At a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Socially Responsible Investing, held on Tuesday, February 12, 2008, in the Burden Room, 206 Low Library, the following members participated:

Geoffrey Heal, Faculty (Chair)  Richard Levine, Alumnus
Mary Ellen Bianco, Alumnus  Shearwood McClelland, Alumnus
Anna Couturier, Student  Jack McGourty, Faculty
Burton Edelstein, Faculty  Shahid Naeem, Faculty
Alex Feerst, Student  Sidney Small, Student
Peggy Kauh, Alumna

The following members sent an explanation of their absence:

Anne Sullivan, Administrator  Caroline Yao, Student

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:29 p.m.  

Call to Order

The Committee approved the minutes of its meeting on January 22, 2008.  

Approval of Minutes

An update was given on the status of invitations and preparations for the April 11th conference. Thirty schools have been invited, both schools with standing committees and those considering the establishment of one. Preparations, including drafting an agenda, will continue over the next several weeks, as will follow up with the schools invited. There was discussion around the issues of collaboration or co-signing on the letters the Committee is preparing, as well as future efforts of corporate engagement.

Conference

A draft letter to management regarding the situation in Bhopal, India was distributed and discussed. The Committee further discussed key items it wants to address in the letter, including the inherent ethical responsibility Dow has in Bhopal following the acquisition of Union Carbide, a link between reputational risk and financial risk brought about by negative publicity, the mention of any media coverage that exists, requesting a meeting with management, and possibly incorporating the support/collaboration from other schools at the conference. Another draft of the letter is in the works and will be distributed for future discussion.

Dow Chemical

A draft letter to management regarding the situation in Myanmar was distributed and discussed. Mention of last year’s efforts to

Chevron
engage management and the upcoming conference will be incorporated into the next draft, along with a request for a meeting to address the situation. Explicit discussion of the Committee’s concerns with Chevron’s operations in Myanmar will also be included.

Committee members were divided into subgroups by topic for proxy season. Each subgroup will conduct background reading and research on its topic and on the Committee’s historical voting precedent in each subject area and make a short presentation to the larger Committee prior to review of relevant resolutions.

The next meeting will be the Joint meeting with the Trustees Subcommittee on Tuesday, February 26, 2008 in the Trustees Room.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Sherwin
Senior Manager, SRI