, along with background research on each company. The SDS reviewed the research and presented its initial recommendations to the Committee. The SDS explained that a larger amount of quality research and a clearly vetted universe of companies currently operating in Sudan led to more companies being recommended for divestment this year. Additionally, information on some companies was very sparse which made it difficult for the SDS to make complete conclusions in some cases. The SDS will finalize its recommendations and circulate a Divestment List and Watch List to be voted on by the Committee ASAP.

The Committee noted that it would be prudent to follow the current political divide between Northern and Southern Sudan, with an eye towards revising its Statement of Position and Recommendation on Divestment from Sudan as necessary.

The Cluster Munitions Subcommittee reported on the research they had done since the last meeting. It was noted that information on banks that are financing arms manufacturers was difficult to acquire, and that more research will need to be done on the supply chain and players involved. The question was raised whether we should consider other types of weapons, such as landmines and drones, in our research and monitoring.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Kelley
Manager, SRI