Quarterly Investment Update



Total Annual

# UNC SECTION 457(B) PLAN - WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

## Investment Performance as of 12/31/2023

The performance data quoted represents past performance, and is no guarantee of future results. Your returns and the principal value of your investment will fluctuate so that your mutual fund shares and annuity account accumulation units, and shares or units of the investment vehicles in your model-based accounts, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance quoted. The net asset values used to calculate the hypothetical account performance for model-based accounts are compiled using values for underlying funds as of the prior business day and current business day for fixed annuities. For performance current to the most recent month-end, call 800-842-2252 or visit TIAA.org/planinvestmentoptions and enter your plan ID. Performance may reflect waivers or reimbursements of certain expenses.

Absent these waivers or reimbursement arrangements, performance results would have been lower. Since Inception performance shown is cumulative for periods less than one year.

### **UNC Risk-Based Models**

			Total Returns Average Annual Total Returns			rns	Operating E (%/Per \$	Expenses				
Multi Asset - Non-Registered	Morningstar Category	Inception Date	3 Month	YTD	1 Year	3 Year		10 Year/ Since Inception	Gross	Net	Fee Waiver Expiration	Shareholder Fees & Restrictions*
UNC - Aggressive Growth <sup>1,2</sup>	-	01/31/15	11.75%	20.87%	20.87%	5.01%	11.65%	9.10%	0.45% \$4.50	0.45% \$4.50	-	-
Benchmark: Morningstar Aggressive Target Risk TR USD			11.14%	18.30%	18.30%	5.27%	10.72%	-				
UNC - Capital Preservation <sup>1,2</sup>	-	01/31/15	5.59%	7.32%	7.32%	-0.42%	2.70%	2.13%	0.19% \$1.90	0.19% \$1.90	-	-
Benchmark: Morningstar Conservative Target Risk TR USD			7.45%	7.74%	7.74%	-1.46%	3.15%	-				

Investment products, insurance and annuity products and investments based on Models: are not FDIC insured, are not bank guaranteed, are not deposits, are not insured by any federal government agency, are not a condition to any banking service or activity, and may lose value.

Total Annual
Operating Expenses

		Operating Expense
Total Returns	Average Annual Total Returns	(%/Per \$1000)

Multi Asset - Non-Registered	Morningstar Category	Inception Date	3 Month	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	;	10 Year/ Since Inception	Gross	Net	Fee Waiver Expiration	Shareholder Fees & Restrictions*
UNC - Growth <sup>1,2</sup>	-	01/31/15	10.84%	18.34%	18.34%	3.38%	9.62%	7.56%	0.39% \$3.90	0.39% \$3.90	-	-
Benchmark: Morningstar Moderately Aggressive Target Risk TR USD			10.40%	15.98%	15.98%	3.78%	9.30%	-				
UNC - Moderate <sup>1,2</sup>	-	01/31/15	9.43%	14.96%	14.96%	2.06%	7.42%	5.87%	0.33% \$3.30	0.33% \$3.30	-	-
Benchmark: Morningstar Moderate Target Risk TR USD			9.50%	13.22%	13.22%	2.07%	7.38%	- :		1		

The model's underlying investments' performance can be found under the appropriate asset class. Please refer to the RetirePlus Pro Model Portfolio Target Allocations section of this document for information on the model's current target allocations and other important information about your investment through the RetirePlus Pro Model program.

# RetirePlus Pro Model Portfolio Target Allocations

Underlying Investment	UNC - Aggressive Growth	UNC - Capital Preservation	UNC - Growth	UNC - Moderate
American Funds EuroPacific Growth Fund® Class R-6	11.0%	1.0%	9.0%	6.0%
Cohen & Steers Institutional Realty Shares	6.0%	3.0%	5.0%	4.0%
John Hancock Funds Disciplined Value Fund Class R6	12.0%	5.0%	10.0%	9.0%
MassMutual Mid Cap Growth Fund Class I	6.0%		5.0%	3.0%
MFS International Intrinsic Value Equity CIT Class 4	11.0%	1.0%	8.0%	6.0%
MFS Mid Cap Value Fund Class R6	7.0%		5.0%	4.0%
T. Rowe Price Large-Cap Growth Fund I Class	11.0%	4.0%	10.0%	8.0%
T. Rowe Price Small-Cap Stock Fund	6.0%		4.0%	2.0%
Vanguard Extended Market Index Trust	6.0%		6.0%	4.0%
Vanguard Institutional 500 Index Trust	12.0%	4.0%	10.0%	8.0%
Vanguard Total International Stock Index Trust	12.0%	2.0%	8.0%	6.0%
JPMCB Core Bond Fund-CF	1 1 1 1	10.0%	5.0%	8.0%
TCW MetWest Total Return Bond C	1 1 1 1	10.0%	5.0%	9.0%
Vanguard Federal Money Market Fund Investor Shares	1 1 1 1	20.0%		3.0%
Vanguard Short-Term Bond Index Fund Institutional Plus Shares	1 1 1 1	20.0%		3.0%
Vanguard Total Bond Market Index Trust	! !	20.0%	10.0%	17.0%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT RETIREPLUS PRO MODELS

The TIAA RetirePlus Pro® Models are asset allocation recommendations developed in one of three ways, depending on your plan structure: i) by your plan sponsor, ii) by your plan sponsor in consultation with consultants and other investment advisors designated by the plan sponsor, or iii) exclusively by consultants and other investment advisors selected by your plan sponsor whereby assets are allocated to underlying mutual funds and annuities that are permissible investments under the plan. Model-based accounts will be managed on the basis of the plan participant's personal financial situation and investment objectives (for example, taking into account factors such as participant age and risk capacity as determined by a risk tolerance questionnaire).

This material is for informational, educational or non-fiduciary sales opportunities and/or activities only and does not constitute investment advice (e.g., fiduciary advice under ERISA or otherwise), a securities recommendation under all securities laws, or an insurance product recommendation under state insurance laws or regulations to invest through a model or to purchase any security or advice about investing or managing retirement savings. It does not take into account any specific objectives or circumstances of any particular customer, or suggest any specific course of action.

You should consider the investment objectives, principal strategies, principal risks, portfolio turnover rate, performance data, and fee and expense information of each underlying investment carefully before directing an investment based on the model. For a free copy of the program description and the prospectus or other offering documents for each of the underlying investments (containing this and other information), call TIAA at 877-518-9161. Please read the program description and the prospectuses or other offering documents for the underlying investments carefully before investing.

The Plan Fiduciary and the Plan Advisor may determine that an Underlying Investment(s) is appropriate for a Model Portfolio, but not appropriate as a stand-alone investment for a Participant who is not participating in the Program. In such case, Participants who elect to unsubscribe from the Program while holding an Underlying Investment(s) in their Model-Based Account that has been deemed inappropriate as a stand-alone investment option by the Plan Fiduciary and/or the Plan Advisor will be prohibited from allocating future contributions to that investment option(s).

Established Restrictions: Each Plan Participant may, but need not, propose restrictions for his or her Model-Based Account, which will further customize such Plan Participant's own portfolio of Underlying Investments. The Plan Fiduciary is responsible for considering any restrictions proposed by a Plan Participant, and for determining (together with Plan Advisor(s)) whether the proposed restriction is "reasonable" in each case.

No registration under the Investment Company Act, the Securities Act or state securities laws—The Model is not a mutual fund or other type of security and will not be registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission as an investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, and no units or shares of the Model will be registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, nor will they be registered with any state securities regulator. Accordingly, the Model is not subject to compliance with the requirements of such acts, nor may plan participants investing in underlying investments based on the Model avail themselves of the protections thereunder, except to the extent that one or more underlying investments or interests therein are registered under such acts.

No guarantee—Investments based on the Model are not deposits of, or obligations of, or guaranteed or endorsed by TIAA, the Investment Advisor, The Plan or their affiliates, and are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, or any other agency. An investment based on the Model is not guaranteed, and you may experience losses, including losses near, at, or after the target date. There is no guarantee that investments based on the Model will provide adequate income at and through your retirement. Investors should not allocate their retirement savings based on the Model unless they can readily bear the consequences of such loss.

TIAA RetirePlus Pro is administered by Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association of America ("TIAA") as plan recordkeeper. TIAA-CREF Individual & Institutional Services LLC, Member FINRA, distributes securities products. If offered under your plan, TIAA and CREF annuity contracts and certificates are issued by Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association of America (TIAA) and College Retirement Equities Fund (CREF), New York, NY, respectively. Each is solely responsible for its own financial condition and contractual obligations. Transactions in the underlying investments invested in based on the Model on behalf of the plan participants are executed through TIAA-CREF Individual & Institutional Services, LLC, Member FINRA.

TIAA RetirePlus Pro® is a registered trademark of Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association of America-College Retirement Equities Fund, 730 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017.

#### A Note About Risk

Equity risk refers to the risk of loss due to the market price of shares falling. Equity funds and variable annuity accounts generally carry a higher degree of risk than fixed income funds and accounts. Fixed income funds and variable annuity accounts are not guaranteed and are subject to interest rate, inflation and credit risks.

Variable annuity accounts that invest in real estate securities are subject to various risks, including fluctuation in property values, higher expenses or lower income than expected, and potential environmental problems and liability.

Guaranteed investments offer a guaranteed rate of return but such guarantees are subject to the claims-paying ability of the issuing insurance company.

More detailed information on risks applicable to a particular investment option can be found in the prospectus or other product literature.

#### **Fees and Expenses**

\*Some Plans may allocate plan costs to participants to offset the cost of recordkeeping and other plan services. When the Plan allocates these costs at the investment-level there may be a plan services fee or credit displayed in the "Shareholder fees & restrictions" column. If the costs are allocated at the plan-level (regardless of investment) it is not displayed on the Quarterly Investment Update. Fee and expense information for the variable return investment options include the Total Annual Operating Expenses expressed as a percentage and a dollar amount based upon a \$1,000 accumulation both as net (after) and gross (before) of expenses. Total Annual Operating Expenses is a measure of what it costs to operate an investment, expressed as a percentage of its assets, as a dollar amount or in basis points. These are costs the investor pays through a reduction in the investment's rate of return. Expense information shown is based on the most recent information available, but may not reflect all updates and may differ slightly from the prospectus due to rounding. Please consult the most recent prospectus or offering document for more detailed information.

For more information on the impact of fees and expenses associated with your plan, please visit TIAA.org/fees. Fees are only one of many factors to consider when making an investment decision.

#### About the Benchmark

A benchmark provides an investor with a point of reference to evaluate an investment's performance. One common type of benchmark used to compare investment performance is called an index. Indexes are unmanaged portfolios of securities designed to track the performance of a particular segment of the market. For example, a large cap stock fund or account will usually be compared to an index that tracks a portfolio of large-cap stocks. Conversely, a bond fund or account is typically compared to an index that tracks a portfolio of bonds that is comparable to the fund or account's portfolio in terms of credit quality, maturity and liquidity. Each mutual fund or account shown in the table includes performance information for an index that the advisor determined provides a fair comparison of the fund or account's investment performance. Indexes are for comparison purposes only. You cannot invest directly in any index. Index returns do not reflect a deduction for fees or expenses.

#### **Data Providers**

Unless otherwise noted, data on nonproprietary investment products, including performance, Morningstar Category and expenses, is provided by Morningstar, Inc. All other data provided by Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association of America - College Retirement Equities Fund. Benchmark performance shown across proprietary and nonproprietary funds/accounts is provided by TIAA with the exception of Since Inception periods calculated using a nonproprietary fund's inception date. TIAA reserves the rights to all proprietary data herein, and is not responsible for any damages or losses arising from any use of this information.

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The Morningstar Category classifies a fund based on its investment style as measured by underlying portfolio holdings (portfolio statistics and compositions over the past three years). If the fund is new

and has no portfolio, Morningstar estimates where it will fall before assigning a more permanent category. When necessary, Morningstar may change a category assignment based on current information.

#### **Important Information**

- 1 Model Strategy, Model Fees and Expenses and Target Allocations information provided by the Plan Sponsor. Neither TIAA nor its affiliates has independently verified the accuracy or completeness of this information.
- 2 Model performance shown is based on the performance of the underlying investments that were present in the Model's lineup as of the end of the most recent calendar quarter. If a Model's lineup has changed since then, no adjustments have been made to the Model's performance shown here to reflect the revised lineup, and the investments (and their performance) removed from the lineup no longer appear in the fund performance table. However, all the investments (and their performance) in the Model's lineup as of the end of the most recent calendar quarter may continue to be viewed on the fact sheet available on your employer's microsite.



**BUILT TO PERFORM.** 

**CREATED TO SERVE.** 

Mutual funds are offered through your plan sponsor's retirement plan, which is recordkept by TIAA. Funds are offered at that day's net asset value (NAV), and the performance is displayed accordingly. Performance at NAV does not reflect sales charges, which are waived through your retirement plan. If included, the sales charges would have reduced the performance as quoted.

Before making your investment choices and completing your enrollment form, you should consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully. Please call 877-518-9161 for paper copies of the product and fund prospectuses and disclosure documents that contain this and other information. Please read the prospectuses and disclosure documents carefully before investing.

Unless otherwise noted, annuity contracts and certificates are issued by Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association of America (TIAA) and College Retirement Equities Fund (CREF), New York, NY. TIAA-CREF Individual & Institutional Services, LLC, Teachers Personal Investors Services, Inc., and Nuveen Securities, LLC, Members FINRA and SIPC, distribute securities products.

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