

# **Western Michigan University Foundation**

## Principle of Endowment Investment Transparency and Stakeholder Engagement

The Western Michigan University Foundation operates as a charitable, nonprofit corporation exclusively for the benefit of Western Michigan University. The Foundation provides support to the University to accomplish its educational and civic purposes. Primary to the fiduciary responsibility of the Foundation is the management of the Foundation's endowed assets. The Investment Committee is appointed by the Board of Directors and is charged with supervisory authority over the investment of the endowed assets. The committee strives to maximize the financial return on its assets taking into account an acceptable level of risk with consideration to opportunities for current and future generations of students.

In fulfillment of its responsibilities to Western Michigan University and in support of the commitment to sustainability, the Foundation acknowledges that endowment stakeholders should have knowledge and awareness of its endowment investments. A sustainable approach to investing recognizes that investment decisions made in the current cycle shape future options in the broadest sense.

While the primary fiduciary responsibility of the Foundation's Investment Committee is to establish an investment policy that includes asset allocation and to select managers to carry out the investment policy statement, the Committee is aware that the campus community may have additional concerns. The Committee has the desire to make available to endowment stakeholders information regarding the Foundation's investments.

The Foundation website hosts an endowment investment report that is updated quarterly. The report displays asset allocation/classification and the respective amount and percent invested, and an asset description. This investment report can be found at <http://www.MyWMU.com/investments>.

To facilitate transparency regarding the Foundation's investments, questions and/or concerns can be directed to [WMUF-Portfolio@wmich.edu](mailto:WMUF-Portfolio@wmich.edu). In addition, at the request of the President's University wide Sustainability Committee (PUSC), the treasurer, or a designated representative, and the chair of the Foundation Investment Committee will meet at least annually with three representatives of the PUSC to share information regarding the Foundation's investments and to promote discussion regarding stakeholder concerns and/or views.