

Study Questions

Ethical Practice: Professionalism, Social Responsibility, and The Purpose of the Corporation

Session 7: Wednesday, April 25, 2007

Corporate Social Responsibility II—Clash of Values

- Rakesh Khurana, Joel Podolny, and Jaan Elias, “Veridian” (HBS 9-406-028).
 1. How would you describe David Langstaff’s business practices? Is he a successful businessperson?
 2. Why does Langstaff hesitate to allow a merger with Quiescent? Where must his fiduciary responsibility take him and Veridian?
 3. Can Langstaff handle his situation at the end of the case in such a way as to satisfy his values and all his constituencies’ needs and expectations?

* Team writing assignment #3: “Seen through the lens of corporate social responsibility, are fiduciary and leadership roles one and the same?” Take 3-4 pp., double-spaced, to explore this topic; keep a copy for your records. Assignment due Friday, April 27, 5 pm; electronic submission.