



Attention:
Lee C. Bollinger

LOCAL 2488, UAW
R.R. 3, Box 560
Bloomington, Illinois 61704
309-828-2880

March 23, 2000

Lee C. Bollinger, President
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109

RE: Worker Rights Consortium

Dear President Bollinger:

Last spring the University of Michigan began taking responsibility for the wages and working conditions in factories producing goods licensed to use U of M's logo on clothing and other items. You have affirmed U of M's opposition to sweatshop conditions in factories where Michigan marked goods were manufactured and stated your support for monitoring of U of M licensed factories as soon as possible. You correctly refused to join the Fair Labor Association (FLA); a group controlled by university licensees that is not a credible oversight group. We support you in taking these positive steps.

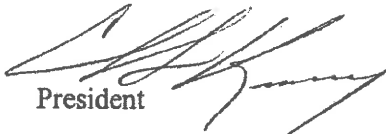
Despite these steps, the University refuses to join the Worker Rights Consortium (WRC). WRC is set up to provide fair effective monitoring for member schools in cooperation with human rights groups in affected countries while preserving member universities autonomy to act upon WRC findings. In light of the FLA's acknowledged failure and the University's inability to monitor its licensed factories on its own, WRC is the only means to reach the goal of effective monitoring within the foreseeable future.

For these reasons, the University's refusal to join the WRC undercuts its stated commitment to providing leadership and support for the movement against sweatshop conditions in the manufacturing of U of M licensed goods. You cannot claim University support for the goals of the anti-sweatshop movement while refusing to join the only effective means adopted by that movement to implement those goals.



We call upon you to join the WRC and make the University of Michigan truly a leader in this effort.

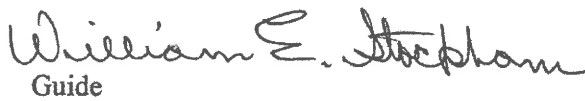
Sincerely yours,


President


Vice President

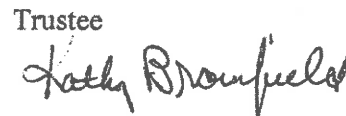

Recording Secretary


Financial Secretary

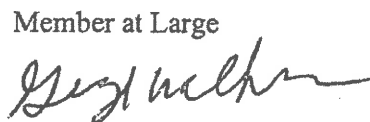

Guide


Sargent at Arms

Trustee


Trustee


Trustee


Member at Large


Member at Large


CC: Paul Korman
Dennis Williams