February 10th Meeting

At a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Socially Responsible Investing, held on February 10, 2015 in the Burden Room of the Low Library, the following members participated:

Marshall Bozeman
Katherine Chung (non-voting)
Stephen Christensen
Ellen Garber
Alessandra Giannini
Jeffrey Gordon, Chair
Eric LeSueur
Brennon Mendez
Sameer Mishra
Gail O’Neill
Anika Rahman
Ailsa Röell
Maureen Ryan
Anne Sullivan (non-voting)

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

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. Call to Order

Introductory remarks were made by Jeffrey Gordon, Chair. Jeffrey Gordon

Minutes
The minutes of the December 9, 2014 meeting were approved. Committee Members

Sudan Vote
Eric LeSueur, chair of the Sudan subcommittee, informed the full committee about the Sudan subcommittee efforts this year. EIRIS Conflict Risk Network: Empowering Responsible Investing (EIRIS) was utilized as a second research service provider, and it was noted that a re-evaluation of the standing Sudan divestment policy would occur next year, perhaps, by enlisting university experts to gain a better understanding of the current situation in Sudan in an effort to possibly amend the criteria list.

Upon duly made and unanimously carried, the committee approved the 2015 Sudan recommendations for transmission to the Subcommittee on Shareholder Responsibility of the Committee on Finance for approval. Committee Members

Tobacco Vote
Katherine Chung summarized the committee’s tobacco endeavor for 2015, namely, by identifying domestic (and foreign) companies which directly manufacture tobacco products which Columbia University should refrain from investing in the future for 2015.

Upon duly made and unanimously carried, the committee approved the 2015 Tobacco recommendations for submission to the Investment Management Company. Committee Members

Private Prisons
Gail O’Neill, chair of the Private Prisons subcommittee, gave an update on these efforts. She stated that the subcommittee was successful in engaging with company reps. from our holdings and Martin Horn who is a former NYC Corrections and Probations Commissioner. A discussion ensued among committee members.

Committee Members
Fossil Fuels
Alessandra Giannini, chair of the Fossil Fuels subcommittee, gave an update on these efforts and relayed that a working charter was in progress which would help frame criteria for action.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Katherine Y. Chung
Associate Director
ACSRI

Alessandra Giannini
and Committee Members