

Intentional
Endowments
Network

Intentionally
Designed
Endowment

Primer

www.IntentionalEndowments.org

INTENTIONALLY DESIGNED ENDOWMENT

ALIGNING INVESTMENT PORTFOLIOS WITH INSTITUTIONAL MISSION, VALUES, SUSTAINABILITY GOALS

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	3
Strategic Questions and Considerations.....	4
Background and Overview.....	6
Sustainable Investing of College and University Endowments.....	11
Examples of Intentionally Designed Endowments	13
Acknowledgments	25

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INTRODUCTION

The Intentional Endowments Network (IEN) is a non-profit peer learning network that empowers endowment fiduciaries and their financial advisors to navigate the complex and dynamic trends related to investing for long-term financial, environmental, and social success. The Network's capacity building efforts and thought leadership are focused on the unique characteristics that all endowments share: a long-term investment horizon with short-term spending requirements, diverse and wide-ranging stakeholders, and a responsibility to intergenerational equity. A primary mechanism for doing so is a series of regionally focused stakeholder engagement events, called Intentionally Designed Endowment Forums.

The first forum was hosted in partnership by Hampshire College and Second Nature on April 3-4, 2014, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The Intentional Endowments Network grew out of this event, and subsequently co-hosted forums with the following partners:

- Arizona State University Foundation, January 15-16, 2015, Tempe, AZ
- Mount Holyoke College, February 21, 2015, South Hadley, MA
- Alliance for Sustainable Colorado, May 7-8, 2015, Denver, CO
- Portland State University, November 9-10, 2015, Portland, OR
- San Francisco State University, August 25-26, 2016, San Francisco, CA
- Loyola University Chicago, November 1-2, 2016, Chicago, IL
- University of California, Berkeley September 8, 2017, Berkeley, CA
- The Boston Foundation, June 11, 2018, Boston, MA
- Appalachian State University, July 31, 2018, Boone, NC

In addition to the regional roundtables, the Network partners with Second Nature to plan the annual Higher Education Climate Leadership Summit in February.

This document is a primer to provide:

1. Strategic questions to consider
2. Background and an overview of integrating sustainability factors for investment returns and a healthy, just, and sustainable society
3. The status and trends in sustainable investing for college and university endowments
4. A brainstorming list of possible initiatives or activities that may emerge from these conversations
5. A sampling of reports, resources, and organizations pertaining to sustainable investing

This information is intended to spark questions and new ideas, while helping endowment stakeholders prepare to engage in productive dialogue around sustainable investing. It is not intended to be a comprehensive overview of responsible investment policies and programs in higher education or other sectors.

STRATEGIC QUESTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

Higher education plays a critical role in preparing society for the future, teaching the individuals who will lead and manage current and future institutions. Society depends on higher education to provide knowledge, solve problems, anticipate future challenges, and model the behaviors in which society must engage to evolve in a positive direction.

Higher education has made significant progress on addressing broad scale climate and sustainability challenges in educational programs and campus operations over the last two decades. However, few have considered the impact of the approximately \$600 billion in endowment funds of the nation's higher education institutions on these objectives. Now, many higher education institutions and foundations are grappling with the question of whether and how to intentionally align institutional investments with their mission, values, and sustainability goals. For most institutions this is uncharted territory.

The following questions and considerations reflect the main themes of the "Intentionally Designed Endowment" forums to date. They are guided by participants' responses to questions circulated in advance of the events:

INSTITUTIONAL MISSION, VALUES, AND SUSTAINABILITY GOALS

- What is the relationship between an institution's mission and values and its investment activities? What should it be?
- How do institutions align their missions with their investment portfolios across asset classes? What role does stakeholder engagement play?
- What kind of impact can sustainable investment strategies have in terms of improving society?

LEADING INSTITUTIONAL CHANGE

- How might institutional leaders effectively learn from one another's experiences?
- What beliefs and views might be motivating or impeding change in institutional investment practices?
- How might institutional leaders most effectively facilitate a constructive conversation and decision-making process on this topic among their stakeholders?

FIDUCIARY DUTY, COSTS AND BENEFITS, AND RISK MANAGEMENT

- What are the ways to ensure that sustainable investment policies are consistent with fiduciary duty?
- Is there any conflict between aligning investment policies with institutional mission and fiduciary duty? If so, what are its dimensions? How might the conflict be resolved to allow alignment?
- What does experience indicate about the potential costs and benefits of sustainable investing? What is the impact on financial performance?
- How should institutions factor environmental, social, and governance (ESG) criteria into decision-making and investment policies?
- How might our understanding of fiduciary responsibilities evolve based on the current state of knowledge about material risks that ESG analysis can reveal?

INVESTMENT INDUSTRY NORMS

- What strategies and products are available to institutional investors who want to invest more responsibly to benefit society while also achieving competitive returns?
- Given that the universe of comingled funds with strong track records and ESG credentials is relatively small, how can this network ensure that there are many more options for institutional investors?

- How can this network effect an industry-wide shift so that ESG analysis and sustainable investing become the norm? What should we be asking of our investment consultants and asset managers in this regard, and how should we be approaching these conversations?

LEADING SOCIETAL CHANGE

- What are higher education, the philanthropic community, and the financial sector doing today to advance sustainable investing and the creation of a sustainable economy? What can they do in the future?
- How can these institutions work together to increase understanding of society's sustainability challenges and investment strategies that recognize associated risks and opportunities?
- How might collective action make sustainable investing the norm?

BACKGROUND AND OVERVIEW

Some religious groups and other organizations have explicitly embedded their values into investment decisions for centuries. In recent decades, some colleges, universities, and private foundations have been involved in investment practices related to environmental, social, and governance issues, such as divestment from South Africa and Sudan, and actions related to tobacco, arms, and gambling investments.

More recently, campaigns have called on endowments, private foundations, municipal governments, and other institutional investors to divest from fossil fuel companies. These campaigns have sparked widespread debate, specifically on what divestment means and has accomplished, and generally about the concepts of responsible investment.

Definitions of Terms

The evolution of investment practices related to social responsibility and sustainability has led to considerable confusion regarding terminology. Various approaches under umbrella terms like “responsible,” “ethical,” “mission-related,” or “sustainable” investing have evolved over the past four decades.

INVESTMENT APPROACHES

Socially Responsible Investing (SRI) can use both positive and negative investment criteria to align investments with an individual or institution’s mission or values. However, many use this term to refer only to the strategy of negative screening (see below).

Environmental, Social, and Governance Investing (ESG) aims to create a more complete picture of potential investment risks and opportunities by factoring environmental, social, and governance criteria into investment decisions.

INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

Impact investing involves investing in projects or companies (often not publicly traded) with the purpose of generating positive social or environmental change (e.g., clean technology private equity funds).

Negative screening is the strategy of excluding companies, industries, or countries that the investor considers irresponsible from an investment portfolio (e.g., avoiding investing in gambling, alcohol, or tobacco companies).

Divestment – or selling an asset – refers to selling holdings in a company or sector for ethical or political reasons in order to reduce risk, to avoid being complicit, or to make a statement (e.g., divesting from fossil fuel companies).

Positive screening is a strategy that involves investing in companies that meet certain ESG criteria as determined by the investor, often looking to find “best-in-class” companies within a sector (e.g., identifying the most energy-efficient or least carbon-intensive companies in a sector).

Shareholder engagement or advocacy is a tactic of using ownership in a company to improve its social responsibility practices by voting at shareholder meetings (or by proxy), filing shareholder resolutions, and/or establishing ongoing dialogues with companies (e.g., filing a resolution calling for a company to create a governance policy to ensure gender and ethnic balance among Board members and executives).

These terms are often interrelated. For example, an SRI investor could engage in impact investing, factor ESG criteria into decision-making, and use a combination of negative and positive screens and engagement strategies.

Many investors who are less familiar with the field equate terms like socially responsible investing, ethical investing, impact investing, environmental, social, and governance investing, responsible investing (RI), and sustainable investing (SI). Many associate SRI with “negative screens” – the practice of excluding certain investments for normative reasons, thus limiting the investment universe – while others view negative screening as but one strategy employed by some socially responsible investors. This conflation of terms and misunderstanding of what they mean has caused some mainstream investors to write off approaches to responsible investing without fully understanding them.

Several leading groups have begun using the acronym SRI to refer to “*sustainable, responsible and impact*” investing, as an umbrella term for the various investment approaches and strategies.

Many practitioners in the field recognize that this abundance of terms is confusing and can often be a barrier to entry for investors. Several argue that such labels should be abandoned and as it becomes increasingly clear that sustainability issues are material investment issues, these strategies and approaches will become a natural part of ‘long-term’ or ‘future-oriented’ investing – or perhaps, simply “investing.”

We will use the terms SRI, RI, and SI interchangeably to mean aligning investment practices with institutional mission and values and/or explicitly considering ESG risks and opportunities in the investment process, regardless of the strategies used to do so.

Brief History

The modern concept of SRI emerged in the 1960s and 1970s. Shareholder activism stemming from the civil rights, anti-war, and environmental movements of the 1960s put pressure on companies, driving them to respond with corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives. The 1970s saw the emergence of the first socially screened mutual funds.

Throughout the 1980s, key issues and events accelerated the growth of SRI practices, such as:

- Apartheid in South Africa
- Bhopal (1984 gas leak at the Union Carbide pesticide plant in Bhopal, India)
- Chernobyl (1986 nuclear accident at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant in Ukraine, then a part of the Soviet Union)
- Valdez (1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill in Alaska)

Through the 1990s and 2000s, as the sustainability movement grew and matured, so too did the sustainable investment field. With increasing sophistication, investors have integrated social and environmental issues – from climate change, deforestation, and toxic waste to indigenous peoples’ rights, labor practices, and gun control – into investment criteria. There has been an increase in institutional acceptance of the relevance of ESG factors in decision-making.

In 2002, 35 institutional investors requested greenhouse gas data from the FT500 Global Index companies,¹ launching the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP). CDP, now backed by more than 525 institutional investors representing over \$96 trillion in assets, solicits reports from thousands of companies on issues related to climate change, water, supply chains, and forest risk.²

¹ The Financial Times Global 500 is an annual listing of the world’s 500 largest companies, measured by market capitalization (share price multiplied by number of shares issued)

² <https://www.cdp.net>

In 2003, Ceres launched the Investor Network on Climate Risk (INCR), advancing the notion that climate change is a financial risk. INCR now consists of a network of more than 170 institutional investors representing more than \$26 trillion in assets. Its mission is to mobilize investor leaders to address climate and other key sustainability risks, while building low-carbon investment opportunities. In 2014, Ceres released the “Clean Trillion” report calling for an average of \$1 trillion in increases in annual clean energy investments over business-as-usual projections – which is the amount needed to have an 80% chance of limiting global temperature increases to 2°C.³

The Principles for Responsible Investing (PRI) were launched in April 2006 and have since garnered over 2,200 signatories representing assets under management of over \$80 trillion (as of August 2019). Signatories commit to six principles related to factoring ESG issues into their own decision-making and throughout the investment industry.⁴

In 2009, the Rockefeller Foundation and others interested in impact investing launched Global Impact Investing Network (GIIN), a non-profit focused on increasing the scale and effectiveness of impact investing. It has helped to mainstream the concept of impact investing and supports the development of standards and measurement frameworks to enhance the credibility of the impact investing industry.⁵

In 2012, a coalition⁶ launched a campaign calling for endowments (and other institutional investors) to “immediately freeze any new investment in fossil fuel companies, and divest from direct ownership and any commingled funds that include fossil fuel public equities and corporate bonds within 5 years.” There are student-led fossil-fuel divestment campaigns on hundreds of campuses in the United States and abroad.

This campaign focuses on the top 200 coal, oil, and gas companies, as measured by their reserves. It is based on the premise that to avoid an increase in global average temperatures of more than 2°C, humanity cannot release more than 565 gigatons of carbon dioxide before 2050, which is about 20% of the carbon potential in known fossil fuel reserves (2,795 gigatons) – in other words, rendering 80% of known reserves “unburnable.” Currently, financial analysts treat these reserves as assets in the valuations of the entities that control them. If 80% cannot be burned without catastrophic risks to society and therefore to institutions and individuals, current valuations of fossil fuel companies may be grossly inaccurate.

In November 2018, The Sustainability Accounting Standards Board (SASB) codified a set of seventy-seven accounting standards, after several years of input from asset managers, corporations, legal counsel and others. In establishing these standards, the SASB sought to create metrics that are financially material, market informed and industry specific. The development of these standards is helping to advance the practice of integrating ESG factors into the investment process.

Market Size and Growth

The growth of the sustainable investment field has been strong. The US SIF’s *2018 Report on U.S. Sustainable, Responsible, and Impact Investing Trends* found that “total US-domiciled assets under management using SRI strategies expanded from \$8.72 trillion at the start of 2014 to \$12 trillion at the start of 2018, an increase of 38 percent.” This represents a nearly 18-fold increase since 1995 when US SIF first measured the market. This equates to a compound annual growth rate of 13.6 percent. The report shows that the number of funds incorporating ESG criteria continues to grow at a strong rate, with 260 in 2007, 493 in 2010, and 925 in 2014.⁷

³ <http://www.ceres.org>

⁴ <http://www.unpri.org>

⁵ <https://thegiin.org>

⁶ 350.org; As You Sow; Better Future Project; California Student Sustainability Coalition; Energy Action Coalition; Responsible Endowments Coalition; Sierra Student Coalition; Campus Student Groups

⁷ [US SIF, Trends Report 2018](#)

Bloomberg reports that the number of its customers using ESG data has grown to 18,000 customers identifying ESG risks and opportunities in 2018, which represents a tripling since 2012.⁸

Financial Performance

Sustainable investing can take many forms and, like any investment strategy, some investors will be better at implementation than others. Therefore, it is essentially impossible to make broad generalizations about the performance of sustainable investing, in the same way it is not possible to make definitive statements on whether equity investing or fixed income investing “outperform.” It depends on many factors.

There is, however, increasing evidence that sustainable investing strategies can demonstrate strong performance, and do not require sacrificing returns.

A 2012 report from DB Climate Change Advisors found that 89 percent of research studies showed that companies with high ESG ratings exhibit market-based outperformance compared to industry peers.⁹ Another 2012 report on an 18-year study (1993-2011) showed that 90 companies with strong sustainability policies outperformed a similar group of 90 companies with low sustainability standards, with a 4.8 percent higher annual above-market average return.¹⁰ A 2010 report demonstrated how a portfolio of 151 SRI funds outperformed the MSCI World Index between 2002 and 2009.¹¹

A 2014 report from KPMG finds that the trend to increasingly internalize both positive and negative “externalities” – costs and benefits of business activities that are external to the firm – can have significant impact on corporate earnings and value. For example, it found that in 2010 the full cost of the negative environmental externalities from the electricity sector was equivalent to 87% of the sector’s EBITDA.

In 2016, an IEN Working Group developed a briefing paper titled *The Business Case for ESG* focused on the relative financial performance of ESG investment strategies. It is intended for trustees and other senior decision makers and provides a concise summary of the key issues. It references a wide body of research to support the overall conclusion that there is no performance penalty associated with ESG investment strategies, and done well, the integration of ESG factors into the investment process can enhance financial performance.¹²

The “Financial Performance” page of the IEN website’s Resources section is continually updated with new reports and research on these topics: http://www.intentionalendowments.org/financial_performance

Fiduciary Duty

Many trustees have raised questions regarding how sustainable investment strategies fit with their responsibilities as fiduciaries. Fiduciary duty compels trustees to be prudent in setting policies and guidelines and making investment decisions. As more performance data and track records of various sustainable investment strategies become available, fiduciaries are able to engage such strategies with increasing confidence.

Fiduciary duty also compels trustees to adapt to changing circumstances. As our scientific understanding of social and ecological megatrends improves, and as economic thought and accounting frameworks advance in the face of these new sustainability challenges, it is becoming increasingly clear that factoring ESG criteria into the investment analysis process can reveal material risks. The concept of “stranded carbon assets” for fossil fuel companies that has come into focus in recent years is but one example. Investments can be

⁸ <https://www.bloomberg.com/impact/products/esg-data/>

⁹ DB Climate Change Advisors, 2012

¹⁰ Eccles, Ioannis, and Serafeim, 2012

¹¹ Weber, Mansfield, and Schirrmann, 2010

¹² http://www.intentionalendowments.org/the_business_case_for_esg

exposed to new types of risks related to regulation, litigation, reputation, resource scarcity, supply chain disruptions, and other market forces driven by sustainability challenges.

Further, for non-profit institutions, fiduciaries owe legal duties of obedience to the organization's mission and to the social purpose underpinning the organization's tax-exempt status. As described in an Investor Alert from Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren s.c.:

The UPMIFA Drafting Committee advises in its Prefatory Note to the Act that "UPMIFA requires a charity and those who manage and invest its funds to... develop an investment strategy appropriate for the fund and the charity." The Committee also explains, "[The] decision maker must consider the charitable purposes of the institution and the purposes of the institutional fund for which decisions are being made."¹³

In the fall of 2015, three significant publications reinforced the notion that sustainable investing strategies, properly pursued, are in line with fiduciary duty.

In September, PRI along with UNEPFI, UNEP Inquiry and the UN Global Compact, published a report, "Fiduciary Duty in the 21st Century." It evaluated fiduciary duty across eight markets – US, Canada, UK, Germany, Brazil, Australia, Japan and South Africa – and concluded that fiduciary duty is not an obstacle to action for asset owners interested in incorporating ESG factors into the investment decision-making process.

Also in September, the Internal Revenue Service issued Notice 2015-62, focused on private foundations making investments for charitable purposes.¹⁴ The notice states:

When exercising ordinary business care and prudence in deciding whether to make an investment, foundation managers may consider all relevant facts and circumstances, including the relationship between a particular investment and the foundation's charitable purposes. Foundation managers are not required to select only investments that offer the highest rates of return, the lowest risks, or the greatest liquidity so long as the foundation managers exercise the requisite ordinary business care and prudence under the facts and circumstances prevailing at the time of the investment in making investment decisions that support, and do not jeopardize, the furtherance of the private foundation's charitable purposes.

In October, the Department of Labor (DOL) issued Interpretive Bulletin 2015-01.¹⁵ The Bulletin makes clear that "fiduciaries should appropriately consider factors that potentially influence risk and return" and that "environmental, social, and governance issues may have a direct relationship to the economic value of the plan's investment." The DOL states, "In these instances, such issues are not merely collateral considerations or tie-breakers, but rather are proper components of the fiduciary's primary analysis of the economic merits of competing investment choices."

The "Fiduciary Duty" page of the IEN website's Resources section is continually updated with new reports and research on these topics: http://www.intentionalendowments.org/fiduciary_duty.

¹³ UPMIFA Drafting Committee Comment, section 3, as quoted in Johnson and Jackson, 2014.

¹⁴ https://www.irs.gov/irb/2015-39_IRB/ar13.html

¹⁵ <http://www.dol.gov/ebsa/newsroom/fsetis.html>

SUSTAINABLE INVESTING OF COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY ENDOWMENTS

College and university endowments in the United States have approximately \$600 billion under management. In 2018, 249 out of 802 respondents (31 percent) to the NACUBO-TIAA Study of Endowments applied some sort of responsible investing policy to portfolio holdings. Eighteen percent of the 802 reported seeking investments that ranked high on ESG criteria. Twenty-one percent said they exclude or screen out investments that are inconsistent with the institution's mission, while 10 percent said that they allocate a portion of the endowment to impact investments that further the institution's mission. Just 8 percent of institutions said that their board had voted to exclude responsible investing considerations.

Climate criteria illuminate investment risks while suggesting investment opportunities. Climate change is only one aspect of ESG investing considerations. Sustainability issues related to food, water, human rights, labor rights, and many others can also represent material risks and opportunities. However, there has been a surge in attention paid to climate change in recent years, as the magnitude and urgency of the challenge is so great, and it threatens to exacerbate so many risks. A 2013 report, "**Climate Change: Investment Risks and Opportunities for Higher Education**," published by Second Nature,¹⁶ identified three basic risk categories that climate change presents to investors:

1. **Physical risks** (climate change impacts such as storm intensity, extreme temperatures, and sea-level rise can disrupt activities and the profitability of investments).
2. **Regulatory and legal risks** (new laws aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions, such as carbon pricing schemes, can impact investments).
3. **Competitive and reputational risks** (some goods and services may see changes in demand as climate changes and, as the public's understanding of climate change improves, companies' positioning on the issue will have implications for their brand).

The report lays out four steps for fiduciary boards to utilize in addressing climate risks and opportunities:

1. Assessing the risks climate change poses to individual investments and the portfolio as a whole, and clarifying governance structures for who is responsible for considering climate risk and developing policy statements.
2. Changing investment practices to reduce risks and take advantage of opportunities associated with climate change. Actions include engaging with companies on key issues, reducing energy consumption in real estate portfolios, and investing in strong performers in the clean technology space.
3. Engaging with and learning from other investors, by sharing best practices and participating in national and international networks (such as the INCR, PRI, CDP) that can leverage collective action for systemic change.
4. Engaging in public policy issues by supporting efforts to improve corporate disclosure of climate risks and to enact legislation to reduce economy-wide climate risk.

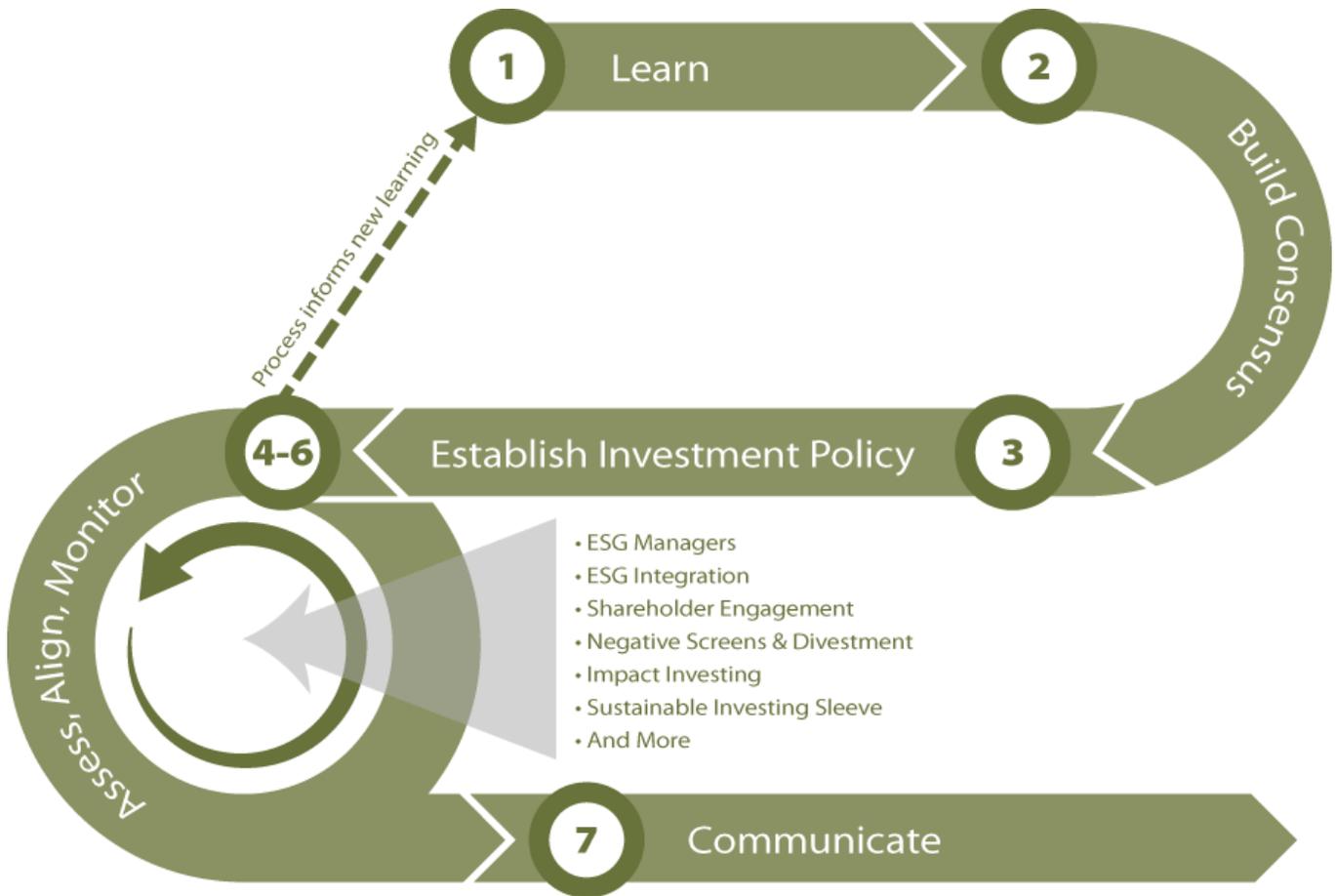
College and university endowments have increased their focus on sustainability investing over the past five years, in large part as a result of student campaigns calling for fossil fuel divestment (described above).

In 2019, the Intentional Endowments Network created a [Roadmap for Intentional Endowments](#).¹⁷ The roadmap grew out of the experiences of our network of colleges and universities and is designed to help Boards navigate the full process from learning, to stakeholder engagement, to implementation and

¹⁶ <http://www.secondnature.org/sites/default/files/resources/RiskPaper-final.pdf>

¹⁷ <http://www.intentionalendowments.org/roadmap>

communication. The online resource has many under-lying and continuously updated tools and resources to support each step and save endowment fiduciaries a lot of time in navigating these conversations.



Below is a sample of college and university endowment experiences, illustrating various steps along this Roadmap. For more examples of sustainable investing strategies at endowments, visit http://www.intentionalendowments.org/endowment_snapshots.

Endowments that have joined PRI:

- Harvard University
- Loyola Marymount University
- Monash University
- Mount Allison University
- Northwestern University
- Simon Fraser University
- University of California Regents
- University of College Cork
- University of Edinburgh
- University of Manchester
- University of New Hampshire Foundation
- University of Ottawa
- University Superannuation Scheme
- University of St Andrews
- University of Toronto
- University of Maryland Foundation

- Becker College
- Columbia University
- Harvard Management Company
- The New School
- Unity College
- University of California Regents
- University of Edinburgh
- University of Massachusetts Foundation
- University Superannuation Scheme
- University of Sydney
- University of Toronto
- University of Washington
- York University

Endowments that have joined INCR:

- Amherst College
- Grinnell College
- Stanford University
- University of California Regents
- University of Washington

Endowments that have joined CDP:

- Barnard College

EXAMPLES OF INTENTIONALLY DESIGNED ENDOWMENTS

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Tempe, AZ | President Michael Crow | Endowment: \$734 million

Arizona State University (ASU) is a top-ranked research university in the greater Phoenix metropolitan area. ASU has a student body of over 80,000 students. The [ASU Foundation](#) manages ASU's endowment.¹⁸ The foundation also serves as the university's entrepreneurial arm in technology commercialization, real estate investment, and other emerging initiatives.

In November of 2018, IEN published a [Case Study for Arizona State University](#) which provides in-depth coverage of the University's move toward sustainable investing.¹⁹ This case study was developed in part with significant input from the senior leadership from ASU and their investment advisors at BlackRock.

The Investment Committee is advisory to the executive vice president, treasurer, and CFO in guiding the investment of university operating cash and endowment funds. The committee approves university investment policies, selects investment consultants and managers, monitors performance, and advises on investment strategies. Voting members of the committee include faculty from the W. P. Carey School of Business, and others as appointed by the executive vice president, treasurer, and CFO.

As of July 2019, the ASU Foundation now offers a socially responsible investment fund for endowment donors to select rather than the traditional endowment pool.

Arizona State University's on-site solar portfolio is one of the largest of any university in the United States consisting of both ASU owned and third-party owned systems. ASU's portfolio includes more than 24 MW dc equivalent of photovoltaic (PV), concentrated photovoltaic (CPV) and solar thermal capacity from 88 systems located throughout four major campuses and the ASU Research Park. ASU's portfolio of renewable energy accounts for approximately 13% of ASU's total electric use, avoiding approximately 21,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions per year, roughly the same as the annual emissions of 4,500 passenger vehicles.

ASU's revolving fund is called the Sustainability Initiatives Revolving Fund, or SIRF. The SIRF was established in the fiscal year 2010 to invest in projects that foster and enable sustainability efforts and provide an economic return on investment. SIRF funds are available to ASU community members. With the exception of small SIRF grant projects (less than \$5,000), SIRF projects have certain investment criteria (e.g., IRR, NPV, and payback goals). Projects include lighting retrofits, HVAC improvements, and central utility infrastructure improvements.

Arizona State University is a participant or member of the following Initiatives & Commitments:

- IEN Founding Member (2016)
- AASHE STARS: [Yes, Gold](#)
- ACUPCC: [Yes, Climate Neutral by 2035](#)
- Billion Dollar Green Challenge: [Yes](#)
- CDP: No
- Committee for Investor Responsibility: [Yes](#)
- Divestment Goal: No
- INCR: No
- Montreal Carbon Pledge: No

¹⁸ http://www.intentionalendowments.org/arizona_state_university_foundation

¹⁹ http://www.intentionalendowments.org/asu_case_study

- Sustainable Investment Fund: [Yes](#)
- Sustainable Investment Policy: [Yes](#)
- Principles for Responsible Investment: No

Resources from ASU:

- [Arizona State University Case Study](#) | Intentional Endowments Network, October 2018, http://www.intentionalendowments.org/asu_case_study
- [Socially Responsible Investing at the ASU Foundation](#), <https://asufoundation.org/sites/default/files/2016asufsripositionfinal.pdf>
- [Investment Management Model](#), <https://www.asufoundation.org/Investment-Management-Model>
- [ASU SIRF: Sustainability Initiatives Revolving](#), <https://www.asu.edu/pb/documents/SIRF-Annual-Report.pdf>

LEWIS AND CLARK COLLEGE

Portland, OR | President Wim Wiewel | Endowment: \$236.5 million

Lewis & Clark College is a private liberal arts college located in Portland, Oregon. The Board of Trustees manages Lewis and Clark's endowment. Since the 1990's, the college has utilized its Sustainability Council comprised of students and faculty to lead environmental education and initiatives among its now 3,500 students. Lewis & Clark College has a strong legacy of integrating sustainability on its campus and has earned itself the number one spot on Princeton Review's "Green Colleges" list in 2015 (and continues to rank high today) and has been named one of Sierra Club's 'Cool Schools. For example, the college boasts sourcing 100% of its energy from wind and is only one of thirty higher education institutions nationwide to divest from all fossil fuel holdings in the endowment.

Spurred largely by student divestment campaigns, In February of 2018, the Lewis & Clark Board of Trustees voted to divest from all fossil fuel holdings in the endowment by 2023. The college's investment policy is also guided by a set of ESG Guidelines in addition to explicit fossil fuel divestments. The Operations Committee of the Sustainability Council is charged with advising on proxy voting for investments and contributing to ESG program development/re-assessment, with several members also participating in a Divestment Sub-Committee.

Lewis and Clark College is a participant or member of the following Initiatives & Commitments:

- IEN Founding Member
- AASHE STARS: [Yes, Gold](#)
- ACUPCC: [Yes, Climate Neutral By 2018](#)
- Billion Dollar Green Challenge: No
- CDP: No
- Committee on Investor Responsibility: [Yes](#)
- INCR: No
- Divestment Goal: [Yes, Full by 2023](#)
- Montreal Carbon Pledge: No
- Sustainable Investment Fund: No
- Sustainable Investment Policy: [Yes](#)
- Principles for Responsible Investment: No

Other Sustainable Investing Practices:

- [The Dividends of Divestment](http://www.lclark.edu/live/news/38897-the-dividends-of-divestment) | The Chronicle Magazine, May 2018, <http://www.lclark.edu/live/news/38897-the-dividends-of-divestment>
- [A Cooperative Path Toward Divestment - A Lewis & Clark College Case Study](http://www.intentionalendowments.org/ien_featured_in_business_officer_magazine) | By Carl Vance, Featured in Business Officer Magazine, a publication of The National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO), March 2018, http://www.intentionalendowments.org/ien_featured_in_business_officer_magazine
- [Lewis & Clark Ranked the Greenest College in America \(2015\)](http://www.oregonlive.com/education/index.ssf/2015/04/lewis_clark_ranked_the_greenes.html), http://www.oregonlive.com/education/index.ssf/2015/04/lewis_clark_ranked_the_greenes.html

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

Middlebury, VT | President Laurie Patton | Endowment: \$1.1 billion

Middlebury College is a private liberal arts college in Middlebury, Vermont. The Investment Committee of the Board of Trustees and College Administration oversees the endowment. In 2005, management of Middlebury's endowment was outsourced to Investure, an investment office specializing in managing endowments and foundations. In 2010, the college established the Sustainable Investments Initiative, a fund dedicated solely to investment vehicles that meet the college's sustainability guidelines.

The [Advisory Committee on Socially Responsible Investment](#) was founded in 2011 to promote the socially responsible investment of Middlebury's endowment through making recommendations to the trustees based on voting proxies and shareholder engagement; positive screening and impact investing; and negative screening and divestment.²⁰

In 2014, Middlebury's president Ron Liebowitz announced that \$25 million of Middlebury's endowment would be devoted to impact investing, directed towards "investments focused on sustainability business such as clean energy, water, climate science, and green building projects." He also announced that \$150,000 of the endowment would be placed under the management of the Socially Responsible Investment Club, a student group devoted to socially responsible investing. As of 2016, the student-run SRI Club is working to develop ESG frameworks to be utilized in Middlebury's endowment investment decisions, as well as pushing for more transparency in Middlebury's investments.

In January of 2019, Middlebury announced its [Energy2028](#) plan, an ambitious, whole-institution initiative to address climate change.²¹ Under this plan, the College's endowment and sustainable investment policy will be key levers by integrating fossil fuel divestment goals that include a commitment to not invest new dollars into fossil fuels beginning in mid-2019, a phaseout of direct fossil fuel investments over a 15 year span. Learn more about Middlebury's Energy2028 plan and its divestment strategy by reading [IEN's blog](#) about the announcement.²²

Middlebury College is a participant or member of the following Initiatives & Commitments:

- IEN Founding Member (2016)
- AASHE STARS: [Yes, Gold](#)
- ACUPCC: [Yes, Climate Neutral by 2016](#)
- Billion Dollar Green Challenge: No
- CDP: No

²⁰ <http://www.middlebury.edu/offices/administration/vpfin/finance-office/investments/sustainable-investing>

²¹ <http://www.middlebury.edu/sustainability/our-commitment/energy2028>

²² http://www.intentionalendowments.org/middlebury_college_energy2028

- Committee for Investor Responsibility: [Yes](#)
- Divestment Goal: [Yes, full](#)
- INCR: No
- Montreal Carbon Pledge: No
- Sustainable Investment Fund: [Yes](#)
- Sustainable Investment Policy: [Yes](#)
- Principles for Responsible Investment: No

Other Sustainable Investing Practices:

- [Middlebury Energy2028 Plan Press Release \(2019\)](http://www.middlebury.edu/newsroom/archive/2019-news/node/611978), <http://www.middlebury.edu/newsroom/archive/2019-news/node/611978>
- [Sustainable Investing Statement](http://www.middlebury.edu/system/files/sustainability_3-31-15_0.pdf), http://www.middlebury.edu/system/files/sustainability_3-31-15_0.pdf
- [Proxy Voting Principles](http://www.middlebury.edu/offices/administration/vpfin/finance-office/investments/proxy-voting-principles), <http://www.middlebury.edu/offices/administration/vpfin/finance-office/investments/proxy-voting-principles>
- [\\$25M in Investure's Sustainable Series Fund](http://www.middlebury.edu/sustainability/news-events/news/2014/node/475901), <http://www.middlebury.edu/sustainability/news-events/news/2014/node/475901>
- [Middlebury Sustainability](http://www.middlebury.edu/sustainability), <http://www.middlebury.edu/sustainability>

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

Stanford, CA | President Marc Tessier-Lavigne | Endowment: \$26.4 billion

Stanford University is a private university, located in Stanford, California with approximately 17,000 students. The Stanford Management Company (SMC) and Board of Trustees oversee the endowment. Stanford is currently one of only six higher education institutions to earn the highest rank in the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS), due to its significant efforts to integrate positive social and environmental impact across its curriculum, operations, and investments.

Since its first adoption of a statement on investor responsibility in 1971, Stanford has recognized its responsibility as an investor and has periodically outlined and updated policies to guide its commitment to responsible investment in a contemporary context. The SMC's Ethical Investment Framework was adopted in 2018 to govern and compliment this existing statement. According to the framework, investment decisions are guided based on the understanding that businesses are far more likely to endure, and to generate sustainable returns on investor capital, when they behave with due regard for the welfare of their stakeholders and the communities in which they operate. Stanford currently has a Special Committee on Investment Responsibility (SCIR) of the Board of Trustees as well as Investment Responsibility and Stakeholder Relations (IRSR) office to review proposals submitted within the community and function as an ad-hoc, issue-based fact-finding committee responsible for research and campus engagement where needed.

As such, Stanford's efforts to address environmental, social, and governance issues through its management of its endowment has manifested in actions such as adopting a climate change proxy voting guideline to support resolutions for companies to analyze levels of greenhouse gas emissions and develop plans to reduce and/or eliminate them. With regards to divestment, Stanford has also adopted policies that preclude owning specific companies with operations implicated in Sudanese human rights abuses, the tobacco industry, and companies whose principal business is coal mining for electricity.

Stanford has recently committed \$10 million over a 10-year period beginning in 2018 to develop an expanded platform of educational and research opportunities for students and faculty with interests in responsible, sustainable and impact investing and governance.

Stanford University is a participant or member of the following Initiatives & Commitments:

- AASHE STARS: [Yes, Platinum](#)
- ACUPCC: No
- Billion Dollar Green Challenge: No
- CDP: No
- Committee for Investor Responsibility: [Yes: The Advisory Panel on Investment Responsibility and Licensing](#)
- Divestment Goal: [Yes, Coal Only](#)
- INCR: [Yes](#)
- Montreal Carbon Pledge: No
- Sustainable Investment Fund: No
- Sustainable Investment Policy: [Yes](#)
- Principles for Responsible Investment: No

Other Sustainable Investing Practices:

- [Letter to the university community from Board of Trustees Chair Jeff Raikes on investment responsibility](#) (December 4, 2018), <https://news.stanford.edu/2018/12/04/letter-university-community-board-trustees-chair-jeff-raikes-investment-responsibility/>
- [Frequently asked questions on investment responsibility](#), <https://news.stanford.edu/2018/12/04/frequently-asked-questions-investment-responsibility/>
- [Statement on Investment Responsibility](#) (Adopted 1971, as amended through 2018), <https://stanford.app.box.com/v/stmt-investment-responsibility>
- [Stanford Management Company: Ethical Investment Framework](#), <https://stanford.app.box.com/v/ir-guidelines>
- [Investment Responsibility Stakeholder Relations \(IRSR\)](#), <http://irsr.stanford.edu/>
- [Sustainable Stanford](#), <https://sustainable.stanford.edu/>

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Vancouver, BC Canada | President Santa Ono | Endowment: \$2 billion

The University of British Columbia (UBC) is a global center for research and teaching with a student body of around 60,000 located in British Columbia, Canada. The market value of the Endowment Fund directly managed by UBC Investment Management Trust Inc. (IMANT) and is overseen by the Board of Governors.

In 2013, UBC adopted its Responsible Investment Policy to direct UBC to consider environmental, social and governance (“ESG”) factors to make more informed investment decisions for the UBC Endowment. In 2014 through 2015, The Board carefully considered a student and faculty proposal for divestment and a detailed third-party analysis by Koskie Minsky, an external law firm with expertise on responsible investment.

Although the Board did not approve the proposal, it did allocate \$10 million to establish the Sustainable Future Pool as a far for donors especially concerned about climate change more choice when donating to

UBC. This fund specifically aims to lower carbon emissions and excludes fossil fuels. In April of 2019, April 18, the Board voted to approve an additional \$25 million contribution to the Sustainable Futures Pool over the next three years, bringing the total contributed to the pool to \$50 million by 2022.

UBC Vancouver also has a Sustainability Fund, established in 2011 with \$1 million, for projects that help the University achieve its sustainability goals through reducing campus energy and water consumption, reducing operational waste generation, increasing operational waste diversion from landfill and increasing the use of alternative energy and alternative transportation.

The University of British Columbia is a participant or member of the following Initiatives & Commitments:

- AASHE STARS: [Yes, Gold \(2015\)](#)
- ACUPCC: No
- Billion Dollar Green Challenge: [Yes](#)
- CDP: No
- Committee on Investor Responsibility: [Yes, Responsible Investing Policy Committee](#)
- Divestment Goal: [No](#)
- INCR: No
- Montreal Carbon Pledge: No
- Sustainable Investment Fund: [Yes \(Fossil Fuel Free\)](#)
- Sustainable Investment Policy: [Yes](#)
- Principles for Responsible Investment: No

Other UBC Information:

- [Annual Endowment Report](https://support.ubc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/UBC-IMANT-2017Annual_Report.pdf), https://support.ubc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/UBC-IMANT-2017Annual_Report.pdf
- [UBC's Sustainable Investment Fund to be Free of Fossil Fuel Companies](http://www.ctvnews.ca/mobile/business/ubc-s-sustainable-investment-fund-to-be-free-of-fossil-fuel-companies-1.3285844) (Feb. 2017), <http://www.ctvnews.ca/mobile/business/ubc-s-sustainable-investment-fund-to-be-free-of-fossil-fuel-companies-1.3285844>
- [Jarislowsky Fraser and University of British Columbia team up on 'UBC Sustainable Future Pool'](https://www.jflglobal.com/en/news/JF-Fossil-Fuel-Free-Funds/) (June 2017), <https://www.jflglobal.com/en/news/JF-Fossil-Fuel-Free-Funds/>
- [Amid calls for further action, Board of Governors votes to double contribution to UBC's sustainable endowment fund](https://www.ubyssey.ca/news/bog-doubles-sustainable-futures-pool/) (April 2019), <https://www.ubyssey.ca/news/bog-doubles-sustainable-futures-pool/>

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Oakland, CA | President Janet Napolitano | Endowment: \$11 billion

University of California is a public university system in California. It has 10 campuses located in Berkeley, Davis, Irvine, Los Angeles, Merced, Riverside, San Diego, San Francisco, Santa Barbara, and Santa Cruz. The Office of the Chief Investment Officer of the Regents manages the entire UC system's endowment.

In September of 2014, aligning UC's investments arm with the goals of the broader institution, the Office of the Chief Investment Officer (OCIO) developed and adopted a framework on sustainable investing. The framework, developed with input from the UC Board of Regents, UC students, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders, is designed to guide the process of evaluating ESG factors into the investment evaluation process of the OCIO with the same weight as other material risk factors influencing investment decision

making. In 2017 UC adopted additional policy to strengthen its ESG framework. For example, the Office of the CIO applies a handful of negative screens to its investments including companies doing business in the Sudan, those involved in thermal coal or oil sands, tobacco and firearm companies, and business which operate private prisons.

Given its size, the UC has made significant investments in various sustainable companies, funds, initiatives and is an active member in several climate related investor groups. For example, in 2015 the UC became the first and largest founder of the Aligned Intermediary, which helps long-term investors identify investable climate infrastructure projects in clean energy, water infrastructure and waste-to-value. In 2017 the UC endowment made a \$50 million sustainable agriculture investment through the AI platform. That same year, the UC became the first and only institutional investor that is a signatory to the Bill Gates Breakthrough Energy Coalition to accelerate clean energy solutions. In 2018, UC announced a commitment to invest \$1 billion over five years in climate change solutions.

In July 2019, UC's Academic Senate announced the passage of a Memorial calling on the UC Board of Regents to divest from the top 200 fossil fuel companies. The memorial was voted on by faculty at all 10 campuses of the university system, and received a combined vote of 77% in favor.

The UC System and/or Individual Campuses are a participant or member of the following Initiatives & Commitments:

- IEN Founding Member (2016)
- AASHE STARS: [Yes, Nine Reporting Campuses](#)
- ACUPCC: [Yes, 10 Campuses with Various Goals](#)
- Billion Dollar Green Challenge: [Yes](#)
- CDP: [Yes](#)
- Committee for Investor Responsibility: No
- Divestment Goal: [Yes, Coal and Tar Sands Only](#)
- INCR: [Yes](#)
- Montreal Carbon Pledge: [Yes](#)
- Sustainable Investment Fund: Yes
- Sustainable Investment Policy: Yes
- Principles for Responsible Investment: [Yes](#)

Other Sustainable Investing Practices and News:

- [Sustainable Investing Framework](http://www.ucop.edu/investment-office/_files/sustainable-investment-framework.pdf), Office of the Chief Investment Officer of the Regents, http://www.ucop.edu/investment-office/_files/sustainable-investment-framework.pdf
- Chief Investment Officer of the Regents: [Sustainable Investment Page](http://www.ucop.edu/investment-office/sustainable-investment/index.html), <http://www.ucop.edu/investment-office/sustainable-investment/index.html>
- [Feb. 2015 - UC's Progress on Sustainable Investment Strategy](http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/press-room/uc-progress-sustainable-investments-strategy), <http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/press-room/uc-progress-sustainable-investments-strategy>
- [Sept. 2014 - UC's Announcement of Sustainable Investment Strategy](https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/press-room/uc-combat-climate-change), <https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/press-room/uc-combat-climate-change>
- [University of California Sustainability](http://ucop.edu/sustainability/), <http://ucop.edu/sustainability/>

- The entire UC system is working to have clear socially responsible investing guidelines. UC Berkeley recently launched their own [socially responsible investment fund](#). This fund has strict social and environmental values as well as excellent financial performance.²³
- [UC Faculty Call on Regents to Divest UC Funds from Fossil Fuels](#) (July 2019), <https://gofossilfree.org/usa/press-release/uc-faculty-divestment-memorial/>
- [UC Administration to Reinvest \\$500 Million Away from Fossil Fuels](#) (April 2018), <http://ucsdguardian.org/2018/04/30/uc-administration-reinvest-500-million-away-fossil-fuels/>
- [UC investment plan seeks solutions to climate change](#) (September 2015), <https://www.sfchronicle.com/opinion/article/Why-UC-doesn-t-embrace-blanket-disinvestment-of-6496833.php>

UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Durham, NH | President James Dean | Endowment: \$776 million

The University of New Hampshire is a public research university with its main campus in Durham, New Hampshire. It has a student body of approximately 15,000 across its six campuses. The UNH Foundation manages the endowment.

UNH considers sustainability to be a "university-wide endeavor" and a core value underpinning all university academics, research, and operations. UNH has received a perfect score on the Princeton Review's Green College Honor Roll and as of 2019, is one of only four universities to have received a Platinum STARS rating from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE), which measures sustainability leadership in operations, academics, and investments.

The University's commitment to sustainability, largely thanks to conversations sparked by students, is now being increasingly integrated into its endowment investment practices. Since 2017, the UNH Committee on Investor Responsibility (CIR) with its membership including students, faculty, alumni, endowment stakeholders, and external advisors, has helped support the Foundation in sustainable, socially responsible investment practices and policies through actions such as:

- Researching opportunities relevant to the sustainable investment of the Foundation's endowment monies
- Considering proposals from the UNH community (e.g. students, staff, faculty, alumni, etc.) relevant to sustainable investment of Endowment monies.
- Making recommendations to the Asset Allocation Committee (AAC) of the UNHF Board of Directors on possible courses of action.

Educating and informing the broader UNH community about sustainable investment practices in general and about UNH's sustainable investment practices in particular.

UNHF's investment policy takes a multi-pronged approach, including positive and negative screening, full ESG integration into financial analysis, and active ownership through shareholder engagement opportunities. Furthermore, ESG factors are also strongly considered in manager selection and monitoring process is a responsibility shared by the investment committee, Foundation staff and our investment consultants. As a signatory of the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment, much of the Foundation's sustainable investment commitments are guided by those principles.

²³ <http://responsiblebusiness.haas.berkeley.edu/programs/haassrifund.html>

UNHF currently has an environmental, social and governance (ESG) endowment pool, which was created in 2015. The initial \$1 million seed funding has grown to approximately \$40 million as of March 2019. In 2017, the Foundation also invested \$3 million into the NH Community Loan Fund as a component of the fixed income segment of the main pool. NHCLF is the Foundation's first direct impact investment with a purpose to make affordable financing options available to economically disadvantaged individuals and communities in New Hampshire.

University of New Hampshire is a participant or member of the following Initiatives & Commitments:

- AASHE STARS: [Yes, Platinum](#)
- ACUPCC: [Yes, Climate Neutral By 2099](#)
- Billion Dollar Green Challenge: [Yes](#)
- CDP: No
- Committee for Investor Responsibility: [Yes](#)
- Divestment Goal: No
- INCR: No
- Montreal Carbon Pledge: No
- Sustainable Investment Fund: [Yes](#)
- Sustainable Investment Policy: [Yes](#)
- Principles for Responsible Investment: Yes

Other Sustainable Investing Resources, Practices and News:

- [Sustainable Investing at UNH](#) | University of New Hampshire Website, <https://www.unh.edu/give/sustainable-investment-unh>
- [Panel: An Introduction to The IEN Roadmap & How The University of New Hampshire Intentionally Invests](#) | Intentional Endowments Network and WISE, May 2019, http://www.intentionalendowments.org/2019_roadmap_event_blog
- [Q&A Series: Making an ESG Impact Through Public Fixed Income](#) | Intentional Endowments Network, April 2019, https://d3n8a8pro7vhm.cloudfront.net/intentionalendowments/pages/51/attachments/original/1555950774/IEN_FI_QA_Apr2019.pdf?1555950774
- [Q&A Series: The Power and Impact of Community Investing](#) | Intentional Endowments Network, September 2018, https://d3n8a8pro7vhm.cloudfront.net/intentionalendowments/pages/51/attachments/original/1542745486/IEN_CommunityInvesting_%281%29.pdf?1542745486
- [Article: Feature School - University of New Hampshire](#) | Intentional Endowments Network, Quarterly Newsletter, July 2018, http://www.intentionalendowments.org/july_2018_newsletter
- [Panel: What Might Community Investing look Like for a College Endowment?](#) | Intentional Endowments Network, Community Investing Roundtable, June 2018, http://www.intentionalendowments.org/ien_community_investing_roundtable_videos

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA ASHEVILLE

Asheville, NC | Chancellor Nancy Cable | Endowment: \$51.4 million

The University of North Carolina Asheville is one of seventeen campuses which comprise the University of North Carolina System. About 3,900 undergraduate students attend UNC Asheville. UNC Management Company manages Asheville's endowment. UNC Asheville is the only liberal arts college within the UNC System.

Student pressure, particularly from UNCA Divest, has played a catalytic role in sparking UNCA's consideration and action towards integrating environmental, social, and governance factors into its investments. As UNCA's vice chancellor for administration and finance John Pierce describes, "our students have been diligent and perceptive in working through the complexities of ESG investments from both a mission-based and financial perspective. Together, we explored alternatives and worked toward solutions."

One such response to student calls for the administration to align investments with ESG values was the creation of the student-managed ESG fund in February 2016 whereby UNCA provided \$10,000 in seed funding. The goal of this fund is to "invest in projects, companies, funds, or organizations with the express goal of generating and measuring mission-related social, environmental or economic change alongside financial return" alongside creating an educational opportunity for students interested in ethical investment or seeking careers in finance.

Furthermore, this June of 2019, UNCA became the first university in the UNC system to divest in fossil fuels. The decision came after the UNC Asheville Board of Trustees made a historic vote to shift approximately 10% of its \$50 million endowment to a manager focused on ESG investing and shareholder advocacy. Students worked closely with the Board and administration to research funds and draft a request for proposal (RFP).

University of North Carolina Asheville is a participant or member of the following Initiatives & Commitments:

- AASHE STARS: [Yes, Member](#)
- ACUPCC: No
- Billion Dollar Green Challenge: No
- CDP: No
- Committee on Investor Responsibility: No
- Divestment Goal: [Yes](#)
- INCR: No
- Montreal Carbon Pledge: No
- Sustainable Investment Fund: [Yes](#)
- Sustainable Investment Policy: No
- Principles for Responsible Investment: No

Other Sustainable Investing Practices:

- [UNC Asheville becomes first in UNC system to divest from fossil fuels](https://www.citizen-times.com/story/news/2019/06/22/unc-asheville-first-school-unc-system-divest-fossil-fuels/1524101001/) (June 22, 2019), <https://www.citizen-times.com/story/news/2019/06/22/unc-asheville-first-school-unc-system-divest-fossil-fuels/1524101001/>
- [Sustainability on Campus](https://www.unca.edu/life/sustainability/), <https://www.unca.edu/life/sustainability/>

VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY

Villanova, PA | President Peter Donohue | Endowment: \$715 million

Villanova University is a private research Roman Catholic university located in Radnor Township, Pennsylvania. Founded by the Order of Saint Augustine in 1842, VU is the oldest Catholic university in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. It has a student body of approximately 6,800 students.

In 2007 Father Donohue signed the American College & University Presidents' Climate Commitment (ACUPCC), vowing that Villanova would achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. To achieve this, Villanova will invest in improving campus infrastructure efficiency, as well as purchase carbon offsets and renewable energy for the energy required to run campus operations. In April 2014, Father Peter signed the St. Francis Pledge, committing the University to protect God's Creation and advocate on behalf of people in poverty who face the hardest impacts of global climate change.

In January 2019, over 200 students and faculty held a town hall meeting to discuss the issue of climate change. Proposals at the meeting called upon the administration to take stronger initiatives including hiring new personnel, both in faculty and operations, to focus on climate change, moving to being carbon neutral by 2030 instead of 2050, creating a new Center for Sustainability and divesting any fossil fuel investments.

Villanova has a Committee on Social Responsibility Proxy Votes that is comprised of faculty, student, and staff representatives and conducts its activities in accordance with the investment guidelines issued by the US Conference of Catholic Bishops. It was established in order to fulfill Villanova's investment policies that require exercising its rights as a shareholder to vote proxies in a socially responsible manner.

Villanova's School of Business is home to the first socially responsible student managed fund in the country which invests in socially responsible mutual funds with positive screens.

Villanova University is a participant or member of the following Initiatives & Commitments:

- IEN Member (2016)
- AASHE STARS: [Yes, Silver](#)
- ACUPCC: [Yes, Climate Neutral by 2050](#)
- Billion Dollar Green Challenge: No
- CDP: No
- Committee on Investor Responsibility: [Yes](#)
- Divestment Goal: No
- INCR: No
- Montreal Carbon Pledge: No
- Sustainable Investment Fund: [Yes](#)
- Sustainable Investment Policy: No
- Principles for Responsible Investment: No

Other Sustainable Investing Practices

- [Villanova Sustainability](https://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/sustainability/about/Commitment.html),
<https://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/sustainability/about/Commitment.html>
- [Villanova Student Managed Funds](https://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/business/departments/finance/StudentManagedFunds.html),
<https://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/business/departments/finance/StudentManagedFunds.html>
- [Villanova faculty, students call for action on climate change](http://www.mainlinemedianews.com/mainlinetimes/villanova-faculty-and-students-want-action-on-climate-change/article_69bc364e-2347-11e9-9f01-bba82e395ca6.html) (January 2019),
http://www.mainlinemedianews.com/mainlinetimes/villanova-faculty-and-students-want-action-on-climate-change/article_69bc364e-2347-11e9-9f01-bba82e395ca6.html

WARREN WILSON COLLEGE

Swannanoa, NC | President Lynn Morton | Endowment: \$52.7 million

Warren Wilson College is a private college, located in Swannanoa, North Carolina. It has a total undergraduate enrollment of around 600 students. The Board of Trustees' Investment Committee manages the endowment.

Warren Wilson College's Board of Trustees voted unanimously in 2015 to divest endowment funds from fossil fuels over the next five years. In a move that aligns the college's investments with its core values, the endowment will be separated from corporations listed among the Carbon Underground 200, which contains the world's top coal, oil, and gas companies. The Board further adopted a Responsible Investment Policy that includes environmental, social, and corporate governance (ESG) considerations and management strategies. In addition, no new endowment funds being invested in fossil fuel companies. The College also conducts positive screenings based on ESG parameters. Within two years alone, the College successfully divested 84% of its portfolio.

Warren Wilson College is a participant or member of the following Initiatives & Commitments:

- AASHE STARS: [Yes, Silver](#)
- ACUPCC: [Yes, Climate Neutral by 2025](#)
- Billion Dollar Green Challenge: No
- CDP: No
- Divestment Goal: [Yes, Full](#)
- Committee for Investor Responsibility: No
- INCR: No
- Montreal Carbon Pledge: No
- Sustainable Investment Fund: No
- Sustainable Investment Policy: [Yes](#)
- Principles for Responsible Investment: No

Other Sustainable Investing Practices and News:

- [Endowment Management](#),
<http://www.pionline.com/article/20180111/ONLINE/180119951/endowment-seeking-equity-high-yield-managers>
- [Responsible Investment Policy](#) - Warren Wilson College Endowment Fund,
https://d3n8a8pro7vhm.cloudfront.net/intentionalendowments/pages/397/attachments/original/1479331541/WWC_Responsible_Investment_Policy.pdf?1479331541
- [Resolution on Divestment from Fossil Fuels](#): *This is the first resolution the Board passed under the Responsible Investment Policy.*
https://d3n8a8pro7vhm.cloudfront.net/intentionalendowments/pages/1362/attachments/original/1479331699/WWC_Endowment_Fund_Divestment_Resolution.pdf?1479331699

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Jonathan Lash, Hampshire College	Peter Kinder, Independent Consultant
Tony Cortese, Intentional Endowments Network	Amanda King, Bentley University
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Hannah Bowen, Network Manager, IEN	Adam Philie, Intern, IEN
Haleigh Copley-Cunningham, Intern, IEN	Yvonne Vogt, Intern, IEN
Alice DonnaSelva, Managing Director, IEN	Talik Watson, Fellow, IEN
Peyton Jones, Intern, IEN	Andrew Winslow, Intern, IEN
Sonal Mahida, Director, IEN Director	Dustin Zhao, Intern, IEN