

## **Ethical Investment Advisory Committee**

**Background:** The University's mission includes education, research, and providing health care. These activities are conducted under a set of core values and objectives, which include freedom of expression, equality of persons, respect for cultural diversity, broad access to information, and environmental sustainability. Questions have been raised by some members of the University community about whether the University invests in companies engaged in business practices that are at odds with some of these values and objectives. When similar concerns arose in the 1980s as part of a movement to divest from the apartheid regime in South Africa, a University "Committee on Investment and Ethical Considerations" was formed, composed of faculty members, students, and trustees. Given the questions that have been raised, the Faculty Senate voted to reinstate such a body.

**Responsibilities:** The EIAC exists in an advisory role, and will likely consider a range of ethical considerations pertaining to University investments. One of its first topics of discussion will be environmental sustainability.

**Membership:** The six members of the EIAC will include three full-time faculty members selected by the Faculty Senate and three non-faculty members of the University community: an undergraduate student, a member of non-academic staff (ideally a member of the Sustainability Council), and a graduate student or post-doctoral fellow. Each of the non-faculty members will be elected by their representative bodies. A staff member of the Investment Office will provide administrative support, and will serve as an ex-officio

member of the EIAC. Members of the EIAC will elect a Committee Chair with responsibility for calling meetings of the Committee, setting meeting agendas, and communicating with the Faculty Senate, the Investment Committee and the Investment Office.

**Confidentiality:** The EIAC recognizes that the University has executed certain investment advisory agreements which prohibit the University from publicly disclosing investment holdings. In cases where the EIAC seeks information on such holdings, the Committee Chair will sign the Investment Office's confidentiality and non-disclosure agreement in order to view the holdings.

**Meetings:** The EIAC will meet twice a year, with meetings timed to precede the November and May Investment Committee meetings. The Committee Chair may present recommendations to the Investment Committee at such meetings.

**Reporting:** Prior to issuing recommendations to the Investment Committee, the Chair will report such recommendations to the Faculty Senate. The EIAC will also report annually to the University community on its activities. The EIAC annual report will also be included in the Investment Committee's annual report to the Board of Trustees at its May meeting.

**Term:** The EIAC will exist for three years from the date of formation. At the conclusion of that time, the Faculty Senate will evaluate the activities of the EIAC to determine whether it should continue.