

September Meeting

At a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Socially Responsible Investing, held on September 16, 2015 in the Ivy Lounge at the Faculty House, the following members participated:

Marshall Bozeman	Ailsa Röell
April Croft (non-voting)	Maureen Ryan
Alessandra Giannini	Anne Sullivan (by phone, non-voting)
Jeffrey Gordon, Chair	Ramon Verastegui
Brennon Mendez	
Sameer Mishra	

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

Absent with regrets:
Stephen Christensen
Gail O’Neill

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

Call to Order

Welcome and Committee Member Introductions

Introduction of new committee members and new Associate Director of Socially Responsible Investing and Finance Communications. Review of the Committee’s role, background, resources, protocol and calendar.

All

The campus student group, Columbia Divest for Climate Justice (CDCJ) left a petition in the meeting room and demonstrated outside the Faculty House. They requested to speak with the chair. Chair Gordon spoke with them briefly, and they dispersed.

Fossil Fuel and Divestment Criteria

Chair Gordon provided history on the previous fossil fuel divestment proposal from Barnard Columbia Divest (BCD). A discussion followed on the criteria Columbia uses for divestment. Redhead referred members to the document in their packets that compares what peer institutions have done regarding a fossil fuel divestment proposal. Discussion centered on developing criteria for divestment. Some include “Social Harm” in their criteria. Is divestment the only solution? The committee deliberated and

All

decided that a subcommittee was needed to determine review criteria for divestment.

Subcommittees and Chairs

Discussion of role of subcommittees and new topics. The work on private prisons has been completed so no need for this subcommittee anymore. Discussion centered on developing criteria for divestment. The Education subcommittee will now be the “Education, Communications and Criteria Review [for Divestment] subcommittee. Fossil Fuel subcommittee is tasked with determining screening criteria for coal. All

Questions from new members Committee Members

Next steps

- Croft will solicit choices for subcommittee assignments.
- Redhead will reach out to peers that have divested from coal and learn what criteria they used.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,
April B. Croft
Associate Director
ACSRI