

Investment Priorities

**A review of findings from the
*College Sustainability Report Card 2010***

Mark Orłowski
Founder & Executive Director
Sustainable Endowments Institute



Overview

Category is comprised of five indicators:

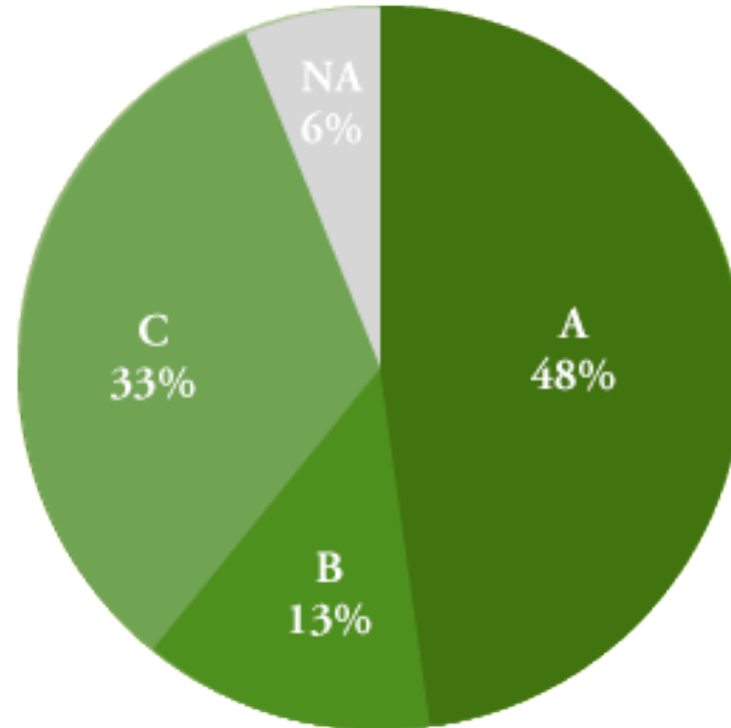
- Renewable Energy and Sustainable Investment
- Community Investment
- On-Campus Sustainability Projects
- Donor Fund Option
- Optimizing Investment Return

To learn more about each of the indicators and their weighting, visit:

<http://www.greenreportcard.org/report-card-2010/indicators>



Grade Distribution



Investment Priorities, *College Sustainability Report Card 2010*



Significant Trends

Comparison of data from *Report Card 2008* to *Report Card 2010*:

- | | <u>Percent</u> |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| • Renewable Energy Investments..... | 19 to 44 |
| • Community Investments..... | 6 to 14 |
- A growing number of schools are loaning endowment funds to on-campus projects in order to advance energy and/or water efficiency.



Renewable Energy and Sustainable Investment

- Renewable Energy Investments.....
44%
- Haverford College is currently invested in three renewable energy funds. Their total commitment is \$50 million.
 - While much of the capital remains to be called, the current value of investments in these funds is approximately \$12 million, or 3.4 percent of Haverford’s endowment.
 - This amount is expected to grow significantly, given the large uncalled commitment to these funds.



Community Investment

- Investments in Community Development Loan Funds (CDLFs) or Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs)..... **14%**

Examples of schools reporting community investments include:

- University of Alberta
- Colby College
- Gettysburg College
- Lehigh University
- Mt. Holyoke College
- Rollins College
- Skidmore College
- Vanderbilt University



On-Campus Sustainability Projects

- Investing in on-campus energy/water efficiency projects through the endowment (as an investment, not as a payout)..... **4%**



Donor Fund Option

- A small number of schools offer donors the opportunity to direct their gift to an investment fund that considers environmental sustainability factors.

Examples include:

- Brown University – Social Choice Fund
- California Institute of Technology
- California State University – Monterey Bay
- College of William and Mary – The Green Endowment
- Mt. Holyoke College – Socially Responsible Investment Fund (student-directed)
- University of Utah – University Social Choice Pool.
- Williams College – Social Choice Fund



Optimizing Investment Return

- Investing to optimize long-term profit—a vital aspect of maintaining endowment sustainability.
- Are assumptions about risk being reconsidered in light of the recent financial crisis? If so, is investing in community and campus sustainability now regarded as a useful way to further diversify investments?

