Policy:
The Board of Trustees of the California State University adopted a resolution urging auxiliary boards which make corporate investments to issue statements of social responsibility and to follow those precepts in examining past and considering future investments. In response, the 49er Foundation states a primary fiduciary responsibility to maximize investment return, while taking into consideration appropriate risk, to further its educational purposes. At the same time, the 49er Foundation endeavors to be a good corporate citizen and responsible investor by considering environmental, social and governance practices of the corporations in which it is invested.

As an overarching goal, the 49er Foundation seeks to invest in well-managed corporations providing beneficial goods and services that align with the University’s values of diversity, sustainability and innovation. It further values business practices that support safe and supportive work environments, build employment opportunities, demonstrate innovation in environmental protection, and benefit the disadvantaged - including charitable giving and inclusion efforts. These practices can enhance the financial performance security and long-term sustainability of these corporations. As such, the 49er Foundation encourages its Outsourced Chief Investment Officers (OCIO) and investment managers to incorporate ESG analysis in the review of investment risk and opportunities.

Recognizing that the 49er Foundation generally invests in funds, rather than individual companies, the Board of Directors will review any concerning investments held within funds.