U.S. Sustainable Growth Fund

QUARTERLY UPDATE



Fourth Quarter 2018

UCITS FUND PERFORMANCE (%)

	RETURNS NET OF FEES*	RUSSELL 1000® GROWTH INDEX
3 Mos.	-12.62	-15.89
1YR	4.88	-1.51
ITD (04/03/2017)	13.43	9.92

^{*}U.S.Sustainable Growth Fund C USD share class

COMPOSITE PERFORMANCE (%)

		(/	
	COMPOSITE GROSS OF FEES	COMPOSITE NET OF FEES	RUSSELL 1000® GROWTH INDEX
3 Mos.	-12.16	-12.27	-15.89
1YR	5.33	4.77	-1.51
3 YR	13.14	12.55	11.15
5 YR	12.02	11.42	10.40
ITD (12/31/2009)	15.29	14.72	13.08

UCITS FUND CHARACTERISTICS

	U.S. SUS. GROWTH FUND	RUSSELL 1000® GROWTH INDEX
Weighted Avg. Market Cap.	\$169.2 B	\$247.4 B
EV/FCF (FY2) (Weighted Avg.)	23.7x	27.1x
Earnings Growth 3-5 Year Est.	16.5%	16.3%
PEG Ratio	1.4x	1.1x

TOP 10 UCITS FUND HOLDINGS

% PORTFOLIO
5.0
4.9
4.9
4.8
4.7
4.6
4.6
4.5
4.2
3.6
45.8

Review & Outlook

Our U.S. Sustainable Growth UCITS Fund passed it's 1-year anniversary on 3rd April 2018. Portfolio Managers Karina Funk and David Powell have managed the Large-Cap Sustainable Growth strategy since 31/12/2009, now with

\$1.6bn in assets via a U.S. mutual fund and numerous separate account mandates.

During the fourth quarter, the fund outperformed its benchmark, the Russell 1000° Growth Index. Strong stock selection in information technology and materials more than offset underperformance in consumer discretionary and industrials. The strategy also outperformed for the calendar year 2018. Many of our

KARINA FUNK, CFA

Portfolio Manager DAVID POWELL, CFA

Portfolio Manager

The broader equity markets performed quite poorly in the fourth quarter. Investor sentiment has turned exceedingly negative. Trade tensions, falling commodity prices and slower Chinese economic growth are just a few of the myriad of worries being priced into the market, in our view. While the U.S. economy appears to be in good shape for now, many investors foresee a recession occurring in the next few years, and valuation multiples have corrected meaningfully to reflect this view.

holdings in information technology, materials and health care were particularly additive throughout the year.

We deploy a number of strategies to manage through periods of economic difficulty. As valuations become more attractive, we focus on "upgrading" the portfolio by redeploying capital toward the long-term secular winners that, up until this time, have been overly expensive, in our view. We used this strategy in the fourth quarter to take advantage of pullbacks in Illumina and Aspen Technology—two companies we have been following for years but, in our opinion, have been overly expensive until this past quarter. We discuss these two new additions in more detail later in the commentary.

Secondly, given our ownership period is typically many years, we inevitably will run into periods of slower end market growth during our holding period. When faced with these situations, our approach is to understand if our investment thesis is still intact despite the end market weakness. If the answer is yes, we typically will add to the position. During the past quarter, we followed this strategy and added to many of our names on pullbacks, including Intuit, Verisk and Fortive. We also added to Idexx Laboratories and A. O. Smith for the first time in many quarters.

Finally, it is worth noting that as a rule, we look for consistent, stable growth companies that have a history of delivering solid growth over a market cycle. As a result, we tend to avoid the fastest-growing names in the market that may disproportionately suffer in a slower macro environment. This discipline has served us well in past periods of economic stress, and the fourth quarter was no exception. In fact, since the strategy's inception, we have added most of our outperformance in periods of market weakness.

Turning to the results of the quarter, our strongest sector was information technology, and Red Hat was our best-performing name. In late October, IBM announced its intention to acquire Red Hat for a 60% premium. American Tower and Ball Corporation also had strong quarterly results, and both stocks performed well in the period. On the downside, Amazon was our worst-performing name during the period, which led to our underperformance in consumer discretionary. The pullback in Amazon is discussed later in this report. We remain very favorable toward the company's fundamental outlook.

As previously mentioned, during the quarter, we added Illumina, which is a leading developer of life science tools and integrated systems for the analysis of genetic variation and function. The company provides sequencing and array-based solutions for genotyping and gene expression profiling of DNA and RNA. Illumina's sustainable business advantage is its ability to drive the efficiency and productivity of diagnostics and therapeutics within the health system. The increased emphasis on preventive molecular medicine should help advance a new era of precision health care. Furthermore, identifying desirable traits in plants and animals should lead to healthier and more productive crops and livestock.

Aspen Technology is a provider of process optimization and asset performance management software to the process industries. Its solutions seek to improve the competitiveness and profitability of its customers by increasing throughput, energy efficiency and production yields, and by reducing unplanned downtime. Aspen is a market leader and has amassed deep domain expertise over the last 35 years.

We remain fully invested and disciplined in our process of finding investment opportunities at the intersection of strong fundamentals, sustainable business advantages and attractive valuation. This philosophy has served us well over the last nine years, and we believe it will continue to do so in the years

Characteristics and Holdings include cash and cash equivalents

Sector Diversification

- Sector allocation in both absolute and relative terms did not change notably during the quarter.
- Consistent with prior quarters, the portfolio is overweight industrials and underweight consumer staples, energy and financials. The portfolio is also underweight communication services and overweight health care and materials. We do not use sector rotation as a driver of return; our sector weightings are primarily determined by where we find opportunities in our bottom-up stock selection process.
- As we have previously noted, many of our industrial and information technology holdings could be categorized within other sectors. Several of our industrial firms primarily serve in the health care sector, while other technology holdings are involved in financial services.

SECTOR	U.S. SUSTAINABLE GROWTH FUND (%)	RUSSELL 1000® GROWTH INDEX (%)	DIFFERENCE (%)		TAINABLE FUND (%)
	Q4 '18	Q4 '18	Q4 '18	Q3 '18	Q4 '17
Communication Services	4.60	11.93	-7.33	7.17	8.94
Consumer Discretionary	11.09	15.14	-4.04	11.44	10.06
Consumer Staples		6.04	-6.04		
Energy		0.76	-0.76		
Financials		4.40	-4.40		
Health Care	26.25	14.28	11.97	23.98	19.94
Industrials	14.41	11.83	2.58	15.52	19.19
Information Technology	32.41	31.46	0.95	32.55	29.15
Materials	2.97	1.84	1.13	2.44	2.80
Real Estate	4.86	2.32	2.53	4.39	4.68
Utilities					
Cash	3.41		3.41	2.52	5.24

Sector diversification includes cash and cash equivalents.

Quarterly Attribution Detail by Sector

- Information technology was our strongest sector. **Red Hat** was the primary reason, with good relative performance from **Monolothic Power Systems**, **Visa** and **Intuit**
- Our largest sector overweight is health care, where we are nearly twice the benchmark weight. Strong results from UnitedHealth, Thermo Fisher Scientific and Danaher Corporation led to relative outperformance within this sector.
- Our underweight in communication services proved helpful to overall performance, as the sector declined by double digits in the broad market. Conversely, our underweight in consumer staples hurt our relative performance, given the sector as a whole declined by only mid-single digits and outperformed the broader market.

SECTOR U.S. SUSTAINABLE GROWTH FUND (%)			RUSSELL 1000®	GROWTH INDEX	ATTRIBUTION ANALYSIS		
	AVERAGE WEIGHT (%)	RETURN (%)	AVERAGE WEIGHT (%)	RETURN (%)	ALLOCATION EFFECT (%)	SELECTION AND INTERACTION EFFECT (%)	TOTAL EFFECT (%)
Communication Services	6.50	-15.34	11.81	-17.30	0.03	0.12	0.15
Consumer Discretionary	10.83	-23.11	15.05	-17.17	0.01	-0.79	-0.78
Consumer Staples			5.92	-6.81	-0.53	0.00	-0.53
Energy			0.85	-28.84	0.11	0.00	0.11
Financials			4.37	-11.94	-0.20	0.00	-0.20
Health Care	25.56	-10.55	14.03	-12.14	0.49	0.43	0.91
Industrials	14.73	-19.62	11.96	-16.59	-0.05	-0.52	-0.57
Information Technology	31.80	-11.44	32.02	-18.82	0.00	2.73	2.73
Materials	2.87	4.74	1.77	-12.01	0.02	0.39	0.41
Real Estate	4.96	9.45	2.21	-1.83	0.36	0.48	0.83
Utilities							
Cash	2.75	0.59			0.40		0.40
Total	100.00	-12.42	100.00	-15.89	0.63	2.84	3.46

Sector attribution includes cash and cash equivalents.

Quarterly Contribution to Return

- IBM offered to purchase **Red Hat** for \$34 billion in the quarter, a roughly 60% premium to the previous day's price, making it the largest software acquisition ever. IBM's big move to expand its capabilities in open-source software makes a lot of sense to us, and we do not believe a higher offer is likely. We therefore sold our Red Hat shares in the quarter and redeployed the proceeds into names where we see more upside.
- American Tower exceeded revenue expectations in the quarter, sending its shares higher. We believe that strong revenue growth should continue given a very active spending cycle by all four of the big carriers going forward. The company's portfolio of tower assets around the world will be critical to meeting communications and bandwidth demands over the long term. While we trimmed the position a bit on strength, it remains a top 10 holding in the strategy.
- Ball Corporation posted a quarter that tracks to our positive thesis on the company, and it nicely navigated around headwinds, such as increased freight costs. Global can volumes are up, including double-digit growth in specialty cans, which is a meaningful amount of Ball's total volumes. Aluminum is taking share from glass and will likely accelerate the shift-share from plastic over time. The company is using its strong cash flow to return capital to shareholders. We maintained our core position.
- Illumina Inc. beat consensus expectations in the quarter, but not by the magnitude investors anticipated. The stock was weak in response. We were delighted to take advantage of the weakness to initiate a new position. While the stock declined 18% in the quarter, it held steady after we initiated our position, leading to a positive contribution to performance.
- We have been waiting patiently for an opportunity to buy shares of **Aspen Technologies**. During the quarter, amid the broad software sell-off, we got our chance. We were not the only investors who saw an attractive valuation at 30% below its prior high for the year, so while Aspen's stock was down for the quarter, the share prices held steady for a small gain after we initiated.
- Amazon posted quarterly top-line results below consensus. However, operating income far exceeded expectations. The company appears to be focused on margin expansion in the face of revenue deceleration. The stock is likely to be volatile depending on whether the market focuses on the long-term earnings power or near-term revenues. We trimmed our position in Amazon throughout the year but took advantage of the pullback in the quarter and added back.
- West Pharmaceutical Services delivered strong overall growth, but the company's highly profitable biologics segment decelerated. The company kept guidance for the year flat despite the third-quarter revenue beat. We believe West's new CFO is setting guidance conservatively, and our thesis remains intact.
- Welbilt's new CEO, who was helping to transform the business, announced his resignation in the quarter. That, combined with a rocky industry, led to it being a bottom contributor.
- J.B. Hunt has been able to secure price increases, but investors can rightfully worry (in the short term) about cost and volume challenges from a host of angles—rail service issues, trucker shortages and trade wars. In addition, an arbitration overhang with its rail partner, BNSF, was resolved and negatively impacts J.B. Hunt's profitability in its intermodal segment, by far its largest and most profitable business. Nevertheless, the level of these charges are less than we feared, and we believe the long-term profitability model for the company is unchanged. We took advantage of weakness during the quarter to add to our position.
- Tyler Technologies' organic growth decelerated in the quarter, sending shares down. The timing of some of its larger public safety contracts renders results a bit lumpy, but its competitive positioning and customer spending environment remain robust. We added to our position during the pullback.

U.S. SUSTAINABLE GROWTH FUND TOP FIVE CONTRIBUTORS								
TICKER	NAME	AVG. WEIGHT (%)	RETURN (%)	CONTRIBUTION TO RETURN (%)				
RHT	Red Hat, Inc.	0.96	27.41	0.73				
AMT	American Tower Corporation	4.96	9.45	0.40				
BLL	Ball Corporation	2.87	4.74	0.08				
ILMN	Illumina, Inc.	1.20	1.64	-0.08				
AZPN	Aspen Technology, Inc.	0.53	-4.01	-0.05				
		TAINABLE GROW M FIVE CONTRIB						
AMZN	Amazon.com, Inc.	4.71	-25.01	-1.27				
WST	West Pharmaceutical Services, Inc.	cal 3.34 -20.50		-0.75				
WBT	Welbilt Inc	0.95	-29.98	-0.73				
JBHT	J.B. Hunt Transport Services, Inc.	3.04	-21.60	-0.70				
TYL	Tyler Technologies, Inc.	2.36	-24.17	-0.59				

Contribution includes cash and cash equivalents.

Portfolio Activity

- Aspen Technologies is a company that sells mission-critical optimization software to energy, construction, engineering and chemical companies. Aspen aims to help its customers make their plants and supply chains more efficient, increase their production capacity, and save them billions of dollars over time. We believe that Aspen Technologies is poised to experience meaningful revenue growth as it expands its mission-critical asset optimization offerings among the industries it serves.
- Our other new holding this quarter is **Illumina**, a leading developer of sequencing and array-based solutions for large-scale genotyping and gene expression profiling. We believe the company has a strong revenue model supported by 61% consumables and secular growth drivers in personalized medicine, forensics, oncology and biomarker discovery. Illumina's sustainable business advantage is its ability to drive the efficiency and productivity of diagnostics and therapeutics within the health system. Furthermore, identifying desirable traits in plants and animals generally leads to healthier and more productive crops and livestock.
- We exited our small position in **Facebook** during the quarter. We have previously written about reducing our position size given the elevated risks around privacy, data security, governance and regulation. In monitoring the situation to assess whether these issues are systemic or isolated incidents, it has become clear to us that Facebook gave far greater data access to many technology companies beyond what it originally disclosed. We believe that at a minimum, these partnerships might have violated Facebook's consent decree with the Federal Trade Commission. But ultimately, it seems that Facebook deceived users and investors as to the extent of the data privacy issues. Unfortunately, in our opinion, Facebook's management has demonstrated a systemic disregard for managing privacy, data security and regulatory risk. We eliminated our position.
- With the pending acquisition of **Red Hat** by IBM, we exited that position and used the proceeds to initiate a position in Illumina at an opportune time.

U.S. SUSTAINABLE GROWTH UCITS FUND PORTFOLIO ACTIVITY					
ADDITION	vs	SECTOR			
AZPN	Aspen Technology, Inc.	Information Technology			
ILMN	Illumina, Inc.	Health Care			
DELETIO	NS	SECTOR			
FB	Facebook, Inc. Class A	Communication Services			
RHT	Red Hat, Inc.	Information Technology			
WBT	Welbilt Inc	Industrials			

We sold our small remaining position in restaurant equipment-maker Welbilt. We had initiated a position less than one year ago, believing that Welbilt would be a share gainer as restaurants and food service providers sorted out their equipment capital allocation to drive volumes. Soon after our initiation, Welbilt's CEO surprisingly resigned. This prompted us to exit the position, having lost confidence in the management team and its ability to execute in a highly competitive industry.

ESG Screens

Our fundamental, bottom-up research process enjoys a large universe of opportunities. Our stock selection is ultimately tested against back-end screens to avoid certain controversial business involvement.

The UCITS Fund excludes companies that:

- Defy the United Nations Global Compact Principles
- Derive any of their revenues from controversial weapons
- Conduct animal testing for non-medical purposes
- Own fossil fuel reserves; are utilities that generate power from fossil fuels

The UCITS Fund imposes limits on the following business activities:

- <3% turnover (by company) from adult entertainment</p>
- <5% turnover (by company) from military equipment</p>
- <5% turnover (by company) from alcohol</p>
- <5% turnover (by company) from tobacco products</p>
- <5% turnover (by company) from gambling</p>

The exclusions from the U.S. Sustainable Growth Fund at the end of the fourth quarter are as follows:

- Ecolab, Inc.: involvement in non-medical animal testing.
- Unilever: involvement in non-medical animal testing.
- Marriott International: >5% turnover from alcohol

Large-Cap Sustainable Growth Composite

Year	Composite Total Gross Returns (%)	Composite Total Net Returns (%)		Composite 3-Yr Annualized Standard Deviation (%)	Benchmark 3-Yr Annualized Standard Deviation (%)	Portfolios in Composite at End of Year		Composite Assets (\$USD Millions)	GIPS Firm Assets (\$USD Millions)*
2017	29.1	28.4	30.2	10.6	10.5	32	0.2	762	33,155
2016	6.6	6.0	7.1	11.5	11.2	32	0.1	503	30,417
2015	13.7	13.1	5.7	11.1	10.7	23	0.3	405	43,746
2014	7.1	6.5	13.1	9.9	9.6	25	0.1	303	44,772
2013	34.5	33.7	33.5	12.1	15.5	24	0.2	288	40,739
2012	16.5	15.9	15.3	15.7	15.7	22	0.3	211	26,794
2011	5.4	5.0	2.6	NA	NA	21	0.3	37	19,962
2010	23.5	23.1	16.7	NA	NA	18	N/A	13	16,859

Brown Advisory Institutional claims compliance with the GIobal Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. Brown Advisory Institutional has been independently verified for the periods from January 1, 1993 through December 31, 2017. The Verification reports are available upon request. Verification assesses whether (1) the firm has complied with all the composite construction requirements of the GIPS standards on a firm-wide basis and (2) the firm's policies and procedures are designed to calculate and present performance in compliance with the GIPS standards. Verification does not ensure the accuracy of any specific composite presentation. GIPS® is a registered trademark owned by CFA Institute.

- 1. *For the purpose of complying with the GIPS standards, the firm is defined as Brown Advisory Institutional, the Institutional and Balanced Institutional asset management divisions of Brown Advisory. As of July 1, 2016, the firm was redefined to exclude the Brown Advisory Private Client division, due to an evolution of the three distinct business lines.
- 2. The Large-Cap Sustainable Growth Composite includes all discretionary portfolios invested in the Sustainable Large Cap Strategy. The strategy invests primarily in large market capitalization companies with financially and environmentally sustainable business models. The minimum account market value required for composite inclusion is \$1.5 million. Prior to 2012, the minimum was \$100,000
- 3. This composite was created in 2010. Prior to 3/31/13, the strategy was named Large-Cap Sustainability. Prior to 12/31/2011 the strategy was named Winslow Green Large Cap. No changes have been made to the strategy since inception.
- 4. The benchmark is the Russell 1000® Growth Index. The Russell 1000® Growth Index measures the performance of the large-cap growth segment of the U.S. equity universe. It includes those Russell 1000® Index companies with higher price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values. The Russell 1000® Growth Index is constructed to provide a comprehensive and unbiased barometer for the large-cap growth segment. The Index is completely reconstituted annually to ensure new and growing equities are included and that the represented companies continue to reflect growth characteristics. The Russell 1000® Growth index and Russell® are trademarks/service marks of the London Stock Exchange Group companies. An investor cannot invest directly into an index. Benchmark returns are not covered by the report of the independent verifiers.
- 5. The dispersion of annual returns is measured by the equal weighted standard deviation of portfolio returns. The composite dispersion is not applicable (N/A) for periods where there were five or fewer accounts in the composite for the entire period.
- 6. Gross-of-fees performance returns are presented before management fees but after all trading commissions, and gross of foreign withholding taxes (if applicable). Net-of-fee performance returns reflect the deduction of actual management fees and all trading commissions. Other expenses can reduce returns to investors. The standard management fee schedule is as follows: 0.80% on the first \$10 million; 0.65% on the next \$15 million; 0.50% on the next \$25 million; and 0.40% on the balance over \$50 million. Further information regarding investment advisory fees is described in Part II A of the firm's form ADV. Actual fees paid by accounts in the composite may differ from the current fee schedule.
- 7. The three-year annualized ex-post standard deviation measures the variability of the composite (using gross returns) and the benchmark for the 36-month period ended on December 31. The 3 year annualized standard deviation is not presented as of December 31, 2010 and December 31, 2011 because 36 monthly returns for the composite were not available (NA).
- 8. Valuations and performance returns are computed and stated in U.S. Dollars. All returns reflect the reinvestment of income and other earnings
- 9. A complete list of composite descriptions, policies for valuing portfolios, calculating performance, and preparing compliant presentations are available upon request.
- 10. Past performance does not indicate future results.
- 11. This piece is provided for informational purposes only and should not be construed as a research report, a recommendation or suggestion to engage in or refrain from a particular course of action or to make or hold a particular investment or pursue a particular investment strategy, including whether or not to buy, sell or hold any of the securities mentioned, including any mutual fund managed by Brown Advisory.

Disclosures

Past performance may not be a reliable guide to future performance and you may not get back the amount invested. For institutional investors and professional clients only.

Performance data relates to the Brown Advisory U.S. Sustainable Growth Fund. The performance is net of management fees and operating expenses. Changes in exchange rates may have an adverse effect on the value price or income of the product. The difference at any one time between the sale and repurchase price of units in the UCITS means that the investment should be viewed as medium to long term. This review is issued by Brown Advisory Limited, authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. This is not an invitation to subscribe and is by way of information only.

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The Brown Advisory U.S. Sustainable Growth Fund is a sub-fund of Brown Advisory Funds plc, an umbrella fund with segregated liability between sub-funds. The Fund is a sub-fund as a UCITS pursuant to the European Communities (Undertakings for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities Regulations, 2011 as may be amended, supplemented or consolidated from time to time) and a recognised collective investment scheme for the purposes of section 264 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000. The Fund is managed by Brown Advisory LLC.

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References to specific securities are for illustrative purposes only and do not represent all of the securities purchased, sold or recommended for advisory clients. The security returns listed represent the period of when the security was held during the quarter. Please see composite disclosure statements above for additional information.

Terms and Definitions For Representative Account Calculations

All financial statistics and ratios are calculated using information from FactSet as of the report date unless otherwise noted. Market Capitalization refers to the aggregate value of a company's publicly traded stock. Weighted Average Market Cap refers to the average of each holding's market cap, weighted by its relative position size in the portfolio (in such a weighting scheme, larger positions have a greater influence on the calculation). Price-Earnings Ratio (P/E Ratio) is the ratio of the share of a company's stock compared to its per-share earnings. P/E calculations presented use FY2 earnings estimates; FY1 estimates refer to the next unreported fiscal year, and FY2 estimates refer to the fiscal year, and FY2 estimates provided to FactSet by various outside brokerage firms, calculated according to each broker's methodology. P/E / Growth Ratio, or PEG Ratio, is the ratio of a portfolio's P/E Ratio divided by its Earnings Growth 3-5 Year Est. Portfolio Turnover is the ratio of the lesser of the portfolio's aggregate purchases or sales during a given period, divided by the average value of the portfolio during that period, calculated on amonthly basis. Portfolio turnover is provided for a three-year trailing period. All of the above ratios for a portfolio are expressed as a weighted average of the relevant ratios of each portfolio holding, EXCEPT for P/E ratios, which are expressed as a weighted harmonic average. The Average Weight of a position or sector refers to the daily average for the period covered in this report of a stock's value as a percentage of the portfolio. The Total Return of an equity security is the sum of the return from price movement and the return due to dividend payments or other sources of income. Standard benchmark, sector- and portfolio-level returns are the sums of the weights of each security multiplied by i