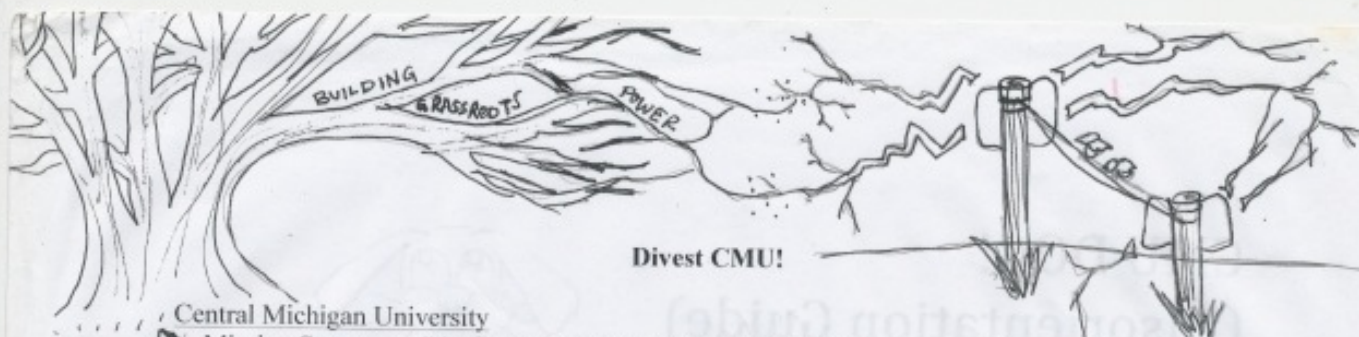


CMU D.O.G.

(Dis - Orientation Guide)

Issue 1: Divestment





Central Michigan University

Mission Statement: "At Central Michigan University, we are a community committed to the pursuit of knowledge, wisdom, discovery, and creativity. We provide student-centered education and foster personal and intellectual growth to prepare students for productive careers, meaningful lives, and responsible citizenship in a global society."

-Adopted by the Board of Trustees, December 2, 2010

Core Values: "To achieve our mission, we adhere to the core values of integrity, respect, compassion, inclusiveness, social responsibility, excellence and innovation."

-Adopted by the Board of Trustees, December 2, 2010

-Global Equity Composite:

- National Oilwell Varco: 2.4% **ALL**
- Praxair Inc: 2.3%

-Large Cap Equity Composite:

- Devon Energy Corp: 4.2%

-Vanguard Institutional Index:

- Exxon Mobil Corp: 3.3%
- Chevron Corp: 1.8%

-Vanguard Growth Index Signal:

- Schlumberger: 1.4% **PIPE LINES**

-Mid Cap Committee:

- Oceaneering International Inc: 1.7% **SPILL**

-Hedged Equity Composite:

- Exxon Mobil Corp.: 3% **TAR**
- Chevron Corp: 2% **SANDS**
- EOG Resources: 2% **KILL**

-Davidson Kempner:

- Sunoco Inc: 3.9%
- Tyco International: 0.3%

NO MORE INVESTING IN SIMILAR PRACTICING FOSSIL FUEL COMPANIES LIKE ENBRIDGE!

Remember the Kalamazoo?
RIVER-2010 OIL SPILL

Here at Central Michigan University (CMU), there are thousands and thousands of eager collegiate students plowing their way through mounds of school work, volunteering, and professional development experiences in hopes of having an enjoyable and rewarding career in their future. Not only are students at CMU working hard, but we're spending money to ensure that we have a fulfilling future. So doesn't it seem incongruent for the university to be **directly** investing in the destruction of our future when we're spending so much money to enrich our futures? **That's right.** The statistics compiled above comprise the percentages of money that CMU has invested in these fossil fuel industries.

So what are we going to do about this? Like it was discussed last Spring, **this is a call to action for Central Michigan University to remove its funds from these monetary**

We don't hate Western THAT much!

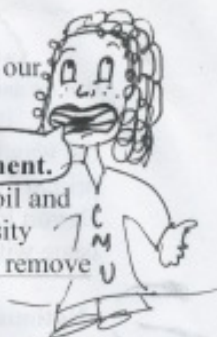
@Divest+CMU



PAGE 1

puppeteers, and be the forward thinking university we know it can be. By switching our funds from greedy and unethical companies to firms which are more transparent and less compromised, we can take a giant step towards social responsibility.

This process of removing funds from dirty fossil fuel companies is called **divestment**. Considering the fact that Central Michigan University is located in the heart and soul of oil and gas in Michigan, we know that this will not be easy. However, we're not the only university doing this. We are joining hundreds of other universities nationwide who are working to remove the strongholds that fortify the fossil fuel industry through the process of divestment.



FOSSIL FREE → CMU!

You read right, there are currently hundreds of universities that are participating in "fossil fuel" divestment campaigns on their campuses. The idea is that divesting shows a consumer disinterest and in turn decreases a company's shareholders. Because shareholders have to pay to be a shareholder, this will ultimately make the company less money. Compared to the billions of dollars they're making, this may seem to be insignificant. However, without the investors, the "product" becomes less valuable, making the extraction and use of fossil fuels even less economically feasible. Because let's be real, the fossil fuel industry is a dying field anyway.

While this may sound farfetched, divestment has a history of being successful in the past. During the Apartheid in South Africa, students demanded that their universities take their funds out of corporations that did business in South Africa (<http://msu.edu/~divest/index.htm>).

"Universities led the rest of the country in removing investments from companies that did business with the Apartheid government. By divesting a significant amount of funds from companies doing business with Apartheid South Africa, the universities caused companies themselves to put pressure on the South African government. The divestment movement posed a serious threat to the profit margins of companies doing business with Apartheid South Africa, leading them to divest, or apply pressure for change. Divestment was a major contributor in bringing down the Apartheid regime."

Another example of when divestment was used as a tactic was in confronting the tobacco industry. Big Tobacco had worked to increase its dominance by subsidizing research at academic health science institutions. After recognizing the way this funded research compromised the study of medicine, the American Medical Association divested from its tobacco holdings. The tobacco industry, led by Phillip Morris, saw this as a threat and responded by downplaying the true impact of divestment and exploiting university concerns, fabricating a narrative about how tobacco divestment would lead to a loss of research funds and be ineffective overall (Wander and Malone, 2004).

page 2



Have any other cool issues/topics/ideas for another DOG article? contact us @ : CMUDOG@gmail.com! :)

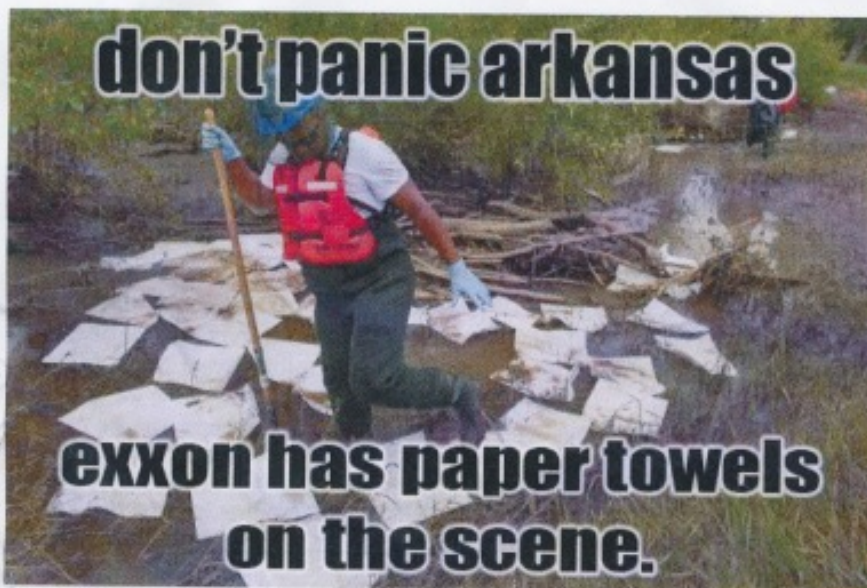
(**P.S. Central Michigan University is also invested in Phillip Morris Tobacco Company, but we'll save that for another CMU DOG issue.)

It was disturbing to discover that Central Michigan University is turning a blind eye to the way that our investments are negatively affecting our future. The companies that we are primarily concerned with include Exxon, Chevron, National Oilwell Varco, Schlumberger, Devon Energy Corp, Sunoco, Tyco, Praxair, and EOG (formerly known as Enron). What's our issue with these companies? Here's a brief description of our issues with these industries:



-**National Oilwell Varco (NOV)**: NOV is the main oil supplier to BP. NOV did not cooperate with the White House when they requested information regarding BP oil spill. BP's negligence and carelessness is well-known, most recently with the scandal regarding BP's editing of its own Wikipedia page to reflect positive environmental records. Any supplier of BP is complicit in BP's destructive mode of operation.

-**Exxon**: Exxon is one of the biggest profiteers in the world. Not only is it known for the large ExxonValdez oil spill, but has single-handedly displaced many indigenous communities in the name of corporate greed. Exxon is consistently named one of the world's worst corporations because of its widespread abuses to people, communities, land, air, water, and just about anything that's needed for life.



-**Chevron**: On Wednesday on March 20, 2013, Chevron had its third oil spill in the state of Utah and is currently tied up in other court cases regarding oil spills throughout the globe. Like Exxon, they are also responsible for global crimes, especially to indigenous populations. For example, telling native people of Ecuador that their oil spill provided "nutrients" to their water and soil, thus leading to drastic miscarriages in that region (Rainforest Action Network, n.d.).

Page: 3



AS
CHIPPEWAS,
let's stand
in
solidarity
with other
indigenous
groups...

← #DIVESTCMU!

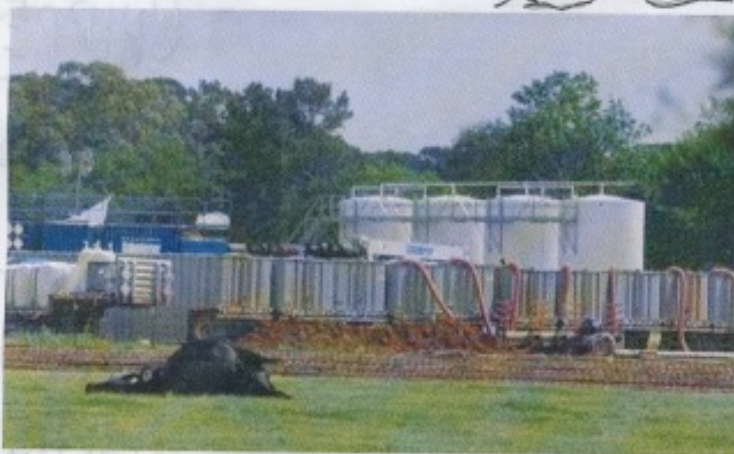
-**Schlumberger**: In Midland, Texas, there are many lawsuits filed against Schlumberger (and Dow Chemical Company, another extremely large, and poisonous donor to CMU. Stay tuned for a CMU DOG issue on Dow Chemical!) for contaminating neighborhood's water with hexavalent chromium from fracking waste water. Schlumberger was charged with negligence, trespassing, public and private nuisance, and liability for failure to warn residents of the dangers, fraudulent concealment, wrongful death and inverse condemnation. Many residents ended up with cancer, or in the worst cases, residents died. Water contamination by Schlumberger has been documented in other areas where wells have been fracked, including a farm in Louisiana, where residents noticed a yellowish-green liquid being sprayed on a pasture by Schlumberger employees. After Schlumberger had vacated the premises, sixteen of the cattle on that specific property died ("Erin Brockovich Does Midland, Texas: A Community Fracked By Big Oil," 2009).



PAGE:
44

once you

crack
you can't go back...



(Photo: Deceased cattle as a result of Schlumberger's contamination)

-EOG Resources Inc.: Formerly Enron Oil and Gas, EOG Resources is an oil and natural gas company located in the United States with proved reserves in the United States, Canada, Trinidad, the United Kingdom, and China. This company is highly invested in hydraulic fracturing.

All of these companies are acting to benefit their own bottom lines. While there is not anything inherently wrong with making money, when money is made at the expense of **life** and the **essentials** for life, the methods are no longer good business plans but predatory profit schemes.

DIVEST CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY!

It seems quite contradictory for a school that prides itself in social responsibility, environmental sustainability and good relations with indigenous lands to be investing in these corporations. In addition, "social responsibility" and "responsible citizenship" are noted within CMU's mission statement and core values. Investing in the aforementioned corporations is **certainly inconsistent** with these values.

This is a **call to action** for our university to transfer these funds and stop benefiting from the destructive injustices that the identified corporations perpetuate.

...Solutions?

If we could offer you five simple bullet-point-solutions to this problem, we would, but the reality is that's just not possible. When you're trying to confront deeply ingrained and systemic injustice, there simply aren't simple solutions. We could tell you to divest your own money and join the Divest CMU campaign, but we recognize that individual choices only take us so far in the fight against systemic injustice, and we don't want to tell you what to do. Instead, we hope you'll just think. Critically think. You're at a university, after all. Think about the injustice you see in the world, from the bullies on the playground to the corporate takeover of democracy. Think, think, and think some more...

PAGE 5



Then, allow your head to communicate with your heart and decide what you want to do. Do you want to let the status quo continue as is? Do you feel good about where the world is collectively heading? Or do you desire some sort of paradigm shift? If so, what is does that look like to you?

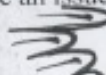



Thanks for reading, folks.

Until next time,

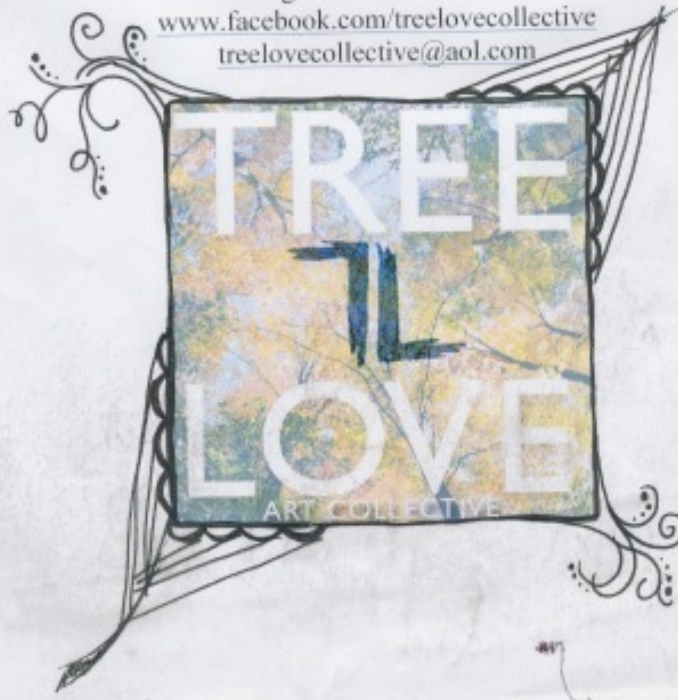
THE CMU DOG.

Have an issue you want to reach the public narrative? Contact us at:

 **CMUDOG@gmail.com** 

A special thanks goes to **Tree Love Art Collective** for some funky graphics. Check'm out and give'm a holler!:

www.facebook.com/treelovecollective
treelovecollective@aol.com



page
6

References

- Chevron. (2013). Retrieved from <http://chevron.com>
- Devon Energy (2013). Retrieved from <http://www.devonenergy.com/>
- EOG Resources (2013). Retrieved from <http://www.eogresources.com/>
- Erin Brockovich Does Midland, Texas: A Community Fracked By Big Oil. (2009). Daily Kos.
- Exxon Mobil. (2013). Retrieved from <http://www.exxonmobil.com/>
- Food and Water Watch. (2011). Exposing the Oil and Gas Industry's False Jobs Promise for Shale Gas Development: How Methodological Flaws Grossly Exaggerate Jobs Protections. Retrieved from <http://documents.foodandwaterwatch.org/doc/falsejobspromisereport.pdf>
- Fund Evaluation Group. (2012). Composite Performance Review: Central Michigan University Endowment
- Schlumberger (2013). Retrieved from <http://www.slb.com/>
- Sunoco Inc. (2013). Retrieved from <https://www.sunocoinc.com/>
- WPX Energy (2013). Retrieved from <http://www.wpxenergy.com/>
- Rainforest Action Network. (2013). We Can Change Chevron. Retrieved from <http://ran.org/we-can-change-chevron>

