

ADVANCEMENT | CU FOUNDATION

## **Investment Update for Spring 2018**

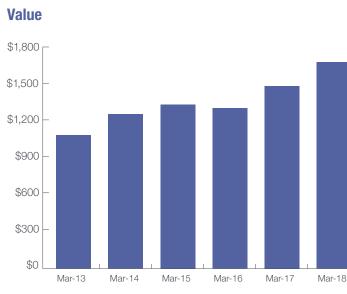
## **Recent Investment Performance**

The University of Colorado Foundation's Long Term Investment Pool (LTIP)—which includes endowments the Foundation holds for the benefit of the University of Colorado—had a positive quarter. For the quarter ending March 31, 2018, the LTIP returned +0.62%, which compares to -1.01% for our policy benchmark. From the start of fiscal year 2018 (July 1, 2017) through March 31, 2018, the LTIP returned +8.65% compared to +8.05% for the policy benchmark.

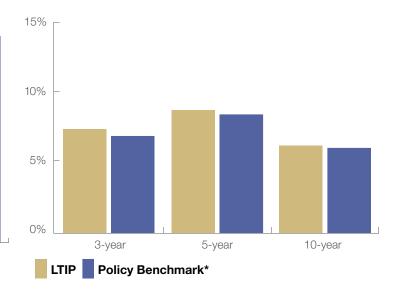
As of March 31, 2018, the LTIP was valued at \$1.64 billion. The value of endowments invested for the benefit of CU is a subset of the LTIP, totaling \$1.3 billion.

The LTIP's longer-term results show a consistent track record of investment success, in line with the Foundation's goal of maximizing returns over an extended time period while effectively managing risk. Achieving this objective is critical given CU's long-term educational mission. Faculty, students and programs on all four university campuses rely on consistent funding streams from the LTIP for years to come. As of March 31, 2018, the LTIP's 3-year annualized investment performance was +7.36%, its 5-year performance was +8.69% and its 10-year performance was +6.18%.

(continued on reverse)



**Annualized Investment Performance** 



#### Totals expressed in millions, and reflect value as of 3/31 for each year.

Long Term Investment Pool

(Note: Increases/decreases of these funds over time do not precisely mirror investment performance, due to variable fundraising inflows/outflows to university programs.)

\*The Policy Benchmark, effective FY 2018, is a blend of 80% MSCI ACWI (equities) and 20% Barclays US Aggregate Bond Index (fixed income). Depending on the return period presented, historical benchmarks of 40% Russell 3000, 40% MSCI EAFE and 20% Barclays US Agg (FY 2009 – 2017) and 50% Russell 3000, 30% Barclays US Agg and 20% MSCI EAFE (fund inception – FY 2008) are components of the policy benchmark as applicable.

### **Investment Portfolio Composition**

The LTIP is structured to maintain a level of volatility below that of the domestic and international equity markets in aggregate. Portfolio managers maintain asset allocations within the target ranges established and monitored by the Foundation's Investment Policy Committee, which reports to the Foundation's Board of Directors.

While the LTIP has a material stake in public equity markets, 44% of its holdings are invested in private capital, real assets, and hedge funds—enabling the Foundation's investment manager to assemble a portfolio that is geared to long-term performance. Meanwhile, the LTIP's current 5% weighting in cash and fixed income provides a buffer against volatility and allows timely response to investment opportunities.

### **Near-Term Investment Outlook**

According to Chris Bittman, partner at asset management firm Perella Weinberg Partners (PWP) and investment manager of the LTIP:

"Coming off a year of remarkable stability, volatility returned in the first quarter as markets reacted negatively to threats of a trade war, negative press within the technology sector, and indications that rising inflation may lead to an aggressive response from the Federal Reserve. Despite the turmoil witnessed in the financial markets, global economies continued to show synchronized growth.

Looking forward, we do believe that the U.S. business cycle still has room to run, aided by the potential for increased infrastructure spending and other fiscal stimulus. However, an escalating trade war, geopolitical turmoil, and rising interest rates present potential disturbances.

If volatility persists, a more selective approach towards asset allocation and portfolio rebalancing will be sensible. Allocations to alternative assets such as hedge funds and private capital will play an important role in portfolios, providing diversification and helping to protect capital."

# We can answer your questions.

As gifts and distributions from endowments continue to be key long-term funding components for CU, it's crucial that members of the CU family have full confidence in and understanding of our investment activities. We are available to answer your questions, and can make presentations to constituents on our investment model, performance and outlook.

Thank you for continued confidence in our efforts on behalf of the University of Colorado.

#### **Mike Pritchard**

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University of Colorado Foundation