#### **AGENDA**

#### **COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Meeting: 11:15 a.m., Tuesday, March 19, 2019

Glenn S. Dumke Auditorium

John Nilon, Chair

Peter J. Taylor, Vice Chair

Jane W. Carney Douglas Faigin Emily Hinton Jack McGrory Hugo N. Morales Lateefah Simon

Christopher Steinhauser

**Consent** 1. Approval of Minutes of the Meeting of January 22, 2019, *Action* 

2. California State University Quarterly Investment Report, Information

3. California State University Annual Debt Report, *Information* 

**Discussion** 4. University Operational Effectiveness Initiatives, *Information* 

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### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Trustees of the California State University
Office of the Chancellor
Glenn S. Dumke Conference Center
401 Golden Shore
Long Beach, California

January 22, 2019

#### **Members Present**

John Nilon, Chair
Peter J. Taylor, Vice Chair
Jane W. Carney
Douglas Faigin
Emily Hinton
Jack McGrory
Lateefah Simon
Adam Day, Chairman of the Board
Timothy P. White, Chancellor

Trustee John Nilon called the meeting to order.

#### **Public Comment**

Four public comments were received regarding successful advocacy efforts that resulted in additional funding for the CSU and the need for additional funding for mental health services.

#### **Consent Agenda**

The minutes of the November 13, 2018 meeting of the Committee on Finance were approved as submitted.

#### 2019-2020 Operating Budget Update

An update on the governor's proposal to allocate \$562 million to the CSU for the 2019-2020 Operating Budget was provided.

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Following the presentation, the trustees expressed gratitude to CSU students, faculty, staff, and administration for their collective advocacy efforts, and to Governor Newsom for making the CSU a priority in his proposed budget. They asked questions about funding alternatives to address mental health and program impactions.

Trustee Nilon adjourned the meeting on Finance Committee.

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#### **COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

#### California State University Quarterly Investment Report

#### **Presentation By**

Steve Relyea Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer

Robert Eaton Assistant Vice Chancellor Financing, Treasury, and Risk Management

#### **Summary**

This item provides the quarterly investment report to the California State University Board of Trustees for the fiscal quarter ended September 30, 2018. The information in Attachment A provides the entire quarterly investment report regarding CSU investments as required by Education Code 89726.

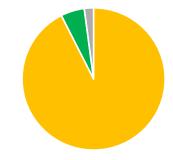
#### **Background**

Pursuant to the California State University Master Investment Policy (included as Attachment B) CSU investments as of September 30, 2018 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 funds are included in CSU investments. In addition, this report does not include approximately \$1.29 billion in bond proceeds, which by state law are required to be held by the state and are invested in SMIF.

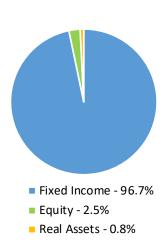
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#### CSU Investments – Balances, Allocations, and Returns September 30, 2018

	Balance	% of CSU Investments	Twelve Month Returns
Liquidity Portfolio (SWIFT)	\$4.30 billion	92.6%	1.04%
Total Return Portfolio (TRP)	\$248 million	5.4%	$5.03\%^{1}$
Surplus Money Investment Fund (SMIF)	\$97 million	2.1%	1.46%
CSU Investments	\$4.64 billion	100%	



- Liquidty Portfolio (SWIFT) 92.6%
- Total Return Portfolio (TRP) 5.4%
- Surplus Money Investment Fund (SMIF) 2.1%



#### **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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Initial investment in the TRP was made on April 1, 2018, thus return information for the TRP is only for the six months ended September 30, 2018.

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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 \$600 million as of June 2019, nor more than thirty percent of eligible CSU investments thereafter. 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
Spending Policy
Time and Investment Horizon
Risk Tolerance
Expected Return

Asset Allocation

Benchmarks

Investment Manager Selection Roles & Responsibilities Environmental, Social and Governance Framework

Risk Management

Monitoring and Control Procedures

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 was made into the TRP on April 1, 2018, with the goal of reaching the fiscal year 2018-2019 statutory limit of \$600 million in the first half of 2019. After June 30, 2019, the investment schedule will be re-assessed by the IAC and staff, as the TRP can be increased to as much as thirty percent of CSU investments at that time. The investment schedule may also be adjusted by the IAC at any time depending on market conditions. Consistent with state law and specifically, Education Code 89726, additional moneys earned through investments in the TRP shall be used only for capital outlay or maintenance and shall not be used for ongoing operations.

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Given that the purpose of the TRP is to provide opportunity for additional risk adjusted returns on CSU funds, for the 6 months ending September 30, 2018, the TRP total return exceeded the Liquidity Portfolio (SWIFT) total return by 4.07% or \$2.27 million.

#### 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, Treasuries, Commercial Paper, Corporate Bonds, and U.S. Government Agencies.

#### **Next Steps**

Staff will continue implementing the TRP investment schedule with oversight from the IAC. Staff will also begin working on developing the Intermediate Duration Portfolio, consistent with the CSU Master Investment Policy, with the goal of implementing this portfolio in the first half of 2019. The next investment report to the board is scheduled for the May 2019 meeting and will provide information on the fiscal quarter ending December 31, 2018.

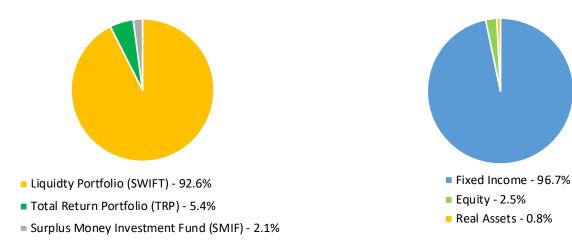
#### **CSU Quarterly Investment Report**

#### For the Quarter Ended September 30, 2018

CSU investments as of September 30, 2018 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 \$1.29 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 September 30, 2018

	Balance	% of CSU <u>Investments</u>
Liquidity Portfolio (SWIFT)	\$4.30 billion	92.6%
Total Return Portfolio (TRP)	\$248 million	5.4%
Surplus Money Investment Fund (SMIF)	\$97 million	2.1%
CSII Investments	\$4 64 hillion	100%



For the quarter ended September 30, 2018, direct investment management fees<sup>1</sup>, advisory, and custodial fees totaled just under \$0.57 million, or about 0.012 percent (1.2 basis points) on CSU investments total balance as of September 30, 2018.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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 3.

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#### **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	Benchmark <sup>2</sup>
1 Year Annualized Return <sup>3</sup>	1.04%	0.51%
3 Year Annualized Return	0.93%	0.55%
5 Year Annualized Return	0.87%	0.58%
Annualized Since Inception Return <sup>4</sup>	1.25%	1.48%
Yield	2.55%	2.67%
Duration (Years)	0.88	1.42
Average Credit Rating	AA-	Aaa/AA+

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

U.S. Government Agencies	30.73%	CD's and Cash Equivalents	7.74%
Treasuries	27.23%	Asset-Backed Securities	6.08%
U.S. Corporate Bonds	27.04%	Municipal Obligations	1.18%

#### **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	Strategic	Policy
	Return Portfolio	Benchmark <sup>5</sup>	Benchmark <sup>6</sup>
3 Months Return	1.96%	1.39%	2.07%
6 Months Return	5.03%	2.95%	3.11%
Annualized Since Inception Return <sup>7</sup>	5.03%	2.95%	3.11%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Benchmark for the CSU Liquidity Portfolio (SWIFT) is the Bank of America Merrill Lynch 0-3 Year Treasury Index.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> All Returns reported gross of fees and as total return, including income and gains (realized and unrealized).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Inception Date for the CSU Liquidity Portfolio (SWIFT) was July 1, 2007.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The TRP Policy Benchmark is a blend of passive indices whose weights match the TRP target asset allocation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> TRP Inception Date was April 1, 2018.

Given that the purpose of the TRP is to provide opportunity for additional risk adjusted returns on CSU funds, for the 6 months ending September 30, 2018, the TRP total return exceeded the Liquidity Portfolio (SWIFT) total return by 4.07% or \$2.27 million.

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

<b>Equity Mutual Funds</b>	46.05%
Fixed Income Mutual Funds	39.09%
Real Asset Mutual Funds	14.86%

#### 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	VBTIX	54.8	22%	0.040%	0.490%
	Vanguard Inflation-Protected Securities Fund	VIPIX	12.4	5%	0.070%	0.430%
	Lord Abbett High Yield Fund	LHYOX	14.9	6%	0.600%	0.730%
	Pacific Funds Floating Rate Income Fund	PLFRX	7.5	3%	0.720%	0.760%
	Vanguard Emerging Markets Government Bond Index Fund	VGAVX	7.5	3%	0.320%	0.860%
Equity	•					
	Vanguard Total Stock Market Index Fund	VITSX	59.4	24%	0.035%	0.800%
	Vanguard Developed Markets Index Fund	VTMNX	29.8	12%	0.060%	0.920%
	Vanguard Emerging Markets Stock Index Fund	VEMIX	25.2	10%	0.110%	1.180%
Real A	ssets					
	Vanguard Real Estate Index Fund	VGSNX	17.2	7%	0.100%	0.920%
	Vanguard Energy Index Fund	VENAX	4.9	2%	0.100%	1.010%
	Vanguard Materials Index Fund	VMIAX	4.9	2%	0.100%	1.040%
	First State Global Listed Infrastructure Fund	FLIIX	9.9	4%	0.950%	0.990%
Cash			0.0	0%	NA	NA
Total			248.3	100.00%		

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#### **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 Yield8

FYE 09/30/18	1.46%
Average (FYE 06/30/07 – FYE 09/30/18)	1.04%

<sup>8</sup> 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 Attachment B Finance - Item 2 March 18-20, 2019 Page 2 of 9

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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:

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- 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:

Portfolio	Min – Target – Max
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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Percentage allocations to the TRP are subject to annual phase-in restrictions through June 30, 2020 per state law.

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- 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:

- 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.

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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

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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

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#### **COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

#### California State University Annual Debt Report

#### **Presentation By**

Robert Eaton Assistant Vice Chancellor Financing, Treasury, and Risk Management

#### **Summary**

This item reports on the debt of the California State University Systemwide Revenue Bond program in accordance with the CSU Policy on Financing Activities (RFIN/CPBG 11-14-01).

#### **Background**

The Systemwide Revenue Bond (SRB) program, under the provisions and authorities of The State University Revenue Bond Act of 1947 (Education Code Sections 90010-90083), was established by the CSU Board of Trustees at its March 2002 meeting. Since the inception of the SRB program, the CSU Policy on Financing Activities has set forth the principles that serve as the basis for the SRB program and has provided the chancellor with authority to establish procedures for the management of the SRB program consistent with the board's objectives for the use of debt. The chancellor has established such procedures through the issuance of executive orders. The current CSU Policy on Financing Activities (RFIN/CPBG 11-14-01) was amended by the Board of Trustees in November 2014 and is included as Attachment A. The current executive order governing the SRB program (Executive Order 994) is included as Attachment B.

The SRB program provides capital financing for projects of the CSU approved by the trustees, including student housing, parking, student union, health center, continuing education facilities, certain auxiliary projects, and other academic facilities. Revenues from these programs and revenues approved by the trustees, including CSU operating funds, are used to meet operational requirements for the projects and to pay debt service on the debt issued to finance the projects. A strength of the SRB program is its consolidated pledge of gross revenues to the bondholders, which has resulted in strong credit ratings and low borrowing costs for the CSU.

Since the inception of the SRB program, the CSU has also issued commercial paper (CP) primarily to provide campuses with short term, lower cost capital financing on projects until long term bonds are sold. The CSU Institute, a systemwide auxiliary of the CSU, issues the CP, which is secured by Bond Anticipation Notes issued by the CSU. The CSU currently has a CP program in the amount of \$300 million, although both the board and the CSU Institute have authorized a CP program up to \$500 million. The CP program is supported by letters of credit from State Street and Wells Fargo N.A. that expire in June 2020.

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#### SRB and CP Portfolio Profile

As of June 30, 2018 and December 31, 2018, outstanding SRB debt of the CSU was approximately \$5.7 billion and approximately \$6.2 billion, respectively.

Key characteristics of the SRB portfolio are as follows:

Debt Ratings: Aa2 (Moody's)

AA- (Standard & Poor's)

Weighted Average Cost of Capital: 3.67%

Weighted Average Maturity: 15.1 Years

Interest Rate Mix: 96% Long Term Fixed Rate

4% Short Term Fixed Rate

As of December 31, 2018, outstanding CP was \$59.5 million at a weighted average interest rate of 1.72 percent.

#### **SRB Operating Performance and Debt Service Coverage Ratios**

For the fiscal years ended June 30, 2016, June 30, 2017, and June 30, 2018, operating performance and debt service coverage ratios for the SRB program were as follows (amounts in millions):

	June 30, 2016	June 30, 2017	June 30, 2018
Operating Revenues <sup>1</sup>	\$4,852	\$4,939	\$5,250
Operating Expenses <sup>1</sup>	1,502	1,688	1,794
Net Revenues	3,350	3,251	3,456
Annual Debt Service	\$274	\$301	\$363
Debt Service Coverage <sup>2</sup>	12.23	10.80	9.52

- (1) Operating Revenues and Operating Expenses reflect the addition of student tuition fee revenue to the SRB pledge of gross revenues and the addition of associated expenses, effective April 2016.
- (2) The minimum benchmark for the system, as established by Executive Order 994, is 1.45.

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#### Activity since the March 2018 Annual Debt Report

#### Series 2018A and Series 2018B SRB Issuance

In July 2018 the CSU issued \$663,690,000 of SRBs (Series 2018A \$492,690,000 tax-exempt and Series 2018B \$171,000,000 taxable). Of this amount, \$654,680,000 was issued for new money projects at an all-in true interest cost of 3.77 percent (3.64 percent tax-exempt and 4.14 percent taxable). The CSU also issued \$9,010,000 in bonds to refund existing SRB debt, producing net present value savings of \$1.7 million.

#### Projects Approved for Financing under Delegated Authority

In March 2018, the Board of Trustees amended Section II.f. of its Standing Orders in order to delegate authority to the Chancellor to, among other things, authorize debt financing for projects valued up to \$40 million and authorize debt financing for all remodels, parking structures, and utilitarian projects, regardless of cost.

In May 2018, under this delegation of authority, the Chancellor authorized debt financing for the following two projects:

- California State University, Northridge G6 Parking Structure project with a not-to-exceed financing amount of \$30,845,000
- San Diego State University Maya Olmeca Maintenance project with a not-to-exceed financing amount of \$17,405,000

Both projects met CSU debt financing benchmarks and were included in the CSU's Series 2018A SRB issuance in July 2018.

## CSU Policy for Financing Activities Board of Trustees' Resolution RFIN/CPBG 11-14-01

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees of the California State University ("the Board" or "the Trustees") finds it appropriate and necessary to use various debt financing programs afforded to it through the methods statutorily established by the legislature, and to use to its advantage those programs available to it through debt financing by recognized auxiliary organizations of the California State University; and

**WHEREAS,** The Board recognizes the capital needs of the CSU require the optimal use of all revenues to support its academic mission; and

**WHEREAS**, The Board wishes to establish and maintain policies that provide a framework for the approval of financing transactions for the various programs that enable appropriate oversight and approval by the Trustees; and

**WHEREAS**, Within a policy framework, the Board desires to establish appropriate delegations that enable the efficient and timely execution of financing transactions for the CSU and its recognized auxiliary organizations in good standing; and

**WHEREAS**, The Board recognizes that there is a need from time to time to take advantage of rapidly changing market conditions by implementing refinancings or restructurings; and

**WHEREAS**, The Board finds it appropriate to use the limited debt capacity of the CSU in the most prudent manner; and

**WHEREAS**, There are certain aspects of the tax law related to the reimbursement of up-front expenses from tax-exempt financing proceeds that would be more appropriately satisfied through a delegation to the Chancellor without affecting the Trustees' ultimate approval process for such financings; now, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, by the Board of Trustees of the California State University as follows:

#### **Section 1. General Financing Policies**

**1.1** The State University Revenue Bond Act of 1947 (1947 Bond Act) and Education Code Sections 89770-89774 (EC 89770-89774) (collectively, the "CSU Bond Acts") provide the Board of Trustees with the ability to acquire,

construct, finance, or refinance projects funded with debt instruments repaid from various revenue sources.

- **1.2** The long-term debt programs of the Board of Trustees established pursuant to the CSU Bond Acts shall be managed by the Chancellor, to the greatest extent possible, to credit rating standards in the "A" category, at minimum.
- **1.3** The intrinsic rating of any debt issued by the Trustees shall be at investment grade or better.
- **1.4** The Trustees' debt programs should include the prudent use of variable rate debt and commercial paper to assist with lowering the overall cost of debt.
- **1.5** The Trustees' programs shall be designed to improve efficiency of access to the capital markets by consolidating bond programs where possible.
- **1.6** The Chancellor shall develop a program to control, set priorities, and plan the issuance of all long-term debt consistent with the five-year capital outlay program.
- **1.7** The Chancellor shall annually report to the Trustees on the activity related to the issuance of long-term debt.

#### Section 2. Financing Structure of the CSU's Debt Programs

**2.1** To use the limited debt capacity of CSU in the most cost effective and prudent manner, all on-campus student, faculty, and staff rental housing, parking, student union, health center, and continuing education capital projects will be financed by the Trustees using a broad systemwide multi-source revenue pledge under the authority of the CSU Bond Acts in conjunction with the respective authority of the Trustees to collect and pledge revenues.

Other on-campus and off-campus projects, including academic and infrastructure support projects, will also be financed through this structure under the authority of the CSU Bond Acts, unless there are compelling reasons why a project could not or should not be financed through this structure (see Section 3 below).

**2.2** The Chancellor is hereby authorized to determine which revenues may be added to the broad systemwide multi-source revenue pledge under the authority granted by the CSU Bond Acts, to determine when such revenues may be added,

and to take appropriate action to cause such additional revenues to be pledged to CSU debt in accordance with the CSU Bond Acts.

- **2.3** The Chancellor shall establish minimum debt service coverage and other requirements for financing transactions undertaken under the CSU Bond Acts and/or for the related campus programs, which shall be used for implementation of the Trustees' debt programs. The Chancellor shall also define and describe the respective campus program categories.
- **2.4** The Chancellor, the Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer, the Assistant Vice Chancellor Financial Services, the Deputy Assistant Vice Chancellor for Financing, Treasury, and Risk Management, and each of them (collectively, "Authorized Representatives of the Trustees"), are hereby authorized and directed, for and in the name and on behalf of the Trustees, to take any and all actions necessary to issue bonds pursuant to the CSU Bond Acts to acquire or construct projects. Authorized Representatives of the Trustees, with the advice of the General Counsel, are authorized to execute, acknowledge and deliver, and to prepare and review, as each of them deems appropriate, all bond resolutions, bond indentures, official statements and all other documents, certificates, agreements and information necessary to accomplish such financing transactions.
- 2.5 The Chancellor, the Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer, the Assistant Vice Chancellor Financial Services, the Deputy Assistant Vice Chancellor for Financing, Treasury, and Risk Management, and each of them (collectively, "Authorized Representatives of the Trustees"), are hereby authorized and directed, for and in the name and on behalf of the trustees, to take any and all actions necessary to refinance any existing bonds issued pursuant to the CSU Bond Acts. Authorized Representatives of the Trustees, with the advice of the General Counsel, are authorized to execute, acknowledge and deliver, and to prepare and review, as each of them deems appropriate, all bond resolutions, bond indentures, official statements and all other documents, certificates, agreements and information necessary to accomplish such refinancing transactions.

#### **Section 3. Other Financing Programs**

- **3.1** The Board recognizes that there may be projects, or components of projects, that a campus wishes to construct that are not advantaged by, or financing is not possible for, or are inappropriate for financing under the CSU Bond Acts. A campus president may propose that such a project be financed as an auxiliary organization or third party entity financing, if there is reason to believe that it is more advantageous for the transaction to be financed in this manner than through the CSU Bond Acts financing program.
  - **3.1.1** Such financings and projects must be presented to the Chancellor for approval early in the project's conceptual stage in order to proceed. The approval shall be obtained prior to any commitments to other entities.
  - **3.1.2** These projects must have an intrinsic investment grade credit rating, and shall be presented to the Trustees to obtain approval before the financing transaction is undertaken by the auxiliary organization or other third party entity.
  - **3.1.3** If a project is approved by the Trustees, the Chancellor, the Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer, the Assistant Vice Chancellor Financial Services, the Deputy Assistant Vice Chancellor for Financing, Treasury, and Risk Management, and each of them (collectively, "Authorized Representatives of the Trustees") are hereby authorized and directed, for and in the name and on behalf of the Trustees, to execute, acknowledge and deliver, and to prepare and review, as each of them deems appropriate, any and all documents and agreements with such insertions and changes therein as such Authorized Representatives of the Trustees, with the advice of the General Counsel, may require or approve, such approval to be conclusively evidenced by the execution and delivery thereof, in order to assist with the planning, design, acquisition, construction, improvement, financing, and refinancing of the projects.
- **3.2** The Chancellor may require campus presidents to establish campus procedures applicable to campus auxiliary organizations for the issuance of debt instruments to finance or to refinance personal property with lease purchase, line-of-credit, or other tax-exempt financing methods. The procedures issued by the

Chancellor need not contain a requirement for approval of the Trustees or the Chancellor but may include authority for campus presidents to take all actions to assist the auxiliary organization on behalf of the Trustees to complete and qualify such financing transactions as tax-exempt.

#### Section 4. State Public Works Board Lease Revenue Financing Program

- **4.1** The authorizations set forth in this section shall be in full force and effect with respect to any State Public Works Board project which has been duly authorized by the legislature in a budget act or other legislation and duly signed by the Governor and which is then in full force and effect.
- **4.2** The Chancellor, the Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer, the Assistant Vice Chancellor Financial Services, the Deputy Assistant Vice Chancellor for Financing, Treasury, and Risk Management, and Assistant Vice Chancellor for Capital Planning, Design and Construction each of them (collectively, "Authorized Representatives of the Trustees") are hereby authorized and directed, for and in the name and on behalf of the Trustees, to execute, acknowledge and deliver, and to prepare and review, as each of them deems appropriate, any and all construction agreements, equipment agreements, equipment leases, site leases, facility leases and other documents and agreements with such insertions and changes therein as such Authorized Representatives of the Trustees, with the advice of the General Counsel, may require or approve, such approval to be conclusively evidenced by the execution and delivery thereof, in order to provide for the planning, design, acquisition, construction, improvement, financing, and refinancing of the projects.

#### Section 5. Credit of the State of California

**5.1** The delegations conferred by this resolution are limited and do not authorize the Chancellor or other Authorized Representatives of the Trustees to establish any indebtedness of the State of California, the Board of Trustees, any CSU campus, or any officers or employees of any of them. Lending, pledging or otherwise using the credit established by a stream of payments to be paid from funds appropriated from the State of California for the purpose of facilitating a financing transaction associated with a capital project is permitted only if specifically authorized by a bond act or otherwise authorized by the legislature.

#### Section 6. Tax Law Requirement for Reimbursement of Project Costs

- **6.1** For those projects which may be financed under the authority of the Trustees, the Chancellor, the Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer, the Assistant Vice Chancellor Financial Services, the Deputy Assistant Vice Chancellor for Financing, Treasury, and Risk Management, and each of them (collectively, "Authorized Representatives of the Trustees"), are hereby authorized to make declarations on behalf of the Trustees solely for the purposes of establishing compliance with the requirements of Section 1.150-2 of the U.S. Treasury Regulations; provided, however that any such declaration:
  - **6.1.1** Will not bind the Trustees to make any expenditure, incur any indebtedness, or proceed with the project or financing; and
  - **6.1.2** Will establish the intent of the Trustees at the time of the declaration to use proceeds of future indebtedness, if subsequently authorized by the Trustees, to reimburse the Trustees for expenditures as permitted by the U.S. Treasury Regulations.

#### **Section 7. Effective Date and Implementation**

- **7.1** Within the scope of this financing policy, the Chancellor is authorized to further define, clarify and otherwise make and issue additional interpretations and directives as needed to implement the provisions of this policy.
- **7.2** This resolution supersedes RFIN 03-02-02 and shall take effect immediately.

### THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

BAKERSFIELD

CHANNEL ISLANDS

October 23, 2006

CHICO

MEMORANDUM

DOMINGUEZ HILLS

TO: EAST BAY

FROM: FRESNO

FULLERTON

Charles B. Reed Chancellor Financing and Debt Management Policy – Project Development and the **SUBJECT:** 

Systemwide Revenue Bond Program Executive Order No 994

LONG BEACH

LOS ANGELES

HUMBOLDT

Attached is a copy of Executive Order No 994 relating to the CSU's Financing and Debt

Management Policy.

MARITIME ACADEMY

In accordance with policy of the California State University, the campus president has the

responsibility for implementing executive orders where applicable and for maintaining

the campus repository and index for all executive orders.

NORTHRIDGE

MONTEREY BAY

If you have questions regarding this executive order, please contact Colleen Nickles,

Senior Director, Financing & Treasury, at (562) 951-4570 or cnickles@calstate.edu.

POMONA

SACRAMENTO

CBR/rr

SAN BERNARDINO

Attachment

SAN DIEGO

cc: Vice Presidents for Business/Administration

Executive Staff, Office of the Chancellor

SAN FRANCISCO

SAN JOSÉ

SAN LUIS OBISPO

SAN MARCOS

SONOMA

STANISLAUS

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Executive Order 994

## THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY Office of the Chancellor 401 Golden Shore Long Beach, California 90802-4210 (562) 951-4570

**Executive Order:** 

994

**Effective Date:** 

October 23, 2006

Supersedes:

Executive Order No. 876

Title:

Financing and Debt Management Policy — Project Development and the

Systemwide Revenue Bond Program

#### Section 1: General Policies Regarding Financing Activities of the CSU

1.1 Authority: This policy statement provides information and procedures in connection with financing activities of campuses and auxiliary organizations. It is issued pursuant to Standing Orders of the Board of Trustees, Section 2, and the authority delegated to the Chancellor in the Trustees CSU Policy for Financing Activities, (RFIN 03-02-02; see Attachment B).

- 1.2 General Rule: Use of the capital markets to finance revenue-based, and in some limited cases, non-revenue-based non-state funded capital outlay projects of CSU campuses, auxiliaries, and other affiliated organizations shall be limited to the use of the Chancellor's Office tax-exempt or taxable commercial paper programs and the issuance of notes, bonds and other instruments, as approved by the Trustees, within the CSU Systemwide Revenue Bond Program as described below, hereafter referred to as the SRB Program. Additionally, the tax-exempt or taxable commercial paper program may also be used for the purpose of financing Chancellor's Office, campus, auxiliaries, and other affiliated organizations' personal property needs. The aspects of the Systemwide Revenue Bond Program and this policy are based on the fact that debt management is a dynamic undertaking, that evaluation of debt capacity and credit quality involves many different measures, and that the choice to use the specific criteria and measures in this policy may require change over time.
- 1.3 Types of Debt: The Trustees have traditionally issued variable-rate, short-term commercial paper for the construction period of a project, and fixed-rate, long-term debt for the permanent financing of a project. With the introduction of the commercial paper program use for personal property financing, the Trustees may not refinance these commercial paper issuances with long-term, fixed-rate debt, and the financed amounts will be amortized while the issuance remains in commercial paper.

Given this change in approach, the Trustees will establish a parameter that not more than 25% of its debt be unhedged variable rate debt, including commercial paper, to be consistent with rating agency expectations and market targets appropriate for the CSU's debt rating.

1.4 Alternative Financing Activities: An alternative financing structure to Section 1.2 above may be utilized if the Chancellor's Office or the campus is able to demonstrate significant benefits and if the Trustees approve the alternative structure. The Chancellor's Office or campus must not only demonstrate benefits for the use of an alternative structure, but must

also identify the detailed structure of the proposed financing. In reviewing the proposed structure, the Trustees shall evaluate such things as 1) impacts on the CSU's financial statements, 2) the extent to which the financing will be counted as a use of the Trustees' credit, 3) the relative cost of the proposed financing, 4) the proposed use of financing techniques that involve greater repayment risk than are typically used in the SRB Program, and 5) any other short-term or long-term impacts to the Trustees' credit profile.

#### **Section 2: Definitions**

- 2.1 "Project": Construction of a facility or group of facilities related to the same use and constructed at the same approximate time (example; one or more dormitories constructed with one construction contract). Project may also be defined as personal property with a dollar value greater than \$100,000.
- **2.2** "Stand-Alone Project": For a campus, a Stand-alone Project is a campus self-supporting activity supported by an Established CSU Fee that provides the source for repayment of debt for only one campus-related Project (e.g. the first campus-operated student housing facility). For an auxiliary organization a Stand-alone Project is a single Project operated by the auxiliary that is supported by the project-related revenue, or all of the auxiliary organization's available revenue (e.g. the first auxiliary-operated bookstore facility).
- 2.3 "Debt Program": For a campus, a Debt Program is a campus self-supporting activity funded by an Established CSU Fee that provides the source for repayment of debt for more than one campus-related Project (e.g. two or more separately financed campus-operated student housing facilities). For an auxiliary organization, a Debt Program is a program operated by the auxiliary that provides the source for repayment of debt for more than one auxiliary-operated Project (e.g. two separately financed auxiliary-operated food service facilities). Note that a general revenue pledge of all available auxiliary organization revenue makes it possible for the entire auxiliary organization program to be classified as a single Debt Program.
- **2.4 "Established CSU Fees":** The following fee categories established in the Education Code have been pledged to the repayment of bonds issued by the SRB Program:
  - Parking Fees (Education Code Section 89701)
  - Student Body Center Fees (i.e., Student Union Fees) (Education Code Section 89304)
  - Rental Housing Fees (Education Code Section 89703)
  - Health Center Facility Fees (Education Code Section 89702)
  - Continuing Education Revenue Fund Fees (Education Code Section 89704)
- 2.5 "Net Revenue Debt Service Coverage Ratios" (DSCR): A DSCR consists of annual gross revenue, less annual operating expenses divided by annual debt service. This ratio serves as a benchmark at the systemwide and campus level for decisions about new debt and the management of debt (See Section 4).
- 2.6 "Operating Expenses": For a Project or Program, Operating Expenses are defined as all costs related to providing a good or service, including regular maintenance charges, expenses of reasonable upkeep, a properly allocated share of charges for insurance, direct or special administrative expenses directly chargeable to the Project or Program, and all other expenses incident to the operation of the Project or Program, but excluding depreciation expense and

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Executive Order 994

other non-cash charges, general administrative expenses of the Board or the State, Extraordinary Expenses and Major Maintenance and Repairs, and Debt Service.

2.7 "Extraordinary Expenses and Major Maintenance and Repairs": For a Project or Program, Extraordinary Expenses and Major Maintenance and Repairs will not be included in the DSCR, and the expenses are expected to be paid from Building Maintenance and Equipment Reserves or from Prior Year Fund Balances.

**Note:** Operating Expenses, as defined in the SRB indenture, include extraordinary repairs in the calculation of debt service coverage; the indenture requires the Board to set rates, charges, and fees for all Projects so that Net Income Available for Debt Service is at least equal to Aggregate Debt Service for all indebtedness. Sections 2.5, 2.6, and 2.7 are intended for internal operations purposes and shall not result in a conflict with indenture requirements. Campuses are expected to monitor their Programs to ensure overall compliance with the indenture requirements for annual DSCR tests.

#### Section 3: Systemwide Revenue Bond Program (SRB)

- **3.1 Trustee Approval:** Each issuance of debt instruments under the SRB Program shall be approved by the Trustees.
- **3.2 Gross Revenue Pledge:** Bonds issued under the SRB Program are secured by a gross revenue pledge of all Established CSU Fees.
  - **3.2.1** Lawfully available revenue may be pledged from a campus, auxiliary, or other organization through a formal binding agreement if approved by the Trustees.
- 3.3 Commercial Paper Program: Within the capacity of the CSU Chancellor's Office commercial paper program, each non-state funded capital outlay or personal property project may receive acquisition or construction funding through the issuance of commercial paper.
- 3.4 Auxiliary Organization Projects: Except as indicated in Section 1.3, Projects of auxiliary or other organizations (special purpose governmental units, such as a joint powers authority) shall be financed through the SRB Program.
  - 3.4.1 Each auxiliary or other organization SRB project financing shall be supported by the execution of a financing lease between the auxiliary organization and the CSU with a legal structure that is permitted by the provisions of the State University Bond Act and the SRB Master Resolution.
    - **3.4.1.1** For auxiliary or other organizations with no existing debt obligations, the lease shall contain provisions that 1) pledge all available corporation revenue to the Trustees for payment of the lease obligations; 2) require deposit of all pledged revenues (i.e., all revenues) into a pledged "gross revenue fund" bank account; 3) establish criteria for issuance of additional bonds; and 4) covenant that the auxiliary or other organization will set rates or otherwise maintain pledged income that will generate the required net revenue (See Section 4.4).
    - **3.4.1.2** For auxiliary or other organizations with existing debt obligations, the lease shall contain provisions that 1) require the corporation to abide by the criteria of existing bonds for the issuance of "parity" debt; 2) establish that Trustees share in

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pledged revenue with all other bondholders on a parity basis; and 3) require that Trustees receive the same covenants as existing bondholders for the issuance of additional bonds and the same coverage required for a rate covenant for the existing bonds.

- 3.4.1.3 The financing lease shall be considered parity debt with all other, existing auxiliary or other organization debt.
- 3.4.1.4 The financing lease payment from the auxiliary or other organization to the CSU shall be calculated to include: 1) debt service associated with the bonds including the cost of participation in the commercial paper program, interest and principal on bonds issued to permanently finance the project and other debt management related costs of the CSU; and 2) any costs incurred by the auxiliary organization's campus for operation and maintenance for the financed facility. (See Executive Order No. 753)
- 3.4.2 At each campus the aggregate annual direct and indirect debt service for other third-party financings and for auxiliary or other financings that are either part of or separate from the SRB Program is limited to a maximum amount of 25% of the respective allocation of debt capacity to the respective campus (See Section 5).
- **3.5 Structure and Timing of Bond Transactions:** The structure and timing of each issuance of SRB bonds shall be determined by the Chancellor's Office.
- **3.6 Allocation of Costs:** Debt service and other debt management costs shall be allocated to campuses on the basis of a formula determined by the Chancellor's Office.

#### **Section 4: DSCR Benchmarks**

- **4.1 Systemwide (DSCR):** For the system, the DSCR is computed using the total of the gross revenue of the Established CSU Fee plus any pledged revenue supporting SRB capital lease payments from auxiliary or other organizations. Operating expenses and debt service for the computation consist of the total operating expenses and debt service relating to these programs. The systemwide DSCR should be maintained at or above 1.45. If the SRB systemwide DSCR falls below 1.45, the campus benchmarks may be changed to strengthen the credit position of the Program. (See also Attachment A)
- **4.2 Combined Campus and Auxiliary Organizations (DSCR)**: At the combined campus and auxiliary organization level, the DSCR is similar to the systemwide DSCR test except that the amounts of pledged revenue, operating expenses, and debt service are related to the combined pledged revenues of the campus and auxiliary organizations' Established CSU Fees plus pledged revenue, operating expense and debt service that is related to the specific auxiliary organization Debt Program. The minimum requirement of the DSCR for a Combined Campus and its Auxiliary Organizations is 1.35.
- **4.3 Campus Debt Program (DSCR):** The DSCR for a campus Debt Program must be equal to a minimum of 1.10. The DSCR for a campus Stand-alone Project must be equal to a minimum of 1.10. For these requirements the DSCR is computed from pledged revenue, operating expense and debt service that is related to the specific Debt Program or the Standalone Project.

- **4.4** Auxiliary Organization Project and Debt Program (DSCR): The DSCR for a campus auxiliary organization Debt Program must be equal to a minimum of 1.25. The DSCR for a campus SRB auxiliary organization Stand-alone Project must equal a minimum of 1.25. For these requirements the DSCR is computed from pledged revenue, operating expense and debt service that is related to the specific auxiliary organization Debt Program or the Stand-alone Project.
- **4.5 DSCR and Effective Year:** The chief financial officer of a campus is responsible to implement plans and budgets so that the required DSCRs for campus CSU Established Fee programs and campus auxiliary organizations be supportable and maintained at or above the minimum level for the first operating year, and at or above the minimum for all subsequent years of operation for Stand-alone or Debt Program Projects.

#### **Section 5: Debt Capacity**

- **5.1 General Rule:** Financing shall not be recommended by the Chancellor's Office if the issuance of new bonds will cause the total amount of issued and outstanding SRB bonds to exceed the CSU's debt capacity as determined by the Trustees.
- **5.2 Calculation of the CSU's Debt Capacity:** Debt service on all issued and outstanding SRB bonds shall not at any time exceed an amount that would cause the quality of the CSU's credit to fall below a minimum level as determined by the Trustees.
- **5.3 Allocation of Debt Capacity to Campuses:** Capacity, as measured by debt service on campus debt, shall be allocated to CSU campuses as follows:
  - **5.3.1** Campus general allocation: The aggregate debt service related to a campus' individual projects shall not exceed an amount computed from its net unrestricted expenditures times two-thirds (2/3) of the same ratio that the Trustees have recognized as appropriate for the system.
  - **5.3.2** Chancellor's Office special allocation: With concurrence of the Trustees, the Chancellor's Office may allocate portions of up to an additional one-third (1/3) of the CSU's debt service capacity to individual campuses for special priority purposes.

#### Section 6: General Financial Planning Principles For Projects

- **6.1 Project Size:** The CSU SRB Program is intended to provide a mechanism to finance revenue based, and in some limited cases, non-revenue-based non-state capital outlay projects pursuant to the State University Revenue Bond Act of 1947 and the issuance of debt to the public through a complex legal structure and financial marketing process. As such, the Program is suitable for projects of greater than \$3 million, and with a useful life of greater than ten years. For personal property financed through the commercial paper program, financings should be \$100,000 to \$5,000,000, with a useful life of 1-8 years. See Section 7 for program-related costs that should be funded through a reserve plan rather than through the issuance of debt.
- **6.2** Allocation of Debt Service: The plan of finance for SRB Projects shall assume level debt service and allocation of long-term debt over 25 or 30 years unless the useful life of the asset

financed is less. In some cases, the debt service may be structured to allow for accelerating debt service, bullet repayments of principal, shorter repayment terms, or other special arrangements as determined appropriate for a project. The Trustees will be notified in the Financing item at the time of approval if an alternative debt service repayment schedule will be utilized.

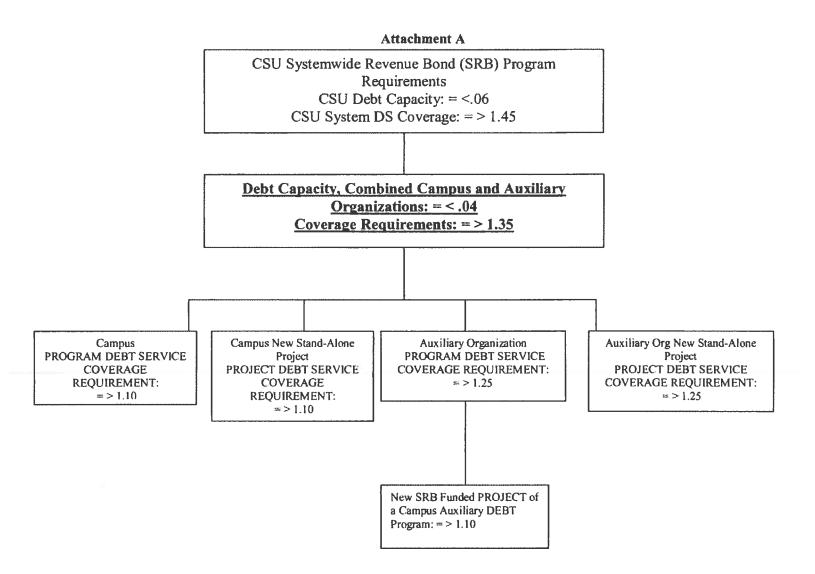
- **6.3 Timing of Bond Sale:** The plan of finance shall assume the sale of long-term debt at the time of initiation of construction (i.e., including capitalized construction period interest) to meet net revenue debt coverage ratio tests.
- **6.4 Interest Rate Assumptions:** The plan of finance for Projects shall incorporate a moderate interest rate contingency for unfavorable changes in interest rates between the time of the initial financial plan and the time long-term bonds will be sold.
- **6.5 Consistency of Computations:** Upon request the Chancellor's Office will provide the debt service information to be used in all financial plans relating to debt issuance in order to ensure that information regarding the debt is consistently prepared.

#### **Section 7: Reserves**

- **7.1 Reserve Development:** The campus president and chief financial officer are responsible for developing and maintaining a campus policy to provide reserves from Project revenues for projects funded by debt issued by the Board of Trustees. The campus reserve policies, at a minimum, should address the following needs:
  - Major Maintenance and Repair/Capital Renovation and Upgrade
  - Working Capital
  - Capital Development for New Projects
  - Catastrophic Events
- **7.2 Reserve Review:** At a minimum of once every three years, each campus shall conduct an in-depth review to assess the adequacy of the reserves and the campus reserve policies applicable to the projects funded by debt, and shall make necessary adjustments and changes to account for changing conditions. For Major Maintenance and Repair/Capital Renovation and Upgrade Reserves, the reviews should include formal studies of facility systems and necessary funding levels to cover all aspects of cost of replacement through the reserve-funding plan.

Charles B. Reed, Chancellor

Date: October 23, 2006



#### Attachment B

#### CSU Policy for Financing Activities Board of Trustees' Resolution RFIN 03-02-02

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees of The California State University ("the Board" or "the Trustees") finds it appropriate and necessary to use various debt financing programs afforded to it through the methods statutorily established by the legislature, and to use to its advantage those programs available to it through debt financing by recognized auxiliary organizations of the California State University; and

WHEREAS, The Board wishes to establish and maintain policies that provide a framework for the approval of financing transactions for the various programs that enable appropriate oversight and approval by the Trustees; and

WHEREAS, Within a policy framework the Board desires to establish appropriate delegations that enable the efficient and timely execution of financing transactions for the CSU and its recognized auxiliary organizations in good standing; and

WHEREAS, The Board recognizes that there is a need from time to time to take advantage of rapidly changing market conditions by implementing refinancings that will lower the cost of debt financing for the CSU and its auxiliary organizations and that such refinancings could be better implemented by reducing the time required to authorize such refinancings; and

WHEREAS, The Board finds it appropriate to establish the lowest cost debt financing programs for the CSU, and to use the limited debt capacity of the CSU in the most prudent manner; and

WHEREAS, There are certain aspects of the tax law related to the reimbursement of up-front expenses from tax-exempt financing proceeds that would be more appropriately satisfied through a delegation to the Chancellor without affecting the Trustees' ultimate approval process for such financings; now, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, by the Board of Trustees of The California State University as follows:

#### Section 1. General Financing Policies

- 1.1 The State University Revenue Bond Act of 1947 (Bond Act) provides the Board of Trustees with the ability to acquire, construct, or refinance projects funded with debt instruments repaid from various revenue sources.
- 1.2 The long-term debt programs of the Board of Trustees established pursuant to the Bond Act shall be managed by the Chancellor to credit rating standards in the "A"e category.
- 1.3 The intrinsic rating of any debt issued by the Trustees shall be at investment grade or better.
- 1.4 The Trustees debt programs should include the prudent use of variable rate debt and commercial paper to assist with lowering the overall cost of debt.

- 1.5 The Trustees programs shall be designed to improve efficiency of access to the capital markets by consolidating revenue bond programs where possible.
- 1.6 The Chancellor shall develop a program to control, set priorities and plan the issuance of all long-term debt consistent with the five-year non-state capital outlay program.
- 1.7 The Chancellor shall annually report to the Trustees on the activity related to the issuance of long-term debt.

#### Section 2. Financing Program Structure of the CSU's Debt Program

2.1 To use the limited debt capacity of CSU in the most cost effective and prudent manner, all on-campus student, faculty and staff rental housing, parking, student union, health center, and continuing education capital projects will be financed by the Trustees using a broad systemwide multi-source revenue pledge under the authority of the Bond Act in conjunction with the respective authority of the Trustees to collect and pledge revenues.

Other revenue-based on-campus and off-campus projects will also be financed through this program and the Bond Act unless there are compelling reasons why a project could not or should not be financed through this program (see Section 3 below).

- 2.2 The Chancellor shall establish minimum debt service coverage and other requirements for Bond Act financing transactions and/or for the related campus programs, which shall be used for implementation of the Trustees' debt programs. The Chancellor shall also define and describe the respective campus program categories.
- 2.3 The Chancellor, the Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer, the Assistant Vice Chancellor Financial Services, the Senior Director of Financing and Treasury, and each of them (collectively, "Authorized Representatives of the Trustees"), are hereby authorized and directed, for and in the name and on behalf of the trustees, to take any and all actions necessary to refinance any existing bonds issued pursuant to the Bond Act of 1947 if the refinancing transaction will result in net present value savings, as determined by an Authorized Representative of the Trustees and which determination shall be final and conclusive. Authorized Representatives of the Trustees are authorized to execute, acknowledge and deliver, and to prepare and review, as each of them deems appropriate, all bond resolutions, bond indentures, official statements and all other documents, certificates, agreements and information necessary to accomplish such refinancing transactions.

#### Section 3. Other Financing Programs

- 3.1 The Board recognizes that there may be projects, or components of projects, that a campus wishes to construct that are not advantaged by, or financing is not possible, or is inappropriate for the Bond Act financing program. A campus president may propose that such a project be financed as an auxiliary organization or third party entity financing if there is reason to believe that it is more advantageous for the transaction to be financed in this manner than through the Bond Act financing program.
- 3.1.1 Such financings and projects must be presented to the Chancellor for approval early in

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the project's conceptual stage in order to proceed. The approval shall be obtained prior to any commitments to other entities.

- **3.1.2** These projects must have an intrinsic investment grade credit rating, and shall be presented to the Trustees to obtain approval before the financing transaction is undertaken by the auxiliary organization or other third party entity.
- 3.1.3 If a project is approved by the Trustees, the Chancellor, the Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer, the Assistant Vice Chancellor Financial Services, the Senior Director of Financing and Treasury, and each of them (collectively, "Authorized Representatives of the Trustees") are hereby authorized and directed, for and in the name and on behalf of the Trustees, to execute, acknowledge and deliver, and to prepare and review, as each of them deems appropriate, any and all documents and agreements with such insertions and changes therein as such Authorized Representatives of the Trustees, with the advice of the General Counsel, may require or approve, such approval to be conclusively evidenced by the execution and delivery thereof, in order to assist with the planning, design, acquisition, construction, improvement, financing, and refinancing of the projects.
- 3.2 The Chancellor may require campus presidents to establish campus procedures applicable to campus auxiliary organizations for the issuance of debt instruments to finance or to refinance personal property with lease purchase, line-of-credit, or other tax-exempt financing methods. The procedures issued by the Chancellor need not contain a requirement for approval of the Trustees or the Chancellor but may include authority for campus presidents to take all actions to assist the auxiliary organization on behalf of the Trustees to complete and qualify such financing transactions as tax-exempt.

#### Section 4. State Public Works Board Lease Revenue Financing Program

- **4.1** The authorizations set forth in this section shall be in full force and effect with respect to any State Public Works Board project which has been duly authorized by the Legislature in a budget act or other legislation and duly signed by the Governor and which is then in full force and effect.
- 4.2 The Chancellor, the Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer, the Assistant Vice Chancellor Financial Services, the Senior Director of Financing and Treasury, and each of them (collectively, "Authorized Representatives of the Trustees") are hereby authorized and directed, for and in the name and on behalf of the Trustees, to execute, acknowledge and deliver, and to prepare and review, as each of them deems appropriate, any and all construction agreements, equipment agreements, equipment leases, site leases, facility leases and other documents and agreements with such insertions and changes therein as such Authorized Representatives of the Trustees, with the advice of the General Counsel, may require or approve, such approval to be conclusively evidenced by the execution and delivery thereof, in order to provide for the planning, design, acquisition, construction, improvement, financing, and refinancing of the projects.

#### Section 5. Credit of the State of California

**5.1.** The delegations conferred by this resolution are limited and do not authorize the Chancellor or other Authorized Representatives of the Trustees to establish any indebtedness

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of the State of California, the Board of Trustees, any CSU campus, or any officers or employees of any of them. Lending, pledging or otherwise using the credit established by a stream of payments to be paid from funds appropriated from the State of California for the purpose of facilitating a financing transaction associated with a capital project is permitted only if specifically authorized by a bond act or otherwise authorized by the legislature.

#### Section 6. Tax Law Requirement for Reimbursement of Project Costs

- 6.1 For those projects which may be financed under the authority of the Trustees, the Chancellor, the Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer, the Assistant Vice Chancellor Financial Services, the Senior Director of Financing and Treasury, and each of them (collectively, "Authorized Representatives of the Trustees"), are hereby authorized to make declarations on behalf of the Trustees solely for the purposes of establishing compliance with the requirements of Section 1.150-2 of the U.S. Treasury Regulations; provided, however that any such declaration:
- **6.1.1** Will not bind the Trustees to make any expenditure, incur any indebtedness, or proceed with the project or financing; and
- **6.1.2** Will establish the intent of the Trustees at the time of the declaration to use proceeds of future indebtedness, if subsequently authorized by the Trustees, to reimburse the Trustees for expenditures as permitted by the U.S. Treasury Regulations.

#### Section 7. Effective Date and Implementation

- 7.1 Within the scope of this financing policy, the Chancellor is authorized to further define, clarify and otherwise make and issue additional interpretations and directives as needed to implement the provisions of this policy.
- 7.2 This resolution supercedes RFIN 11-98-18 and shall take effect immediately. However, the Chancellor shall have the authority to authorize on a individual basis, auxiliary organization projects that are in the planning stage as of the adoption of this policy to proceed under the previous policy in order to prevent situations that would result in additional project costs or additional time-to-completion.

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#### **COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

#### **University Operational Effectiveness Initiatives**

#### **Presentation By**

Steve Relyea Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer

Thomas A. Parham President California State University, Dominguez Hills

Arun Casuba Executive Director, Strategic Sourcing and Chief Procurement Officer

#### **Summary**

This item provides an update on operational effectiveness initiatives since the last presentation to the California State University Board of Trustees Committee on Finance in January 2018.

The CSU continuously evaluates and improves university operations to support the academic mission. Recent improvements include exploring and implementing strategic procurement, simplifying and streamlining administrative processes, and organizing services in order to maintain proper stewardship of funds and enhance student services.

#### **Current Initiatives**

Campuses regularly search for means to reduce costs and enhance quality using a deliberate approach that incorporates process improvement, data-driven decision making, intersegmental collaboration, and strategic planning.

For example, the CSU uses best value methods in purchasing goods and services to maximize benefits to the institution and leverage the size and scope of the CSU through internal and external collaboration. Significant benefits are gained by sharing agreements with the University of California and California Community Colleges as well as other higher education consortia agreements. Many initiatives have been pursued to reduce costs while maintaining or improving the ability to deliver the core educational services of the CSU.

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Construction is a significant component of the CSU's total expenditures and several methods have been developed to improve efficiencies in the management of construction projects at the campuses. Improvements in this area include sponsored legislation to support electronic bids, consolidated bids for multiple projects, commodity pricing and purchasing strategies, and improved production planning scheduling approaches.

Facilities operations and energy is another area the CSU has targeted for cost savings and avoidance through direct purchase agreements with utility providers, energy efficiency and sustainability projects, and energy information systems, all designed to save money, avoid costs, and improve sustainability.

The CSU has also delivered significant cost reductions in the area of information technology through initiatives including the CSU Common Network Initiative that provides equipment and services to all campuses, systemwide hardware purchases and software licenses, and a systemwide data center that relies on a combination of a physical data center and cloud services.

Academic support efforts include coordinated insurance and risk management services; systemwide agreements for financial auditors, bank card services, office supplies, and printers; and a common shopping website for catalog-based purchasing. Other efforts focused on providing the proper infrastructure and delivering services to students geared towards assisting them in achieving their educational goals include coordinated purchase of electronic library resources across the system and consolidated contracts for academic technology systems and learning management systems.

In all these areas, the CSU continues to improve its sustainable practices in purchasing and recently published a policy to eliminate the use and sale of all single-use plastics. The CSU is also working with suppliers to mitigate environmental impact, control costs, and focus on making the supply chain more sustainable.

#### **Future Initiatives**

The CSU will continue to explore opportunities for reducing costs and enhancing effectiveness through additional multi-campus agreements, leveraging cloud services, increasing access to direct utility purchase agreements, continuing our collaboration with campus constituents through initiatives such as our procurement strategic plan, furthering enhancement of UC and CCC collaborations, expanding sustainable procurement initiatives, and broadening the use of systemwide administrative tools.