

LABOR CODES LICENSING COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

March 27, 2014 • Nancy Nicholas Hall 1199 • 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

<http://www.news.wisc.edu/laborlicensing/>

Committee members attending: Lingran Kong, Lydia Zepeda, Chris Schlichenmaier, Melanie Meyer, Jason Weitzman, Tammi Simpson, John Ahlquist, Ian Coxhead, John Newton

Absent: Cornell Zbikowski, Diane Michalski Turner

Others attending: Everett Mitchell, Cindy Van Matre, Lisa Hull

Note: One academic staff representative position remains open.

The meeting was called to order at 11:02 a.m.

Minutes: The Feb. 20, 2014 minutes were approved.

Announcements:

- Syracuse University has required its licensees to sign onto the Accord effective June 30.
- UW-Madison licensees who have not signed the Accord by July 31, 2014 will be terminated at renewal. VF renewal is up March 31, 2014. Cindy Van Matre instructed CLC to terminate the contract with VF.
- Two licensees, Imperial and Legacy Athletics also expire. They have appealed saying they are not sourcing in Bangladesh. Cindy is waiting for disclosure information from WRC. CLC updates disclosure records quarterly, however companies don't regularly update information. UW-Madison is the first university to terminate a company due to not signing the mandate.

Bangladesh:

Committee discussed UW-Madison's contracts with VF Corporation's VF Imagewear and Jansport companies. Currently UW-Madison does not intend to apply the Accord requirement to Jansport, because it does not source in Bangladesh. However, Lingran noted that subsidiary companies cannot sign onto the Accord or Alliance, they are covered by parent company.

Report to the Chancellor: Motion to approve the final report sent to the Chancellor and have it be posted on the website. Motion approved unanimously.

Code of Conduct Riders:

The committee discussed a motion to add the following rider to the Code of Conduct:

“Licensees shall meet directly with any duly constituted union whose members include one or more workers employed in a factory producing collegiate apparel for that licensee, upon that union's request to the licensee, to discuss any grave risks to worker health and safety that have been identified by workers, their representatives or third party inspectors.”

This language is in the Accord, but the committee is considering including it in the Code of Conduct because the Accord is a 5 year program limited to Bangladesh; inserting this as a rider to the Code of Conduct will institutionalize this requirement for brands operating anywhere in the world, and beyond the 5 years of the Accord.

A motion was made to table the discussion until the next meeting. In the interim the committee requested that Everett consult with Brian Vaughan to obtain a legal opinion before the next meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

RFP. Cindy gave an update on last year's RFP, which will go into effect July 1 for men's t-shirts and fleece sold in the mid-tier channel (department stores). The RFP allows the UW to work closer with licensees committed to Corporate Responsibility. Committee members wanted to review the new questions in greater detail. Cindy will send the 2014 Corporate Responsibility Questionnaire to the committee.

Committee adjourned at 11:59 a.m.

Next meeting: April 25, 11:00 a.m. in Nancy Nicholas Hall.