## VARIABLE PORTFOLIO – PARTNERS INTERNATIONAL GROWTH FUND A SERIES OF COLUMBIA FUNDS VARIABLE SERIES TRUST II 225 Franklin Street Boston, MA 02110

#### INFORMATION STATEMENT

## NOTICE REGARDING SUBADVISER

An Important Notice Regarding the Internet Availability of Information Statement is being mailed on or about July 30, 2020. This Information Statement is being made available to shareholders of Variable Portfolio – Partners International Growth Fund (formerly, CTIVP<sup>®</sup> – William Blair International Leaders Fund) (the "Fund"), a series of Columbia Funds Variable Series Trust II (the "Trust"), in lieu of a proxy statement, pursuant to the terms of an exemptive order (the "Manager of Managers Order") that Columbia Management Investment Advisers, LLC (the "Investment Manager") received from the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). The Manager of Managers Order permits the Investment Manager, subject to certain conditions such as approval by the Fund's Board of Trustees (the "Board"), and without approval by shareholders, to retain an unaffiliated subadviser (or subadvisers) to manage the Fund.

# This Information Statement Is For Informational Purposes Only And No Action Is Requested On Your Part. We Are Not Asking You For A Proxy And You Are Requested Not To Send Us A Proxy.

## THE FUND AND ITS MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

The Investment Manager, located at 225 Franklin Street, Boston, MA 02110, serves as investment manager to the Fund pursuant to a management agreement (the "Management Agreement"), amended and restated as of April 25, 2016 and most recently renewed at a meeting of the Board on June 17, 2020.

Under the Management Agreement, the Investment Manager, among other duties, monitors the performance of each subadviser on an ongoing basis. Factors it considers with respect to the selection and retention of a subadviser are, among others: the qualifications of the subadviser's investment personnel, its investment philosophy and process, its compliance program, and its long-term performance results. As compensation for its services, the Investment Manager receives a management fee from the Fund and, from this management fee, the Investment Manager pays each subadviser a subadvisory fee.

Subadvisers serve pursuant to separate subadvisory agreements with the Investment Manager under which a subadviser manages all or a portion of a fund's investment portfolio, as allocated to a subadviser by the Investment Manager, and provides related compliance and record-keeping services. In accordance with procedures adopted by the Board, affiliated broker-dealers of a subadviser may execute portfolio transactions for a subadvised fund and receive brokerage commissions in connection with those transactions as permitted by Rule 17e-1 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"), or separate SEC exemptive relief. A subadviser is allowed to use soft dollar arrangements in which it directs brokerage commissions to brokers to pay for research services it receives, provided that the subadviser's procedures are consistent with the Fund's and the Investment Manager's policies.

## WALTER SCOTT & PARTNERS LIMITED AND THE NEW SUBADVISORY AGREEMENT

Prior to May 15, 2020, William Blair Investment Management, LLC ("William Blair") served as the sole subadviser to the Fund. At a meeting of the Board on March 16-17, 2020 (the "March Meeting"), the Board, including a majority of the Board members who are not interested persons of the Fund within the meaning of the 1940 Act (the "Independent Trustees"), approved, in accordance with the recommendations of the Investment Manager, (i) a change to the Fund's name from CTIVP® – William Blair International Leaders Fund to Variable Portfolio – Partners International Growth Fund; (ii) a subadvisory agreement ("the Subadvisory Agreement") between the Investment Manager and Walter Scott & Partners Limited ("Walter Scott") with respect to the Fund; (iii) modifications to the Fund's principal investment strategies and principal risks to reflect Walter Scott's

investment process for the portion of the Fund it would manage; and (iv) the code of ethics and compliance program of Walter Scott. Walter Scott began managing a portion of the Fund on May 15, 2020, pursuant to the Subadvisory Agreement with the Investment Manager dated March 17, 2020. William Blair continues to serve as a subadviser to the Fund, and there were no changes to the subadvisory agreement between the Investment Manager and William Blair.

#### Management Fees Paid to the Investment Manager and Subadvisory Fees Paid to Walter Scott

Under the Management Agreement, the Fund pays the Investment Manager a management fee as follows:

Variable Portfolio – Partners International	Growth Fund Annual rate at each asset level
First \$500 million	0.920%
Next \$500 million	0.870%
Next \$500 million	0.820%
Next \$1.5 billion	0.770%
Next \$9 billion	0.760%
Over \$12 billion	0.750%

The table above represents the fee rate payable by the Fund to the Investment Manager, which has not changed as a result of the changes discussed above.

Fees Paid to Investment Manager for the Fiscal Year Ended 12/31/19 <sup>(1)</sup> in Dollars and as a % of Average Daily Net Assets of the Fund During the Fiscal Year ended 12/31/19	Subadvisory Fee Pai Investment Mana William Blair a Oppenheimer for th Year Ended in Doll as a % of Average D Assets of the Fund the Fiscal Yee ended 12/31/19	ger to and ars Fiscal ars and Daily Net During ar	Estimated Aggr Subadvisory Fee tha Have Been Paid to Blair and Walter ' Their Subadvis Agreements Had J Effect for the Fisc Ended 12/31/19 Estimated Aggr Subadvisory Fee) ir and as a % of Avera Net Assets of the During the Fiscal ended 12/31/19	at Would William Scott if sory Been in al Year (the egate 1 Dollars age Daily Fund I Year	Estimated Differ the Subadvisor During the Fiscz Ended 12/31/19 Estimated Agg Subadvisory Fee 12/31/19 in Dollar a Percentag Subadvisory Fee During Fiscal Yee 12/31/19	y Fee al Year and the regate Ended s and As e of es Paid
\$7,761,679 0.90%	\$2,938,999.76	0.34%	\$3,242,192.69	0.38%	\$303,192.93	0.04%

[1] The Investment Manager pays the subadvisers out of the fees it receives.

- [2] William Blair became a subadviser to the Fund on May 20, 2019, replacing Oppenheimer.
- [3] Assumes that 25% of the Fund's assets, which is the long-term allocation target of the Fund's assets to Walter Scott, had been allocated to Walter Scott from January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019.

## INFORMATION ABOUT WALTER SCOTT

Walter Scott was founded in 1983 by Dr. Walter G. Scott, Marilyn Harrison and Ian Clark. Walter Scott is an indirect subsidiary of The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation. Walter Scott provides discretionary investment advisory services to institutional investors in the form of separate accounts, registered mutual funds, pooled investment vehicles and other funds that are exempt from registration in the jurisdiction in which they are domiciled, and to other investment advisers through sub-advisory agreements. As of April 30, 2020, Walter Scott had approximately \$73.8 billion in assets under management. Walter Scott has its principal offices at One Charlotte Square, Edinburgh, United Kingdom EH2 4DR.

The following table provides information on the principal executive officers and directors of Walter Scott as of April 30, 2020:

Name	Title/Responsibilities	Address
James Downie Smith	Director	One Charlotte Square, Edinburgh,
		United Kingdom EH2 4DR
Jane Elisabeth Henderson	Managing Director	One Charlotte Square, Edinburgh,
		United Kingdom EH2 4DR
Roy McGregor Leckie	Director	One Charlotte Square, Edinburgh,
		United Kingdom EH2 4DR
Colin John Wood	Company Secretary	One Charlotte Square, Edinburgh,
		United Kingdom EH2 4DR
Charles Edward MacQuaker	Director	One Charlotte Square, Edinburgh,
		United Kingdom EH2 4DR
Anna Louise Nicholl	Chief Compliance Officer	One Charlotte Square, Edinburgh,
		United Kingdom EH2 4DR
Mitchell Evan Harris	Director	One Charlotte Square, Edinburgh,
		United Kingdom EH2 4DR
Robert Alexander Hammond-	Director	One Charlotte Square, Edinburgh,
Chambers		United Kingdom EH2 4DR
John Randolph Miller	Director	One Charlotte Square, Edinburgh,
		United Kingdom EH2 4DR

## Other 1940 Act Mutual Funds with Similar Investment Objectives Managed by Walter Scott

Fund Name	Assets as of April 30, 2020	Advisory/ Subadvisory Fee Rate
BNY Mellon International Stock Fund, a series of BNY Mellon		
Strategic Funds, Inc.	\$4,335,353,209.68	0.41%

## BOARD CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE SUBADVISORY AGREEMENT

At the March Meeting, the Fund's Board of Trustees (the "Board"), including a majority of the Board members who are not interested persons of the Fund within the meaning of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Independent Trustees"), unanimously approved the recommendations of the Investment Manager (i) to change the Fund's name from CTIVP<sup>®</sup> – William Blair International Leaders Fund to Variable Portfolio – Partners International Growth Fund; (ii) the Subadvisory Agreement between the Investment Manager and Walter Scott with respect to the Fund; (iii) modifications to the Fund's principal investment strategies and principal risks to reflect Walter Scott's investment process for the portion of the Fund it would manage; and (iv) the code of ethics and compliance program of Walter Scott.

At the March Meeting, independent legal counsel to the Independent Trustees reminded the Board of the legal standards for consideration by directors/trustees of advisory and subadvisory agreements and referred to the various written materials and oral presentations received by the Board in connection with its evaluation of Walter Scott's proposed services.

The Board held discussions with the Investment Manager and Walter Scott and reviewed and considered various written materials and oral presentations in connection with the evaluation of Walter Scott's proposed services, including the reports from management with respect to the fees and terms of the proposed Subadvisory Agreement and Walter Scott's investment strategy/style and performance and the Compliance Committee, with respect to the code of ethics and compliance program of Walter Scott. Following an analysis and discussion of the factors identified below, the Board, including all of the Independent Trustees, approved the Subadvisory Agreement with Walter Scott.

## Nature, Extent and Quality of Services

The Board considered its analysis of the reports and presentations received by it, detailing the services proposed to be performed by Walter Scott as a subadviser for the Fund, as well as the history, expertise, resources and capabilities, and the qualifications of the personnel of Walter Scott. The Board observed that Walter Scott's compliance program had been reviewed by the Fund's Chief Compliance Officer and was determined to be reasonably designed to prevent violation of the federal securities laws by the Fund. The Board also observed that information had been presented regarding the capabilities and financial condition of Walter Scott and its ability to carry out its responsibilities under the proposed subadvisory agreement. The Board also recalled the information provided by management regarding the personnel, risk controls, philosophy, and investment processes of Walter Scott. The Board also noted the presentation by Walter Scott to the Board.

The Board also discussed the acceptability of the terms of the proposed subadvisory agreement. Independent legal counsel noted that the proposed subadvisory agreement was generally similar in scope and form to subadvisory agreements applicable to other subadvised Funds. The Board recalled the Investment Manager's representation that Walter Scott has experience subadvising registered mutual funds.

## Investment Performance of Walter Scott

The Board noted that a review of investment performance is a key factor in evaluating the nature, extent and quality of services provided under advisory and subadvisory agreements. The Board considered Walter Scott's solid investment performance, noting the proposed strategy's performance results versus the Fund's benchmark and versus peers over various periods.

Based on the foregoing, and based on other information received (both oral and written) and other considerations, the Board concluded that Walter Scott was in a position to provide a high quality and level of service to the Fund.

## Comparative Fees, Costs of Services Provided and Profitability

The Board reviewed the proposed level of subadvisory fees under the proposed subadvisory services agreement, noting that the proposed subadvisory fees payable to Walter Scott would be paid by the Investment Manager and would not impact the fees paid by the Fund. The Board observed that the proposed subadvisory fees for Walter Scott are within a reasonable range of subadvisory fees paid by the Investment Manager to the subadviser of another Fund with a similar strategy. As part of its review, the Board also considered the management fees charged by another fund using Walter Scott for a comparable strategy to that proposed to be employed for the Fund. The Trustees observed that management fees, which are not proposed to change, remain within the range of other peers and that the Fund's expense ratio approximates the peer universe expense ratio median. The Board also considered the expected slight decrease in total profitability of the Investment Manager and its affiliates in connection with the hiring of Walter Scott, and concluded that overall the Investment Manager's profitability levels remained within the reasonable ranges of profitability levels previously reported.

## **Economies of Scale**

The Board also considered the economies of scale that may be realized by the Investment Manager and its affiliates as the Fund grows and took note of the extent to which shareholders might also benefit from such growth. The Board considered, in this regard, the expected slight decrease in profitability to the Investment Manager from its management agreement with the Fund as a result of the proposed retention of Walter Scott. The Board also observed that fees to be paid under the proposed subadvisory agreement would not impact fees paid by the Fund (as subadvisory fees are paid by the Investment Manager and not the Fund). The Board observed that the Fund's investment management service agreement with the Investment Manager continues to provide for sharing of economies of scale as investment management fees decline as assets increase at pre-established breakpoints. The Board further considered that the proposed subadvisory agreement with Walter Scott provides for lower fees as assets increase at pre-established breakpoints. The Board took into account, in this regard, the significant oversight services provided by the Investment Manager to the Fund, which services are, in fact,

proposed to increase somewhat due to the conversion to a multi-manager Fund that requires greater oversight by the Investment Manager. The Board concluded that the Fund's investment management service agreement continues to provide adequately for sharing of economies of scale.

Based on all of the foregoing, including all of the information received and presented, the Board, including all of the Independent Trustees, concluded that the proposed subadvisory fees to be paid under the Subadvisory Agreement were fair and reasonable in light of the extent and quality of services proposed to be provided.

On March 17, 2020, the Board, including all of the Independent Trustees, approved the Subadvisory Agreement. In reaching this conclusion, no single factor was determinative.

## FUND ASSETS

For a mutual fund managed in part by subadvisers, such as the Fund, the Investment Manager, subject to the oversight of the Board, decides the proportion of Fund assets to be managed by the subadvisers and by the Investment Manager, and may change these proportions at any time.

Prior to May 15, 2020, the Fund was solely managed by William Blair.

As of May 15, 2020, the long-term allocation target of the Fund's assets was as follows:

William Blair	Walter Scott
75%	25%

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUND

In addition to acting as the Fund's investment manager, the Investment Manager and certain of its affiliates also receive compensation for providing other services to the Fund.

## Administrator

The Investment Manager serves as the administrator of the Fund.

## Principal Underwriter

Columbia Management Investment Distributors, Inc., located at 225 Franklin Street, Boston, MA 02110, serves as the principal underwriter and distributor of the Fund.

## Transfer Agent

Columbia Management Investment Services Corp., located at 225 Franklin Street, Boston, MA 02110, serves as the transfer agent of the Fund.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The Fund's most recent annual report and semiannual report are available upon request, without charge, by contacting your financial intermediary, writing to Columbia Funds, c/o Columbia Management Investment Services Corp., P.O. Box 219104, Kansas City, MO 64121-9104, calling 800.345.6611 or online at https://www.columbiathreadneedleus.com/investor.

## **RECORD OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP**

For the Fund, as of April 30, 2020, the Investment Manager, through its affiliated fund-of-funds, and its affiliates RiverSource Life Insurance Company (located at 829 Ameriprise Financial Center, Minneapolis, MN 55474) and

RiverSource Life Insurance Co. of New York (located at 20 Madison Avenue Extension, Albany, NY 12203) owned 93.73% of the outstanding shares of the Fund.

As of April 30, 2020, Board members and officers of the Fund owned less than 1% of the Fund and each class of the Fund.

## SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS

The Fund is not required to hold regular meetings of shareholders each year. Meetings of shareholders are held from time to time and shareholder proposals intended to be presented at future meetings must be submitted in writing to the Fund in a reasonable time prior to the solicitation of proxies for any such meetings.

## HOUSEHOLDING

If you request a mailed copy of this information statement, the Fund will mail only one copy of this information statement to a household, even if more than one person in a household is a Fund shareholder of record, unless the Fund has received contrary instructions from one or more of the shareholders. If you need additional copies of this information statement and you are a holder of record of your shares, please contact the Fund in writing at Columbia Funds, c/o Columbia Management Investment Services Corp., P.O. Box 219104, Kansas City, MO 64121-9104 or by calling 800-345-6611. If your shares are held in broker street name, please contact your financial intermediary to obtain additional copies of this information statement. If in the future you do not want the mailing of information statements to be combined with those of other members of your household, or if you have received multiple copies of this information statement and want future mailings to be combined with those of other members of your household, please contact the Fund in writing at Columbia Funds, c/o Columbia Management Investment Evolution at the Fund in writing at Columbia Funds, c/o Columbia 800-345-6611, or contact your financial intermediary. The Fund undertakes to deliver promptly upon written or oral request a separate copy of the information statement to a security holder at a shared address to which a single copy of the document was delivered.

S-6546-147 A (7/20)