

Summary of Action Items from PCCSR Meeting (9-15-21)

Key points of information and clarification to emerge in discussion:

- UConn's strength in integrating social and environmental sustainability into our supply chain management is nationally recognized; we out-perform peer/aspirant schools.
- A key challenge is to refine our approach to developing new relationships, whether they be partners, vendors, suppliers or individuals so that we develop processes, procedures, and internal training vehicles (e.g., for staff across units within UConn) that build on and deepen commitment to these values. We generate millions of dollars through these many relationships and we're a state agency with complex purchasing rules; a key challenge in that area is to move beyond price as the principal criteria for selection.
- The PCCSR's mission and role is distinct from other forms of "community engagement" and/or "employee engagement" carried elsewhere within UConn.

Items for future action and discussion:

- 1) To explore not only the committee's *name* but also develop a working *definition of "value"* integral to business relationship.
- 2) To invite conversation with the Provost regarding the PCCSR's role and value in relation to research and teaching.
- 3) To invite conversation with various Deans (e.g., Engineering) regarding student concerns around partnerships in key industries (e.g., defense).
- 4) To invite conversation with the UConn Foundation regarding socially responsible investment criteria in relation to UConn's portfolio, in light of momentum in this space nationally.
- 5) To host a public outreach event (e.g., for faculty, staff, students) aimed at expanding awareness of the work of the Committee; explaining "best practices" in this arena; and signaling these issues as core to UConn's institutional priorities.