

Survey Responses from ACSRI Members

1. Please list 3-4 key elements you want to see included in Western's SRI policy.

- Agree on clear definition of what SRI is
- Decide what language to use (aka: responsible investing, socially responsible investing, ESG focused investing.
- That the policy include a statement on the values that are the foundation for this policy including spelling out WWU's mission, vision and strategic priorities as the threshold for considering review of specific investments.
- Explicit values statement: reflection of the preamble in the MoU between WWU and the Divest Apartheid Coalition
- Proactive review of investments related to producers of weapons, oil, gas, and other products that harm the planet
- Internal accountability measures
 - annual internal review of investments, independent of any divestment requests received from campus community
 - standardized reporting measure
 - communicate SRI expectations to investment service providers (e.g., Russel, Foundation)
- That general sectors be identified in the policy but not specific companies or industries.
- Language that addresses specific industries that aren't in line with the ethical values or standards of Western's core mission and strategic plan, including the "commitment to equity and justice, and respect for the rights and dignity of others" as well as the commitment to the environment and sustainability. This might include but not be limited to weapons manufacturing, prisons and incarceration, and fossil fuels.
- Agree on what values/metrics we want to use to determine if a company is Socially responsible

- Specific reference to and engagement with how the UN PRI should be considered and implemented at Western, with a focus on other watchdog groups (like the BDS Movement and lists of Fossil Fuel Divestment Targets) that maintain a focus on corporations or other investment opportunities that are especially relevant.
- Policies and procedures to divest if investments are found to be in violation of the UN principles
- Require investment companies to provide an Investment Policy Statement.
- Perhaps include SRI in our annual financial statements
- Commitment to financial transparency
- Responsive review to questions from campus community about the origin and status of investments
- Accountability mechanisms that are clear and precise, with specific language that articulates how SRI commitments are evaluated on a regular basis and how transparent communication about the implementation is communicated regularly to the ACSRI.
- Specific language that details how the ACSRI can make recommendations around the choice of how to assess potential and current investment firms and financial institutions that the Foundation uses.
- What will success look like and how will it be measured, must fit within BoT broader Investment Policy Statement
- Update the University's investment policy to reflect this process.
- That the University continue its commitment to transparency as a public university by developing and implementing a user friendly, accessible site for public review of its investments to be updated (quarterly, annually?)
- That the process for submitting investments for consideration and the criteria for evaluation by the ACSRI will include quantifying the impact of the investment on the environmental, local and global health and social wellbeing of the university campus and beyond.

- Talk through implementation of values/mission investing: divestment, engagement, impact investing etc.
- That we recommend that WWU Foundation consider a policy that outlines their commitment to transparency to the degree possible under the law and their agreements with their fiduciaries. That their annual report reflect that level of detail as allowed and be posted on their website.

2. Please list any elements that you do not want to see included in Western's SRI policy.

- I don't want to see any language limiting the term of the ACSRI or changing its charge as an on-going, standing committee of the Board.
- I don't want to see commitments that aren't tied to a specific process or accountability mechanism, including the necessity of regular reporting regarding investments to the Board as well as the faculty, staff, and student bodies.
- I don't want to see any oversight body to take away the equal representation of students and faculty with members appointed by the Board.
- I don't want to see provisions that give unilateral power to either the Foundation or the Board to make decisions regarding investments.
- I would suggest leaving out specific security names

3. Please propose any draft policy language you'd like the committee to discuss.

- GPA, the University Investment Management recommends the Bloomberg ESG method, which uses three categories: Environmental, Social, and Governance with a scoring system to rate companies. Might be worth reviewing as a group.
- I'd love to see us draw on the Mission and Strategic Plan language to establish where a commitment to SRI arises from, as well as the UN PRI and other international standards for SRI.
- Socially Responsible Investing (SRI), as defined by Western Washington University, means to abstain from participating as an investor or shareholder in any entity that

violates the safety, security, and fundamental human rights of all peoples. This includes but is not limited to entities enabling, participating in, or profiting from environmental degradation, ethnic cleansing, genocide, apartheid, military occupation, war, and treaty violations with Indigenous Nations and Tribes. Furthermore, it means to abstain from participating as an investor or shareholder in any entity that enables inhumane working conditions, prison labor, and enslaved or coerced labor. By asserting this principle, the Board of Trustees affirm that human rights, sustainability, and social justice shall be deciding factors in determining the acceptability of all standing and potential investments.