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UNH FACULTY SENATE MOTION # XXVII-M11 UNH Endowment Investing Ensuring Alignment with Sustainability Goals

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Pending the approval of the May 8, 2023 minutes

UNH FACULTY SENATE
MOTION # XXVII-M11

UNH Endowment Investing Ensuring Alignment with Sustainability Goals

- 1. Motion presenter:** Chair James Malley on behalf of the Campus Planning Committee
- 2. Dates of Faculty Senate discussion:** 4/24/2023 and 5/8/2023
- 3. Rationale:**
 - The University strongly supports sustainability initiatives and works diligently to maintain its AASHE'S Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) Platinum Rating.
 - The University Administration and Foundation has endorsed and made strides to ensure that the endowment investments are consistent with UNH's WildCAP2021 and platinum sustainability status.
 - Current estimates reported by Wilkinson, total USNH/UNH endowment investment portfolio \$502.4M (June 2021), portion attributed to UNH Foundation portfolio \$111.5M and 47% of this (\$52.4M) allocated to the ESG pool of investments. The senate encourages UNH to continue to evaluate these practices and ensure that the endowment investments are consistent with UNH's WildCAP2021 and platinum sustainability status.
- 4. Motion:** The Faculty Senate encourages the UNH administration to continue to evaluate their endowment investments and ensure that their investment portfolio is consistent with UNH's WildCAP2021 and platinum sustainability status.
- 5. Senate action:** The motion passed with a vote of 45 in favor, 1 opposed and 1 abstention.
- 6. Senate chair's signature:**

Forwarded to the following on May 15, 2023:

President James Dean
Wayne Jones, Provost
Kate Ziemer, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
All deans and associate deans
All department chairs
Nadine Petty, Chief Diversity Officer
Barbara White, Interim Faculty Director, Discovery Program

Background

The Senate charges CPC to Coordinate with UNH Energy Task Force and evaluate practices that support the University focus on sustainability and attainment of the objectives and goals outlined in the UNH Climate Action Plan revised in 2021 (WildCAP2021). A reaffirmation by the UNH Foundation of stated goals in 2020 to shift endowment investments increasingly into sustainable investing that is consistent with UNH's WildCAP2021 and platinum sustainability status is encouraged.

Senate's Research and Public Service Committee (RPSC) offered a motion in 2019 that was approved by the Senate encouraging the university to comply with the goals set by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). UNH WildCAP 2021 was presented by Dr. Cameron Wake and Jennifer Andrews to the Senate in November 2021. The Senate has charged the CPC through its liaison with the University Energy Task Force and coordinating with the Sustainability Institute to provide updates on progress made to attain the goals and make recommendations that support those WildCAP 2021 goals.