



Johns Hopkins University Public Interest Investment Advisory Committee (PIIAC)

Meeting Minutes | Friday, November 15, 2024

Time	3:00 – 5:00 PM ET
Format	Zoom Web Conference
Members Present	Charlie Scheeler (Chair), Ona Ambrozaite, Coretta Bennett, Boi Carpenter, Stefanie DeLuca, Mary Ann Dickson, Clark Didavi, Paul Ferraro, Jackson Ireland, Kostas Konstantopoulos, Mario Macis, Thomas Rid, Robbie Shilliam, Hannah West, Cynthia Wolberger, Stephen Gange (ex officio), Jay Rowan (ex officio), Tiffany Wright (ex officio)
Others Present	N/A

Kick-Off

The meeting was kicked off at 3:00 pm by the committee chair, Charlie Scheeler. The committee unanimously approved the meeting minutes for the prior meeting as written. Mr. Scheeler walked through the plan for the meeting as well and possible next steps following the meeting.

Discussion of Review Factors

Mr. Scheeler asked the ex officio members to walk through background research requested by the committee related to the five review factors outlined by the board, including:

- Perspectives from the JHU community on the proposed divestment action
- Public opinion on divestment from across higher education and the broader U.S. society
- Conclusions by peer institutions on comparable proposals for divestment
- Feedback and analysis on the impact of divestment on the university’s finances and fundraising
- Analysis on the anti-BDS executive order in the state of Maryland (which sets penalties for organizations that take actions to boycott, divest, or sanction Israel) and the anti-BDS laws and executive orders in other states

The committee discussed this additional research and asked questions of the ex officio members.

Vote on the Proposal

Mr. Scheeler called a formal vote on the proposal. All 16 members of the committee voted through an online survey, with 15 votes to decline the proposal, 1 vote to refer the proposal to the board of trustees, and no abstentions.

With the outcome of that vote, Mr. Scheeler led a discussion with the committee on the structure of its report, reasons that the committee wanted to highlight in the report for declining the proposal, and next steps for the committee.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned shortly after 5:00 pm by the chair, Charlie Scheeler.

Submitted by Jay Rowan