# BRIDGING THE HUMAN RIGHTS & ENGINEERNG DIVIDE

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"SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FOR SOCIAL GOOD"

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### WHY THE DIVIDE?

- Human rights field: dominated by law, social science & humanities scholars
- Engineering profession: guided by "Code of Ethics" (not HR-specific norms)





Source: Software Engineering Ethics Institute; Itl HR Law Archives

### WHY UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT?

- Pioneer in interdisciplinary HR research & teaching
- Strong track record of practice-based research
- Strong institutional commitment to:
  - Vendor supply chain management
  - Environmental sustainability







# INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS & SUSTAINABILITY PRACTICE

- Office of Environmental Policy:
- https://envpolicy.uconn.edu/
- President's Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility
- <a href="https://csr.uconn.edu/">https://csr.uconn.edu/</a>
- Vendor Code of Conduct
- <a href="https://policy.uconn.edu/2013/02/12/vendor-code-of-conduct/">https://policy.uconn.edu/2013/02/12/vendor-code-of-conduct/</a>

# EXISTING UCONN HUMAN RIGHTS CURRICULUM

- 200 undergrad Human Rights Majors/Minors annually
  - University-wide
- STEM track opens HR Minor to ENGR and other STEM students
- <a href="https://humanrights.uconn.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/767/2018/01/Advising-Tracks-HRTS-ENGR-1.2.18.pdf">https://humanrights.uconn.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/767/2018/01/Advising-Tracks-HRTS-ENGR-1.2.18.pdf</a>
- 25+ grad students earn "HR Certificate" annually
  - UConn Law; School of Social Work; School of Education; College of Liberal Arts & Science



### ONGOING COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH

- NSF PIRE Grant (Ethiopia water project)
- Provost Grant on Business & HR (global supply chains)



Source: UConn Engineering; UConn School of Business



### **NEXT STEPS**

• Integrate STEM and HR more fully in grad curriculum





Source: UConn Human Rights Institute; UConn Law; UConn School of ENGR

## **QUESTIONS?**

- Contact:
- Shareen.Hertel@uconn.edu or 860 486 4129
- With thanks to:
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