

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

California State University Quarterly Investment Report

Presentation By

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Summary

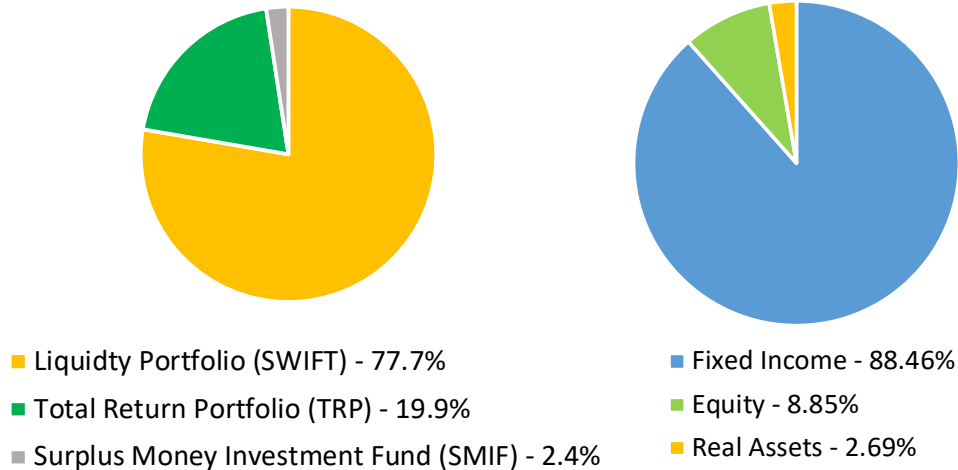
This item provides the quarterly investment report to the California State University Board of Trustees for the fiscal quarter ended March 31, 2020. The information in Attachment A provides the entire quarterly investment report regarding CSU investments as required by Education Code 89726.

Background

Pursuant to the California State University Master Investment Policy (included as Attachment B) CSU investments as of March 31, 2020 consisted of investments in the Liquidity Portfolio (Systemwide Investment Fund Trust or SWIFT), the Total Return Portfolio (TRP), and the State of California Surplus Money Investment Fund (SMIF). Except for amounts held at the State in SMIF, all CSU investments are held by US Bank, the custodian bank for the CSU. Neither state general fund nor CSU auxiliary organization funds are included in CSU investments. In addition, this report does not include approximately \$1.51 billion in bond proceeds, which by state law are required to be held by the state and are invested in SMIF.

**CSU Investments – Balances, Allocations, and Returns
March 31, 2020**

	<u>Balance</u>	<u>% of CSU Investments</u>	<u>Twelve Month Returns</u>
Liquidity Portfolio (SWIFT)	\$3.764 billion	77.7%	3.42%
Total Return Portfolio (TRP)	\$962.3 million	19.9%	-7.54%
Surplus Money Investment Fund (SMIF)	\$117.4 million	2.4%	1.92%
CSU Investments	\$4.84 billion	100%	



CSU Investment Portfolios

For detailed information on the investment performance and characteristics of the CSU investment portfolios please see Attachment A.

CSU Liquidity Portfolio (Systemwide Investment Fund Trust or SWIFT)

The purpose of the Liquidity Portfolio is to provide sufficient and immediate liquidity to meet the operating needs of the CSU. The investment objective is safety of principal and liquidity.

The Liquidity Portfolio is managed through contracts with two investment management firms, US Bancorp Asset Management and Wells Capital Management, each of whom provides investment management services for the program. While the custodian, US Bank, holds the funds invested in the Liquidity Portfolio, for investment management purposes additions to the portfolio are split evenly between the investment managers and invested according to permitted investments outlined in the Government Code of the State and the Liquidity Portfolio investment policy. Consistent with state law, the Liquidity Portfolio is restricted to high quality, fixed income securities.

CSU Total Return Portfolio (TRP)

Legislation effective January 1, 2017 expanded the CSU investment authority to allow investment in mutual funds (including equity mutual funds) and real estate investment trusts. The Total Return Portfolio was created to take advantage of the new investment authority.

The purpose of the TRP is to provide opportunity for additional risk adjusted returns on CSU funds over a full market cycle. The investment objective is to achieve a prudent return within a moderate risk level.

Under State law, investment of funds in the TRP is subject to the CSU meeting certain conditions regarding investment oversight, reporting, and use of earnings, and may not be more than thirty percent of eligible CSU investments. The CSU Investment Advisory Committee (IAC), established by the Board of Trustees in September 2017, oversees the TRP and focuses on key issues such as investment policy, asset allocation, investment manager oversight, and investment performance.

The TRP investment policy provides a framework for the investment of portfolio funds in the TRP and includes the following key elements as further described in the TRP Investment Policy:

Investment Objectives	Investment Manager Selection
Spending Policy	Roles & Responsibilities
Time and Investment Horizon	Environmental, Social and Governance
Risk Tolerance	Framework
Expected Return	Risk Management
Asset Allocation	Monitoring and Control Procedures
Benchmarks	

The IAC has adopted an investment schedule for the TRP that utilizes a dollar-cost averaging approach and provides regular monthly contributions to the TRP. An initial investment of \$33.5 million into the TRP was made on April 1, 2018, and additional investments allowed the TRP to reach the fiscal year 2018-2019 statutory limit of \$600 million in the first half of 2019. After June 30, 2019, a new investment schedule was adopted by the IAC and staff, with the goal of funding the TRP to as much as 30 percent of CSU investments by mid-2020. However, in April of 2020, the IAC approved a reduced investment schedule in the amount of \$20 million total between April and July of 2020 in order to preserve liquidity in the CSU Liquidity Portfolio in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The investment schedule may also be adjusted by the IAC at any time depending on market conditions.

Since the TRP Inception date¹ through March 31, 2020, the TRP investment earnings were approximately negative \$87.7 million. During this period, the TRP total return trailed the CSU Liquidity Portfolio (SWIFT) total return by 3.64% annualized (net of fees) or negative \$120.2 million cumulative during the time period.

While the TRP saw significant declines in market value during the quarter ending March 31, 2020, these declines were consistent with broad market declines for numerous asset classes and a decline in the TRP Policy Benchmark. Subsequent to the quarter ending March 31, 2020, the TRP has recovered almost all of this decline in value. Details of the recovery in TRP market value and performance will be included in future CSU investment reports.

Surplus Money Investment Fund (SMIF)

The State Treasurer also provides investment vehicles that may be used for CSU funds. The Surplus Money Investment Fund (SMIF) is used by the State Treasurer to invest state funds, or funds held by the state on behalf of state agencies, in a short-term pool. In order to facilitate certain expenditures, the CSU maintains small amounts of funds with the State. The portfolio includes Certificates of Deposit, U.S. Treasuries, Commercial Paper, Corporate Bonds, and U.S. Government Agencies.

Next Steps

With oversight from the IAC, staff will continue monitoring market conditions to determine if any changes in the TRP investment schedule are warranted. Staff is also working on developing the Intermediate Duration Portfolio, consistent with the CSU Master Investment Policy, however the implementation timeline for this portfolio has been delayed due to developments related to COVID-19. The next investment report to the board is scheduled for the November 2020 meeting and will provide information on the CSU Annual Investment Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020.

¹ The TRP Inception Date was April 1, 2018.

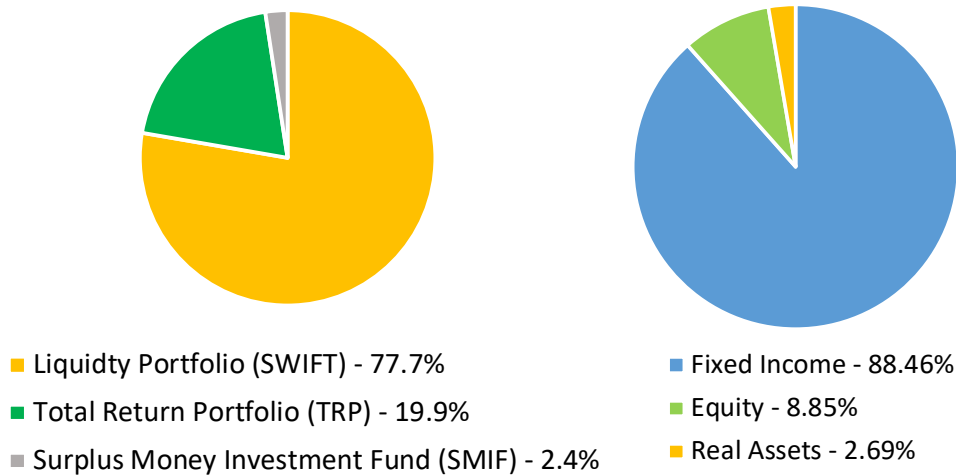
CSU Quarterly Investment Report

For the Fiscal Quarter Ended March 31, 2020

CSU investments as of March 31, 2020 consisted of investments in the CSU Liquidity Portfolio (Systemwide Investment Fund Trust or SWIFT), the Total Return Portfolio (TRP), and the State of California Surplus Money Investment Fund (SMIF). All CSU investments (except for funds invested in SMIF) are held by US Bank, the custodian bank for the CSU. Neither state general fund nor CSU auxiliary funds are included in CSU investments. In addition, this report does not include approximately \$1.51 billion in bond proceeds, which by state law are required to be held by the state and are invested in SMIF.

Balances and Allocations as of March 31, 2020

	<u>Balance</u>	<u>% of CSU Investments</u>
Liquidity Portfolio (SWIFT)	\$3.764 billion	77.7%
Total Return Portfolio (TRP)	\$962.3 million	19.9%
Surplus Money Investment Fund (SMIF)	\$117.4 million	2.4%
CSU Investments	\$4.84 billion	100%



For the quarter ended March 31, 2020, direct investment management fees¹, advisory, and custodial fees totaled just over \$1.6 million, or about 0.033 percent (3.3 basis points) on CSU investments total balance as of March 31, 2020.

¹ Direct investment management fees exclude TRP mutual fund investment management fees. TRP mutual fund investment management fees are included as mutual fund expenses and reported as a percent of total fund assets. See TRP Fund Expense Ratio (Fee) in the table on page 4.

CSU Consolidated Investment Portfolio

The performance returns below are for the CSU Consolidated Investment Portfolio which includes the Liquidity Portfolio (SWIFT) and the Total Return Portfolio (TRP).²

	CSU Consolidated Investment Portfolio
1 Year Annualized Return ³	0.93%
3 Year Annualized Return	1.46%
5 Year Annualized Return	1.19%
10 Year Annualized Return	0.92%
Annualized Since Inception Return ⁴	1.32%

CSU Liquidity Portfolio (Systemwide Investment Fund Trust or SWIFT)

The purpose of the Liquidity Portfolio is to provide sufficient and immediate liquidity to meet the operating needs of the CSU. The investment objective is safety of principal and liquidity. Consistent with state law, the portfolio is restricted to high quality, fixed income securities.

	CSU Liquidity Portfolio	Benchmark⁵
1 Year Annualized Return ⁶	3.42%	4.65%
3 Year Annualized Return	2.22%	2.51%
5 Year Annualized Return	1.64%	1.71%
10 Year Annualized Return	1.15%	1.25%
Annualized Since Inception Return ⁷	1.50%	1.82%
Yield	1.02%	0.16%
Duration (Years)	1.23	1.41
Average Credit Rating	AA-	Aaa/AA+

Holdings by Asset Type (% of CSU Liquidity Portfolio):

Treasuries	43.01%	CD's and Cash Equivalents	7.82%
U.S. Corporate Bonds	27.97%	Asset-Backed Securities	1.11%
U.S. Government Agencies	20.02%	Municipal Obligations	0.07%

² CSU Consolidated Investment Portfolio returns will also include the Intermediate Duration Portfolio (IDP) once this portfolio is inception. CSU Consolidated Investment Portfolio returns exclude SMIF.

³ CSU Consolidated Investment Portfolio Returns reported gross of fees and as total return, including income and gains (realized and unrealized).

⁴ The CSU Consolidated Investment Portfolio utilizes the July 1, 2007 inception date of the CSU Liquidity Portfolio (SWIFT).

⁵ Benchmark for the CSU Liquidity Portfolio (SWIFT) is the Bank of America Merrill Lynch 0-3 Year Treasury Index.

⁶ CSU Liquidity Portfolio (SWIFT) Returns reported gross of fees and as total return, including income and gains (realized and unrealized).

⁷ Inception Date for the CSU Liquidity Portfolio (SWIFT) was July 1, 2007.

CSU Total Return Portfolio (TRP)

The purpose of the Total Return Portfolio is to provide opportunity for additional risk adjusted returns on CSU funds over a full market cycle. The investment objective is to achieve a prudent return within a moderate risk level. Consistent with state law, the TRP is invested in mutual funds subject to registration by, and under the regulatory authority of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or in United States registered real estate investment trusts.

	CSU Total Return Portfolio	Strategic Benchmark⁸	Policy Benchmark⁹
3 Months Return	-15.61%	2.01%	-15.37%
1 Year Return	-7.54%	6.68%	-7.50%
Annualized Since Inception Return ¹⁰	-0.68%	6.65%	-1.60%

The negative returns for the TRP as of March 31, 2020 were due largely to significant declines in the equity markets during the quarter. These negative returns resulted in underperformance compared to the Strategic Benchmark, which is not impacted by market volatility, and mixed performance compared to the TRP Policy Benchmark, which is impacted by market volatility.

Since the TRP Inception date through March 31, 2020, the TRP investment earnings were approximately negative \$87.7 million. During this period, the TRP total return trailed the CSU Liquidity Portfolio (SWIFT) total return by 3.64% annualized (net of fees) or negative \$120.2 million cumulative during the time period.

While the TRP saw significant declines in market value during the quarter ending March 31, 2020, these declines were consistent with broad market declines for numerous asset classes and the TRP Policy Benchmark. Subsequent to the quarter ending March 31, 2020, the TRP recovered almost all of this decline in value. Details of the recovery in TRP market value and performance will be included in future CSU investment reports.

Holdings by Asset Type (% of CSU Total Return Portfolio):

Equity Mutual Funds	44.6%	Passive Index Mutual Funds	76%
Fixed Income Mutual Funds	41.9%	Actively Managed Mutual Funds	24%
			11
Real Asset Mutual Funds	13.5%		

⁸ The TRP Strategic Benchmark is Inflation (Core Consumer Price Index) plus 4.5% per annum. The long-term rate of inflation is assumed at 2.5% per annum.

⁹ The TRP Policy Benchmark is a blend of passive indices whose weights match the TRP target asset allocation.

¹⁰ TRP Inception Date was April 1, 2018.

¹¹ The percent of Actively Managed Mutual Funds is likely to increase in the future while the percent of Passive Index Mutual Funds would decrease consistent with the TRP implementation plan.

Values, Holdings & Fees (CSU Total Return Portfolio)

Asset Class	Strategy Name	Ticker	Value (millions)	% of Total Return Portfolio	TRP Fund Expense Ratio (Fee)	Universe Median Expense Ratio (Fee)
Fixed Income						
	Vanguard Total Bond Market Index Fund	VBMPX	238.9	25%	0.030%	0.450%
	Vanguard Inflation-Protected Securities Fund	VIPIX	53.6	6%	0.070%	0.455%
	Lord Abbett High Yield Fund	LHYOX	54.8	6%	0.620%	0.720%
	Pacific Funds Floating Rate Income Fund	PLFRX	29.2	3%	0.720%	0.770%
	Payden Emerging Markets Bond Fund	PYEIX	13.5	1.4%	0.690%	0.850%
	T. Rowe Emerging Markets Bond Fund	TREBX	13.3	1.4%	0.700%	0.850%
Equity						
	Vanguard Total Stock Market Index Fund	VSMPX	228.0	24%	0.020%	0.760%
	Vanguard Developed Markets Index Fund	VDIPX	112.2	12%	0.040%	0.900%
	Driehaus Emerging Markets Growth Fund	DIEMX	54.4	6%	1.180%	1.115%
	DFA Emerging Markets Value Fund	DFEVX	25.6	3%	0.510%	1.115%
	RWC Global Emerging Equity Fund	RWCEX	8.7	1%	1.250%	1.115%
Real Assets						
	Vanguard Real Estate Index Fund	VGSNX	60.7	6%	0.100%	0.895%
	Vanguard Energy Index Fund	VENAX	14.8	2%	0.100%	0.990%
	Vanguard Materials Index Fund	VMIAX	18.7	2%	0.100%	0.950%
	First State Global Listed Infrastructure Fund	FLIIX	35.9	4%	0.950%	0.970%
Cash			0.0	0%	NA	NA
Total			962.3	100%		

Surplus Money Investment Fund (SMIF)

The Surplus Money Investment Fund (SMIF) is managed by the State Treasurer to invest State funds, or funds held by the State on behalf of State agencies, in a short- term pool. The portfolio includes Certificates of Deposit, Treasuries, Commercial Paper, Corporate Bonds, and U.S. Government Agencies.

Apportionment Annual Yield¹²

Trailing 12 month as of 03/31/20	1.92%
Average (FYE 06/30/07 – FYE 03/31/20)	1.15%

¹² Annual Yield calculated by CSU Treasury Operations based on the quarterly apportionment yield rates published by the State Controller's Office.



Master Investment Policy For The California State University

Approved on November 8, 2017
By The Board of Trustees of The California State University

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I. Scope and Purpose

This California State University Master Investment Policy (“MIP”) governs the investment of California State University (“CSU”) funds. CSU investments are centrally managed on behalf of the CSU System and its campuses.

The purpose of the MIP, together with investment policies that govern individual Portfolios (as defined in Section IV) and are created pursuant to delegated authority contained herein, is to provide a framework for the investment of CSU funds consistent with the goals of the CSU Board of Trustees (the “Board”) and the educational mission of the CSU.

The MIP sets forth objectives, guidelines, and responsibilities that the Board deems to be appropriate and prudent in consideration of the needs of, and the legal requirements applicable to, the CSU’s investment program. The MIP is also intended to ensure that the Board, and any parties to whom the Board delegates authority, are fulfilling their fiduciary responsibilities in the oversight of CSU investments.

The MIP is a dynamic document and will be reviewed from time to time. The MIP will be modified, if necessary, to reflect the changing nature of the CSU’s assets and investment program, organizational objectives, and economic conditions.

II. Compliance with Law and Adherence to Policy

CSU investments are to be managed in full compliance with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations from various local, state, federal, and international political entities that may impact the CSU’s assets, including but not limited to the provisions of the California Education Code and California Government Code applicable to the investment of CSU funds, and in accordance with the policy objectives, guidelines, and responsibilities expressed herein.

III. Background and Investment Objectives

The investment objectives for the investment of CSU funds have been established in conjunction with a comprehensive review of current and projected financial requirements. The Board desires to provide the Chancellor, the Chancellor’s Staff, and the IAC (as defined in Section V) with the greatest possible flexibility to maximize investment opportunities. However, as agents of the Board, the Chancellor, the Chancellor’s Staff, and the IAC must recognize the fiduciary responsibility of the Board to conserve and protect the assets of the CSU investment program, and, by prudent management, prevent exposure to undue and unnecessary risk.

The following objectives shall govern the investment of CSU funds:

1. Safeguard the principal.
2. Meet the liquidity needs of the CSU.
3. Obtain the best possible return commensurate with the degree of risk the CSU is willing to assume in obtaining such return.

The Board acknowledges that these objectives may be weighted or prioritized differently for individual Portfolios depending upon the purpose of the Portfolio.

IV. Investment Portfolios

Consistent with its investment objectives, the Board has determined that CSU funds may be invested in three investment portfolios (individually, a “Portfolio” and together, the “Portfolios”) created by the CSU, with oversight by the Chancellor, the Chancellor’s Staff, and the IAC, and each with its own investment policy.

The three Portfolios and general purpose of each Portfolio are as follows:

Liquidity Portfolio (Systemwide Investment Fund—Trust or “SWIFT”)

The purpose of this Portfolio is to provide sufficient and immediate liquidity to meet the operating needs of the CSU. The investment objectives for this Portfolio shall be safety of principal and liquidity. The existing CSU Systemwide Investment Fund—Trust (SWIFT) shall serve as the Liquidity Portfolio and shall be comprised of investments authorized pursuant to California Government Code Sections 16330 or 16430.

Intermediate Duration Portfolio (IDP)

The purpose of this Portfolio is to provide opportunity for modest, additional risk adjusted returns on CSU funds not needed for immediate liquidity. The investment objectives for this Portfolio shall be safety of principal, liquidity and return. The Intermediate Duration Portfolio shall be comprised of investments authorized pursuant to California Government Code Sections 16330 or 16430.

Total Return Portfolio (TRP)

The purpose of this Portfolio is to provide opportunity for additional risk adjusted returns on CSU funds over a full market cycle. The investment objectives for this Portfolio shall be to achieve a prudent total return within a moderate risk level. The

Total Return Portfolio shall be comprised of investments authorized pursuant to California Government Code Sections 16330, or 16430 or California Education Code Sections 89724 or 89725.

The acceptable allocations for the Portfolios are as follows:

<u>Portfolio</u>	<u>Min – Target – Max</u>
Liquidity – Systemwide Investment Fund Trust (“SWIFT”)	5% - 20% - 100%
Intermediate Duration Portfolio (“IDP”)	0% - 52% - 95%
Total Return Portfolio (“TRP”)	0% - 28% - 30%¹

In addition, the CSU may invest any amount (from 0% to 100%), in any California State Treasury investment option, available now, or in the future, that the IAC and the Staff deem prudent, including, but not limited to:

- Surplus Money Investment Fund (SMIF)
- Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF)

V. Roles and Responsibilities

Board of Trustees

The Board assumes fiduciary responsibility to conserve and protect the investment assets of the CSU, and by prudent management, to prevent exposure to undue and unnecessary risk. However, the Board also acknowledges investments are inherently risky with risk of loss and, as such, are viewed with a long-term time horizon.

As a fiduciary, the primary responsibilities of the Board are to:

1. Maintain and approve the MIP.

¹ Percentage allocations to the TRP are subject to annual phase-in restrictions through June 30, 2020 per state law.

2. Ensure that CSU investments are prudently diversified in order to obtain the best possible return commensurate with the degree of risk that the CSU is willing to assume.
3. Report annually to the California state legislature and the California Department of Finance regarding the investment of CSU funds.

The Board shall have oversight responsibility for investment of the assets and has delegated investment authority to the Chancellor, the Chancellor's Staff, and the IAC.

Chancellor and Chancellor's Staff

As agents of the Board, the Chancellor, the Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer, the Assistant Vice Chancellor responsible for CSU investments, and their designees (the "Chancellor's Staff"), recognize the fiduciary responsibility of the Board to conserve and protect the investment assets of the CSU and, by prudent management, to prevent exposure to undue and unnecessary risk.

The Chancellor and the Chancellor's Staff are hereby authorized to establish policies and procedures to implement the provisions of this MIP, including, but not limited to, the following activities:

1. Overseeing and implementing general administrative and investment operations for the Portfolios.
2. Informing the IAC on the overall investments of the CSU and each of the Portfolios to assist the IAC in fulfilling its duties.
3. Developing and implementing policies that are suitable for achieving the strategic objectives for each Portfolio, including coordination with the IAC in developing and implementing policies for the TRP.
4. Selecting, contracting with, and monitoring third party service providers, including, but not limited to, investment advisors, investment managers, and custodians. For the TRP, such actions will be based on the recommendations of the IAC.
5. Directing the investment of funds, including the ordering of purchase and sale transactions to, from and between the Portfolios to meet investment objectives and strategic asset allocations.

6. Monitoring and reviewing the performance of the Portfolios to their stated objectives.
7. Reporting to the Board regarding the investment of CSU funds as requested, but no less than quarterly.
8. Controlling and accounting for all investment, record keeping, and administrative expenses associated with the Portfolios.
9. Identifying the need for updates, monitoring the Portfolios for legal and policy compliance, and acting on the recommendations of the IAC, as appropriate.
10. All other duties designated or delegated by the Board or the IAC.

Investment Advisory Committee

As required by state law, the CSU has created an Investment Advisory Committee (the "IAC"), to provide investment advice and expertise to the Board, particularly with respect to the management of the TRP.

The IAC shall be an advisory body and shall make recommendations, as appropriate, to the Board for approval or to the Chancellor and the Chancellor's Staff for implementation. The IAC shall be responsible for overseeing all aspects of the TRP and is hereby authorized to recommend policies and procedures for the creation and implementation of the TRP, including, but not limited to, the following activities:

1. Understanding the overall investments of the CSU and each of the Portfolios as informed by the Chancellor's Staff, investment advisors and/or investment managers.
2. Developing and approving an IAC charter to establish guidelines for operations of the IAC.
3. Developing, approving, and overseeing the implementation of an investment policy statement for the TRP.
4. Reviewing and approving target asset allocations and ranges for the TRP.
5. Monitoring and reviewing the performance of the TRP to its stated objectives.
6. Prudently reviewing, selecting, monitoring, and replacing investment management firms engaged to manage the TRP's assets.
7. Monitoring and supervising all service vendors and fees for the TRP.

8. Any other investment or administrative duties deemed necessary to prudently oversee the investment program for the TRP.

Prudence, Ethics and Conflict of Interest

All participants in the investment process shall act responsibly. The standard of prudence applied by the Board, the Chancellor, the Chancellor's Staff, and the IAC, as well as any external service providers, shall be the "prudent investor" rule. The "prudent investor" rule in part, states, "A trustee shall invest and manage trust assets as a prudent investor would, by considering the purposes, terms, distribution requirements, and other circumstances of the trust. In satisfying this standard, the trustee shall exercise reasonable care, skill and caution. A trustee's investment and management decisions respecting individual assets must be evaluated not in isolation but in the context of the trust portfolio as a whole and as part of an overall investment strategy having risk and return objectives reasonably suited to the trust."

Furthermore, all participants in the investment process shall use the same care, skill, prudence, and due diligence under the circumstances then prevailing that a prudent person acting in a like capacity and fully familiar with such matters would use in the conduct of an enterprise of like activities for like portfolios with like aims and in accordance and compliance and all other applicable laws, rules and regulations.

All investment personnel shall refrain from personal business activity which could create a conflict with proper execution of the investment program, or which could impair the ability to execute impartial investment decisions. All investment personnel shall disclose to the Chancellor's Staff or the IAC any material financial interests in financial institutions which conduct business within the jurisdiction and shall disclose any material financial investment positions which could be related in a conflicting manner to the performance of the Portfolios. All investment personnel shall report any potential conflicts of interest consistent with Government Code Section 87200. Further, the Chancellor shall report to the Board in writing any issues that could reflect any conflict in the performance of the Portfolios.

Document Acceptance of the Investment Policy Statement

The Chancellor's Staff shall provide a copy of this MIP, and the relevant Portfolio investment policy, to each firm retained to provide investment services to the CSU and each such firm shall acknowledge in writing receipt of the document and accept its content.

VI. Environmental, Social and Governance Framework

The Board acknowledges the importance of understanding the potential risks and value that environmental, social, and governance (“ESG”) factors may have on CSU investments. Therefore, the Board expects that the consideration of ESG factors shall be integrated into the investment decision processes of the CSU.

Approved:

The California State University Board of Trustees
November 8, 2017