Global equities continued their winning streak in February as concerns surrounding US economic growth faded and the outlook for a US-China trade deal improved. As a result, the S&P 500 Index increased 3.2% during the month. Chinese stocks returned 3.5%, according to the MSCI China Index, relative to broad emerging markets which rose a modest 0.2% as measured by the MSCI Emerging Markets Index.

Despite the renewed popularity of risk assets, a dovish tilt from the Fed caused fixed-income yields to remain relatively stagnant with the 10-year US Treasury yield increasing nine basis points to 2.72%. In credit, US high-yield spreads, as measured by the Bloomberg Barclays US Corporate High Yield Index, continued to decrease relative to the beginning of the year, returning 1.7%.

As of February 28, 2019, the balance of the SITIF for the System was $1.4 billion. During the quarter, the fund had net inflows of $39.9 million.

All System local non-endowed funds comprise the SITIF. The fund is invested according to the Board-approved Investment Policy, found here.

Payout is distributed back to member institutions on a monthly basis. For the current quarter, those distributions totaled $7.78 million. For the 12 months ended as of this report, the payout was 2.4%.