## STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

# THE DAVENPORT FUNDS

DAVENPORT CORE LEADERS FUND – Ticker: DAVPX
DAVENPORT VALUE & INCOME FUND – Ticker: DVIPX
DAVENPORT EQUITY OPPORTUNITIES FUND – Ticker: DEOPX
DAVENPORT SMALL CAP FOCUS FUND – Ticker: DSCPX
DAVENPORT INSIDER BUYING FUND – Ticker: DBUYX
DAVENPORT BALANCED INCOME FUND – Ticker: DBALX

## SERIES OF WILLIAMSBURG INVESTMENT TRUST

# August 1, 2024

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE TRUST	2
FUND OBJECTIVES, INVESTMENTS, STRATEGIES AND RISKS	3
INVESTMENT LIMITATIONS	26
TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS	29
INVESTMENT ADVISER	37
ADMINISTRATOR	43
COMPLIANCE SERVICE PROVIDER	44
DISTRIBUTOR	44
OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS	45
PORTFOLIO SECURITIES AND BROKERAGE	45
SHAREHOLDER ACCOUNT INFORMATION	46
PURCHASE OF SHARES	47
REDEMPTION OF SHARES	48
PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS	49
NET ASSET VALUE DETERMINATION	49
FUND EXPENSES	50
ADDITIONAL TAX INFORMATION	50
PROXY VOTING AND PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS DISCLOSUREPOLICIES	53
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	56
APPENDIX A - DESCRIPTION OF BOND RATINGS	57
APPENDIX B – POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR VOTING PROXIES	59

This Statement of Additional Information ("SAI") is not a prospectus and should only be read in conjunction with the Prospectuses of The Davenport Funds dated August 1, 2024. This SAI is incorporated by reference in its entirety into the Prospectus. The Prospectus may be obtained from the Funds, at no charge, by writing to Williamsburg Investment Trust, 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450, Cincinnati, Ohio 45246, or by calling toll-free 1-800-281-3217.

#### GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE TRUST

The Davenport Core Leaders Fund (the "Core Leaders Fund"), the Davenport Value & Income Fund (the "Value & Income Fund"), the Davenport Equity Opportunities Fund (the "Equity Opportunities Fund"), the Davenport Small Cap Focus Fund (the "Small Cap Focus Fund"), the Davenport Insider Buying Fund (the "Insider Buying Fund") and the Davenport Balanced Income Fund (the "Balanced Income Fund") are six separate no-load series of Williamsburg Investment Trust (the "Trust"). The Core Leaders Fund, Value & Income Fund, Equity Opportunities Fund, Small Cap Focus Fund, Balanced Income Fund and the Insider Buying Fund are referred to individually as a "Fund," collectively, the "Funds." Prior to March 31, 2023, the Core Leaders Fund was named the "Davenport Core Fund." The Trust is an open-end management investment company organized as a Massachusetts business trust in July 1988. The Board of Trustees (the "Board") has overall responsibility for management of the Trust under the provisions of the Trust's Agreement and Declaration of Trust and the laws of Massachusetts governing business trusts. The Funds are managed by Davenport & Company LLC (the "Adviser").

The Declaration of Trust currently provides for the shares of nine funds, or series, to be issued. In addition to the Funds, the Trust consists of The Jamestown Equity Fund, which is managed by Lowe, Brockenbrough & Company, Inc., doing business as Brockenbrough ("Brockenbrough"), of Richmond Virginia; and The Government Street Equity Fund and The Government Street Opportunities Fund, which are managed by Leavell Investment Management, Inc. of Mobile, Alabama. The Trustees are permitted to create additional series, or funds, at any time.

Shares of the Funds, when issued, are fully paid and non-assessable and have no preemptive or conversion rights. Shareholders are entitled to one vote for each full share held and a fractional vote for each fractional share held. Shares have noncumulative voting rights, which means that the holders of more than 50% of the shares voting for the election of Trustees can elect 100% of the Trustees and, in this event, the holders of the remaining shares voting will not be able to elect any Trustees. The Trustees will hold office until their retirement at age 75, except that: (1) any Trustee may resign and (2) any Trustee may be removed with or without cause at any time (a) by a written instrument, signed by at least two-thirds of the number of Trustees prior to such removal; or (b) by vote of shareholders holding not less than two-thirds of the outstanding shares of the Trust, cast in person or by proxy at a meeting called for that purpose; or (c) by a written declaration signed by shareholders holding not less than two-thirds of the outstanding shares of the Trust and filed with the Trust's custodian. Shareholders have certain rights, as set forth in the Declaration of Trust, including the right to call a meeting of shareholders for the purpose of voting on the removal of one or more Trustees. Shareholders holding not less than ten percent (10%) of the shares then outstanding may require the Trustees to call such a meeting and the Trustees are obligated to provide certain assistance to shareholders desiring to communicate with other shareholders in such regard (e.g., providing access to shareholder lists, etc.). Shareholder inquiries may be made in writing, addressed to the Funds at the address contained in this SAI. In case a vacancy or an anticipated vacancy shall for any reason exist, the vacancy shall be filled by the affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining Trustees, subject to the provisions of Section 16(a) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"). The Trust does not expect to hold annual meetings of shareholders.

Upon liquidation of the Trust or a particular fund of the Trust, holders of the outstanding shares of the fund being liquidated shall be entitled to receive, in proportion to the number of shares of the

fund held by them, the excess of that fund's assets over its liabilities. On any matter submitted to a vote of shareholders, all shares of the Trust then issued and outstanding and entitled to vote, irrespective of the fund, shall be voted in the aggregate and not by fund, except (i) when required by the 1940 Act, shares shall be voted by an individual fund; and (ii) when the matter does not affect any interest of a particular fund, then only the shareholders of the affected fund or funds shall be entitled to vote thereon. Examples of matters that affect only a particular fund could be a proposed change in the fundamental investment objectives or policies of that fund or a proposed change in the investment advisory agreement for a particular fund.

Under Massachusetts law, shareholders of a business trust may, under certain circumstances, be held personally liable as partners for the obligations of the Trust. The Declaration of Trust, therefore, contains provisions that are intended to mitigate such liability.

The By-Laws of the Trust contain a forum selection clause which provides that any court action (except any claim for which direct shareholder action is permitted under federal securities laws (e.g., a claim asserting fraud in connection with the purchase and sale of shares)) against or on behalf of the Trust be brought in the Business Litigation Section of the Massachusetts Superior Court in Suffolk County, Massachusetts, which handles complex business and commercial disputes. The forum selection clause only pertains to (i) any derivative action or proceeding brought on behalf of the Trust, (ii) any action asserting a claim of breach of a fiduciary duty owed by any Trustee, officer, or other employee of the Trust to the Trust or the Trust's shareholders, (iii) any action asserting a claim arising pursuant to the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or under the Trust's Agreement and Declaration of Trust or the Trust's By-Laws, (iv) any action to interpret, apply, enforce or determine the validity of any provision of the Trust's Agreement and Declaration of Trust or the Trust's By-Laws, or (v) any action asserting a claim governed by the internal affairs doctrine. The By-Laws also define what actions may be brought directly by shareholders and which must be brought derivatively on behalf of the Trust and require that the Court refer to mandatory arbitration all direct shareholder claims except for those asserting fraud in connection with the purchase or sale of shares.

The purpose of this forum selection provision is to provide for efficient and equitable disposition of legal proceedings by courts and arbitrators with expertise in the applicable Massachusetts law. The forum selection clause is designed to prevent shareholders from bringing any court action against or on behalf of the Trust in any jurisdiction other than in the Business Litigation Section of the Massachusetts Superior Court in Suffolk County, Massachusetts. As a result, should any court action be brought by a shareholder in any jurisdiction other than in the Business Litigation Section of the Massachusetts Superior Court in Suffolk County, Massachusetts, assuming that the forum selection clause is enforced, the shareholder will likely be deemed to have consented to allowance of a motion to dismiss the action and/or to transfer of the action to the Business Litigation Section of the Massachusetts Superior Court and similarly to have consented to a motion to dismiss any court action brought in another jurisdiction.

#### FUND OBJECTIVES, INVESTMENTS, STRATEGIES AND RISKS

The investment objectives and principal strategies of the Funds are described in the Prospectuses. Supplemental information about the Funds' strategies is set forth below. Certain capitalized terms

used herein are defined in the Prospectuses.

The Core Leaders Fund, Value & Income Fund, Balanced Income Fund, Small Cap Focus Fund and Insider Buying Fund are diversified series of the Trust and the Equity Opportunities Fund is a non-diversified series. The Small Cap Focus Fund was organized as a non-diversified series, but changed to a diversified series on August 1, 2018, in accordance with the position taken by the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") that a non-diversified fund that operates for more than three years as diversified is deemed to be diversified. With respect to 75% of its total assets, a diversified fund may not: (1) invest more than 5% of its total assets in the securities of a single issuer, and (2) hold more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of a single issuer. However, the diversification of a Fund's holdings is measured at the time of purchase and if a Fund purchases a security and holds it for a period of time, the security may become a larger percentage of the Fund's total assets due to movements in the financial markets. If the market affects the value of several securities held by a Fund, the Fund may have a greater percentage of its assets invested in securities of fewer issuers. Accordingly, a Fund is subject to the risk that its performance may be hurt disproportionately by the poor performance of relatively few securities despite qualifying as a diversified series. Although there is no restriction as to how much the Equity Opportunities Fund may invest in the securities of any one issuer as a non-diversified series, the Equity Opportunities Fund must meet certain diversification requirements in order to qualify for tax treatment as a regulated investment company under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). The Equity Opportunities Fund may be subject to greater risks than a diversified series because of the larger impact of fluctuation in the values of securities of fewer issuers.

## **EQUITY SECURITIES**

The value of a company's stock may fall as a result of factors directly related to that company, such as management decisions or a lower demand for its products or services. A stock's value also may fall because of factors affecting companies in the same industry or in a number of different industries, such as regulatory changes, changes in consumer tastes, or increased production costs. The value of a company's stock is also based upon investor sentiment and market perceptions. The increasing popularity of passive index-based investing may have the potential to increase security price correlations and volatility. Since passive investing strategies generally buy or sell securities based simply on inclusion and representation in an index, stock prices may have an increasing tendency to rise or fall based on whether money is flowing into or out of passive strategies, rather than based on an analysis of the prospects and valuation of individual securities. This may result in increased market volatility as more money is invested through passive strategies. The value of a company's stock may also be affected by changes in the financial markets that are relatively unrelated to the company or its industry, such as changes in interest rates or currency exchange rates. The value of a company's stock is also generally subject to the risk of future local, national, or global economic disturbances based on unknown weaknesses in the markets in which the Fund invests. In the event of such a disturbance, issuers of securities held by a Fund may experience significant declines in the value of their assets and even cease operations, or may receive government assistance accompanied by increased restrictions on their business operations or other government intervention. Governmental and quasi-governmental authorities and regulators throughout the world, such as the U.S. Federal Reserve, have in the past responded to major economic disruptions with a variety of significant fiscal and monetary policy changes, including, but not limited to, direct capital infusions into companies, new monetary programs, and dramatically lower interest rates. The Federal Reserve spent hundreds of billions of dollars to keep credit flowing through the short-term money markets beginning in mid-September 2019 when a shortage of liquidity caused a spike in overnight borrowing rates, and again in 2020 and 2021 with large stimulus initiatives intended to respond to economic stresses stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic. Many central banks across Europe, Asia and elsewhere adopted similar economic relief packages, which has contributed to higher inflation and expended government deficits. In 2022, the Federal Reserve concluded its market support activities that began in 2002 and began to raise interest rates in an effort to control inflation, which caused market downturns, disruptions and volatility. The Federal Reserve may determine to raise interest rates further. Future government intervention into the economy and financial markets to address other significant events may not work as intended, particularly if these efforts are perceived by investors as being unlikely to achieve the intended results. Political events within the U.S. and abroad, including the U.S. Government's ongoing inability to adopt or implement a long-term budget and deficit reduction plan, the contentious political environment, and worsening political divisions, may also have a negative impact on stock prices.

Industry/Sector Risk. The greater a Fund's exposure to any single type of investment, including investment in a given industry, sector, country, region or type of security, the greater the impact the performance of that investment will have on the Fund's performance. Companies in the same industry often face similar obstacles, issues, and regulatory burdens, which may cause them to react similarly to, and move in unison with, one another. An industry or a sector's performance over any period of time may be quite different from that of the overall market. Certain sectors, such as technology, communications, financial services or energy, can be highly volatile. Sectors are determined by reference to the classifications set forth in the Funds' annual and semi-annual reports. As of March 31, 2024, the Core Leaders Fund had 31.1% of the value of its net assets invested in common stocks within the technology sector and the Equity Opportunities Fund had 25.6% of the value of its net assets invested in common stocks within the consumer discretionary sector. The sectors in which a Fund may have greater exposure will vary from time to time.

- Gaming Industry: Companies in the gaming, casino and related industries are highly regulated, and their profitability can be significantly impacted by changes in state and federal legislation. Casino and gaming companies face intense competition, both domestically and internationally, as a result of new products, new casino concepts and new venues. The gaming industry may be negatively affected by unpredictable earnings, changes in economic conditions, discretionary income levels, changing consumer tastes and pandemics. The gaming industry uses various forms of intellectual property that is dependent upon patented technologies, trademarked brands, and proprietary information. Securities of gaming companies may be considered speculative and generally exhibit greater volatility than the overall market.
- Financial Services Industry: Companies in the financial services industry are subject to the risk of corporate and consumer debt defaults, price competition, regulatory change, decreased liquidity in credit markets and unstable interest rates, among others. These companies may have concentrated portfolios, such as a high level of loans to real estate developers, or exposures to certain investments, such as subprime loans, which makes them vulnerable to economic conditions that affect that industry or investment. Companies in the financial industry are subject to extensive governmental regulation that may limit the amount and types of loans and other financial commitments they can make, and the level of interest rates and fees they may charge. In addition, the profitability of these companies

is largely dependent upon the availability and the cost of capital. Investment banking, securities brokerage and investment advisory companies are particularly subject to government regulations and the risks inherent in securities trading and underwriting activities.

- Information Technology Industry: Information technology companies rely heavily on technological advances and face intense competition from new market entrants, both domestically and internationally, which may have an adverse effect on their profit margins. Stocks of technology companies, especially those of smaller, less-seasoned companies, tend to be more volatile than the overall market. Technology companies may not successfully introduce new products, develop and maintain a loyal customer base or achieve general market acceptance for their new products and may be significantly affected by the obsolescence of existing technologies, short product cycles, falling prices and profits. Companies in the technology sector are also heavily dependent on patent and intellectual property rights, and a loss or impairment of these rights may adversely affect their profitability. Technology companies engaged in manufacturing, such as semiconductor companies, often operate internationally which could expose them to risks associated with currency fluctuations, changes in foreign regulations, competition from subsidized foreign competitors with lower production costs, supply chain disruptions, and other risks inherent to international business.
- Communications Industry: Communication service companies are particularly vulnerable to the potential obsolescence of products and services due to technological advancement and competitor innovations. They may also be affected by pricing competition, research and development costs, substantial capital requirements, government regulation, shifting demographics and unpredictable changes in consumer preferences. While all companies may be susceptible to network security breaches, certain companies in the communication services sector may be particular targets of hacking and potential theft of proprietary or consumer information or disruptions in service, which could have a material adverse effect on their businesses. In addition, some companies engaged in internet-related activities are difficult to value and may have high share prices relative to their earnings, which may not be sustainable over the long-term.
- Health Care Industry: Companies in the health care industry are subject to the additional risks of increased industry competition, changes in legislation or governmental regulations, reductions in government funding or medical expense reimbursements, product liability or other litigation and the obsolescence of popular products. The price of securities of health science companies may be impacted by their ability to obtain governmental approval of their products and services, the rising cost of medical products and services, and liability for products that are later alleged to be unsafe or harmful.
- Consumer Staples/Consumer Discretionary Industry: Companies in the consumer staples and consumer discretionary sectors may be affected by fluctuations in supply and demand, changing demographics and consumer preferences, reduced disposable household income, commodity price volatility, changes in exchange rates, imposition of import controls, increased competition, depletion of resources, supply chain disruptions, labor relations, the effects of inflation, government regulations affecting their products, interest rates, product cycles and marketing competition.

- Industrials: Companies in the industrials sector are subject to certain risks, including changes in supply and demand for their specific product or service and for industrial products in general or a decline in demand due to rapid technological developments and frequent new product introductions. The performance of these companies may also be affected by governmental regulation, world events and economic conditions and the risks of environmental damage and product liability claims. In addition, certain companies in the industrials sector may be cyclical and have occasional sharp price movements resulting from changes in the economy, fuel prices, labor agreements and insurance costs.
- Materials: Companies in the materials sector may be affected by general economic conditions, commodity production and prices, consumer preferences, interest rates, exchange rates, product cycles, marketing competition, technological progress, labor relations, resource depletion and environmental, import/export and other government regulations. Other risks may include liabilities for environmental damage and general civil liabilities and mandated expenditures for safety and pollution control. At times, worldwide production of industrial materials has been greater than demand as a result of over-building or economic downturns, leading to poor investment returns or losses. These risks are heightened for companies in foreign markets.
- Utilities: The performance of utility stocks is expected to reflect conditions affecting the utilities industry, which is sensitive to factors such as interest rates, local and national government regulations, the price and availability of materials used in the particular utility, environmental protection or energy conservation regulations, the level of demand for services and the risk associated with construction and operating certain types of facilities.
- Real Estate Investment Trusts ("REITs"). While the Funds will not invest in real estate directly, they may be subject to risks similar to those associated with real estate investments because of their ability to purchase securities of companies that generate income from the real estate industry. A REIT is a pooled investment vehicle that may invest primarily in income producing real estate or real estate related loans or interests. Most REITs are structured as an Umbrella Partnership ("UPREIT") where the REIT is the general partner and majority owner of the Operating Limited Partnership. REITs are dependent upon management skills and the strength of the real estate market and could be affected by the following factors: overbuilding and increased competition; increases in property taxes and operating expenses; declines in the value of real estate; lack of availability of equity and debt financing to refinance maturing debt; vacancies due to economic conditions and tenant bankruptcies; losses due to costs resulting from environmental contamination and its related clean-up; changes in interest rates; changes in zoning laws; casualty or condemnation losses; variation in rental income; changes in neighborhood values and functional obsolescence; damage to real estate resulting from floods, earthquakes, terrorist attacks or other material disasters that may not be covered by insurance; and appeal of properties to tenants. Other REITs that operate as property leasing companies for a particular industry, such as the wireless network or timber industry, are more dependent on the strength of their underlying industry than the strength of the real estate market. REITs are also subject to heavy cash flow dependency, defaults by borrowers, self-liquidation and the possibility of failing to qualify for tax-free pass-through of income under the Code and

failing to maintain exemption from the 1940 Act. To the extent the management fees paid to a REIT are for the same or similar services as the management fees paid by a Fund, there will be a layering of fees, which would increase the Fund's underlying operating expenses.

- Commodities. The returns on investments in securities, including exchange-traded funds ("ETFs"), whose performance is linked to the price of an underlying commodity or commodity index, depends to a great extent on the performance, risks and pricing characteristics of that commodity. Precious metals such as gold, silver, platinum and palladium, have at times been subject to substantial price fluctuations and may be affected by unpredictable monetary and political policies such as currency devaluations or revaluations, economic and social conditions within a country, trade imbalances, or trade or currency restrictions between countries. Investments in precious metals can present concerns such as delivery, storage, and maintenance, possible illiquidity, and the unavailability of accurate market valuations. Investments in energy-related industries may be affected by changes in supply and demand and government regulations. Other types of commodities may be subject to certain risks, including regulatory, economic, environmental and political developments, weather events, natural disasters, and market disruptions.
- Energy Industry. Companies in the energy industry, such as coal, natural gas, and crude oil, may have distinctly higher volatility than other types of securities, due in part to their physical properties which can affect the available supply and the real time pricing of these commodities. Factors unique to energy stocks include: research and development, location, recovery costs, transportation costs, conversion costs and storage costs, as well as events that can affect global supply and demand, such as war, weather, and alternative energy sources. Natural gas and crude oil may be susceptible to international political and economic developments, the success of exploration projects, and periods of volatility and fluctuation. Energy companies may have high levels of debt and may be more likely to restructure their businesses if there are downturns in the energy markets or the economy as a whole.

Smaller Capitalization Securities. Smaller capitalization companies often have narrower markets for their goods and/or services and more limited managerial and financial resources than larger, more established companies. Furthermore, those companies often have limited product lines, or services, markets, or financial resources, or are dependent on a small management group. In addition, because these stocks are not well-known to the investing public, do not have significant institutional ownership, and are followed by relatively few security analysts, there will normally be less publicly available information concerning these securities compared to what is available for the securities of larger companies. Adverse publicity and investor perceptions can decrease the value and liquidity of such securities, which could increase the volatility of small cap securities. Companies that are small or unseasoned (i.e., less than three years of operating history) are more likely than larger or established companies to fall short of their goals or be unsuccessful.

**Foreign Securities.** Each Fund (excluding the Balanced Income Fund) may invest up to 30% of its net assets in foreign securities if the Adviser believes the investment would be consistent with the Fund's investment objective. The Funds may invest in securities of foreign issuers directly, in the form of sponsored American Depositary Receipts ("ADRs") or through investments in ETFs. ADRs are receipts typically issued by an American bank or trust company that evidence ownership

of underlying securities issued by a foreign corporation. If a change in securities values or net assets results in a Fund having more than 30% of its net assets invested in foreign securities, the Adviser will not be required to sell foreign securities in order to reduce the Fund's holdings to below 30%. The Balanced Income Fund may invest in both equity and debt obligations of foreign issuers if the Adviser believes such investment would be consistent with the Fund's investment objective. The same factors would be considered in selecting foreign securities as with domestic securities, as discussed in the Prospectus.

Foreign securities investment presents special considerations not typically associated with investments in domestic securities. Foreign economies may differ favorably or unfavorably from the U.S. economy in such matters as the pace and sources of economic growth, inflation rates, exchange rate regimes or currency volatility, endowments of natural resources, openness to trade and foreign investments, external accounts position and institutions, among other factors. Foreign economies may be less stable than the U.S. economy because of institutional weaknesses or economic dislocations and crises have ensued from time to time, both in developed and developing countries. Currency exchange rates and regulations may cause fluctuations in the value of foreign securities. Exchange rates are influenced generally by the forces of supply and demand in the foreign currency markets and by political and economic events occurring inside and outside the U.S., many of which may be difficult, if not impossible to predict. Foreign securities are subject to different regulatory environments than in the U.S. and, compared to the United States, there may be a lack of uniform accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards, less volume and liquidity and more volatility, less public information, and less regulation of foreign issuers. Countries have been known to expropriate or nationalize assets, and foreign investments may be subject to political, financial, or social instability or adverse diplomatic developments. There may be difficulties in obtaining service of process on foreign issuers and difficulties enforcing judgments against such issuers with respect to claims under U.S. securities laws. Favorable or unfavorable differences between U.S. and foreign economies could affect foreign securities values. The economies of many foreign countries are heavily dependent upon international trade and are accordingly affected by protective trade barriers and the economic conditions of their trading partners. The U.S. Government has, in the past, discouraged certain foreign investments by U.S. investors through taxation, economic sanctions or other restrictions and it is possible that a Fund could be prohibited from investing in securities issued by companies' subject to such restrictions. Some governmental authorities at times have taken steps to devalue their currencies substantially or have taken other steps to counter actual or anticipated market or other developments. Steps by those regulators and authorities to implement, or to curtail or taper, these activities could have substantial negative effects on the financial markets. The withdrawal of support, failure of efforts in response to a financial crisis or investor perceptions that these efforts are not succeeding could negatively affect financial markets in general as well as the values and liquidity of certain securities. Governments in certain foreign countries continue to participate to a significant degree, through ownership interest or regulation, in their respective economies. Actions by these governments could have a significant effect on market prices of securities and payments of dividends, interest, and/or principal. Investments in domestic securities may create indirect exposure to non-U.S. markets if any issuers of those securities are exposed to non-U.S. markets, such as when an issuer does a significant amount of business in or relies upon suppliers from non-U.S. markets.

Adverse conditions in a certain region can adversely affect securities of issuers in other countries whose economies appear to be unrelated. Both in developed and developing countries, crises have ensued from time to time and negatively impacted investor positions. These episodes include the

COVID-19 pandemic, instances of default and restructuring, economic pressures introduced by significant commodity price declines or severe devaluations of foreign currencies with respect to the U.S. dollar, all of which can have the potential to severely erode the value of investments. European Union ("EU") member countries that use the Euro as their currency (so-called Eurozone countries) lack the ability to implement an independent monetary policy and may be significantly affected by requirements that limit their fiscal options. In January 2020, the United Kingdom (the "UK") formally withdrew from the EU (commonly known as "Brexit") and the free movement of people and goods and services between the UK and the EU ended on January 1, 2021 after a transition period. This has resulted in changes to European travel, duty-free shopping and immigration rules, substantial volatility in foreign exchange markets and a depreciation in the value of the British pound against other currencies. Brexit has also exacerbated existing inflationary and supply chain challenges. The ultimate ramifications of Brexit may not be known for some time, as certain aspects of the relationship remain unresolved and subject to further negotiation. The longer term political, regulatory, and economic consequences of Brexit could be significant, resulting in potentially lower economic growth of markets in the UK, EU and globally. Any potential developments or market perceptions concerning these and related issues could adversely affect the companies in which a Fund has exposure.

Foreign countries, companies, or individuals may become subject to economic sanctions or other government restrictions, which may result in downgrades in credit ratings of the sanctioned country or companies economically exposed to the sanctioned country or company. For example, the U.S. government has imposed sanctions generally prohibiting U.S. investors from directly or indirectly purchasing or otherwise gaining exposure to certain securities identified as having ties to China's military and related industries. In addition, the U.S. and many other countries have imposed heavy economic sanctions on Russian political leaders, banking entities and other Russian businesses, including a U.S. ban on oil and other energy imports from Russia, following the large scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022. Additional sanctions may be imposed in the future, which could result in counter measures or retaliatory actions.

#### **FIXED INCOME SECURITIES**

Yields on short, intermediate, and long-term securities are dependent on a variety of factors, including the general conditions of the money and bond markets, the size of a particular offering, the maturity of the obligation, and the credit quality and rating of the issue. Fixed income securities with longer maturities tend to have higher yields and are generally subject to potentially greater capital appreciation and depreciation than obligations with shorter maturities. The market prices of fixed income securities usually vary, depending upon available yields. An increase in interest rates will generally reduce the value of portfolio investments, and a decline in interest rates will generally increase the value of portfolio investments. The end of the Federal Reserve's quantitative easing program and the decision in 2023 to raise the target fed funds rate caused markets to experience high volatility, due in part to the prolonged period of low interest rates. It is difficult to accurately predict when interest rates may increase or decrease. Any future interest rate increases or other adverse conditions (e.g., inflation/deflation, increased selling of certain fixed-income investments across other pooled investment vehicles or accounts, changes in investor perception or changes in government intervention in the markets) could cause the value of fixed income investments to decrease. If sudden or large-scale rises in interest rates were to occur, a Fund could face above-average redemption requests, which could cause it to lose value due to downward pricing forces and reduced market liquidity.

Interest Rate Risks. Interest rate changes can be sudden and unpredictable and are driven by a wide variety of factors, including central bank monetary policies, inflation rates, supply and demand and general economic conditions. Over the longer term rising interest rates may present greater risks than has historically been the case due to the prolonged period of low rates, the effect of government fiscal initiatives and the potential market reaction to those initiatives. A negative interest rate policy is an unconventional central bank monetary policy tool where nominal target interest rates are set with a negative value (i.e., below zero percent) intended to help create self-sustaining growth in the local economy. For example, if a bank charges negative interest, instead of receiving interest on deposits, a depositor must pay the bank fees to keep money with the bank. These market conditions may increase a Fund's exposures to interest rate risk. To the extent a Fund has a bank deposit or holds a debt instrument with a negative interest rate to maturity, the Fund would generate a negative return on that investment.

**Investment Grade Securities**. Investment grade fixed-income securities are rated in the four highest credit categories (AAA, AA, A, BBB, or an equivalent rating) at the time of purchase by at least one Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organization ("NRSRO"), or unrated securities that the Adviser considers to be of comparable quality. The credit rating of a security does not necessarily address its market risk (that is, the risk that the value of a security will be adversely affected due to movement of the overall stock market or changes in the level of interest rates). Also, ratings may, from time to time, be changed to reflect developments in the issuer's financial condition.

Non-Investment Grade Securities. Non-investment grade securities are fixed income securities that are rated below investment grade by an NRSRO and are generally considered to be "junk" bonds and speculative in certain respects. Lower-rated debt securities involve greater risk of default or price changes than higher-rated securities due to changes in the issuer's creditworthiness. Prices of lower-rated securities have been found to be less sensitive to interest rate changes and more sensitive to adverse economic changes and individual corporate developments than more highly rated investments. Credit quality in the markets for lower rated fixed income securities can change unexpectedly, and even recently issued credit ratings may not fully reflect the actual risks posed by a particular security. During periods of deteriorating economic conditions or increased interest rates, trading in the secondary market for lower rated securities may become thin and market liquidity may be significantly reduced, which can adversely affect the ability of a Fund to dispose of its portfolio securities. Bonds for which there is a thin market may be more difficult to value inasmuch as objective pricing data may be less available and judgment may play a greater role in the valuation process. Besides credit and liquidity concerns, prices for lower rated securities may be affected by legislative and regulatory developments, adverse publicity and investor perceptions.

A description of the various bond ratings by the NRSROs is attached to this SAI as Appendix A. The NRSROs include Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's"), Standard & Poor's Global Ratings ("S&P") and Fitch Ratings. A rating by an NRSRO represents the organization's opinion as to the credit quality of the security being traded. However, the ratings are general and are not absolute standards of quality or guarantees as to the creditworthiness of an issuer. Consequently, the Adviser believes that individual analysts give different weightings to the various factors involved in credit analysis, and the quality of fixed-income securities in which the Fund may invest should be continuously reviewed. If a fixed-income security held by a Fund receives a split rating from two NRSROs the Adviser will determine which rating is appropriate. When a security has

received a rating from more than one NRSRO, each rating is evaluated independently. Ratings are based on current information furnished by the issuer or obtained from other sources that are considered reliable by the NRSROs. Ratings may be changed, suspended or withdrawn as a result of changes in or unavailability of such information, or for other reasons. A rating is not a recommendation to purchase, sell or hold a security because it does not take into account market value or suitability for a particular investor.

**Restricted Securities**. Restricted securities are securities without readily available market quotations and include privately placed debt, rule 144A securities and preferred equity securities. Restricted securities will be considered illiquid unless they have been specifically determined to be liquid under procedures adopted by the Board of Trustees, taking into account factors such as the frequency and volume of trading, the commitment of dealers to make markets, and the availability of qualified investors, all of which can change from time to time.

Restricted securities may be sold only in privately negotiated transactions or in a public offering with respect to which a registration statement is in effect under the Securities Act of 1933. Where registration is required, a Fund may be obligated to pay all or a part of the registration expenses and a considerable period may elapse between the time of the decision to sell and the time the Fund may be permitted to sell a security under an effective registration statement. If, during such a period, adverse market conditions were to develop, a Fund might obtain a less favorable price than prevailed when it decided to sell. Further, certain securities, once sold, may not settle for an extended period (for example, several weeks or even longer). A Fund will not receive its sale proceeds until that time, which may constrain the Fund's ability to meet its obligations (including obligations to redeeming shareholders). Restricted securities may be priced at fair value as determined in good faith under procedures approved by the Trust's Board.

Illiquid Investments. Each Fund may invest up to 15% of the value of its net assets in illiquid securities, which include certain restricted securities (privately placed securities), repurchase agreements maturing in more than 7 days and other securities that cannot reasonably be expected to be sold or disposed of in current market conditions, within seven calendar days, without significantly impacting the market value of the investment.

Liquidity Risk for Fixed Income Securities. Liquidity risk is the risk associated with any event, circumstances or characteristic of an investment or market that negatively impacts a Fund's ability to sell, or realize the proceeds from the sale of an investment at a desirable time or price. Certain investments that were liquid at the time of purchase may later become illiquid, particularly in times of overall economic stress or during changing regulatory, market or other conditions. Liquidity risk may result from the lack of an active market, a reduced number of traditional market participants, or the reduced capacity of traditional market participants to make a market in fixedincome securities. The capacity of traditional dealers to engage in fixed-income trading has not kept pace with the bond market's growth. As a result, dealer inventories of corporate bonds, which indicate the ability to "make markets," i.e., buy or sell a security at the quoted bid and ask price, respectively, are at or near historic lows relative to market size. Because market makers provide stability to fixed income markets, the significant reduction in dealer inventories could lead to decreased liquidity and increased volatility, which may become exacerbated during periods of economic or political stress. In addition, liquidity risk may be magnified in a rising interest rate environment in which investor redemptions from fixed-income mutual funds may be higher than normal; the selling of fixed-income securities to satisfy fund shareholder redemptions may result in an increased supply of such securities during periods of reduced investor demand due to a lack of buyers, thereby impairing a Fund's ability to sell such securities.

Pursuant to Rule 22e-4 under the 1940 Act ("Liquidity Rule"), a Fund will not acquire illiquid securities if, as a result, they would comprise more than 15% of the value of the Fund's net assets. The Funds have established a liquidity risk management program ("LRMP") and designated the Adviser as the administrator of the LRMP to assess, manage and periodically review each Fund's liquidity risk, based upon relevant market, trading and investment-specific considerations. Pursuant to the LRMP, the Adviser is required to classify the liquidity of each portfolio investment held by a Fund. Securities eligible to be resold pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933 may be considered liquid by the Adviser or its delegate. Various factors, as set forth in the Funds' LRMP, may be considered, to the extent applicable, when classifying the liquidity of each investment held by a Fund, including, but not limited to: (i) the existence of an active market for the asset, including whether the asset is listed on an exchange, as well as the number, diversity, and quality of market participants; (ii) the frequency of trades or quotes for the asset and average daily trading volume of the asset (regardless of whether the asset is a security traded on an exchange); (iii) the volatility of trading prices for the asset; (iv) the bid-ask spreads for the asset; (v) whether the asset class or investment has a relatively standardized and simple structure; (vi) for fixed income securities, maturity and date of issue; and (vii) restrictions on trading of the asset and limitations on transfer of the asset. Risks associated with illiquid securities include the potential inability of a Fund to promptly dispose of a portfolio security after a decision to sell.

U.S. Government Securities. The Funds may invest in debt obligations that are issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government, its agencies, and instrumentalities ("U.S. Government Securities") as described herein. U.S. Government Securities include the following securities: (1) U.S. Treasury obligations of various interest rates, maturities and issue dates, such as U.S. Treasury bills (mature in one year or less), U.S. Treasury notes (mature in one to seven years), and U.S. Treasury bonds (mature in more than seven years), the payments of principal and interest of which are all backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government; (2) obligations issued or guaranteed by U.S. Government agencies or instrumentalities, some of which are backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government, e.g., obligations of the Government National Mortgage Association ("GNMA"), the Farmers Home Administration and the Export Import Bank; some of which do not carry the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government but which are supported by the right of the issuer to borrow from the U.S. Government, e.g., obligations of the Tennessee Valley Authority, the U.S. Postal Service, the Federal National Mortgage Association ("FNMA"), and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation ("FHLMC"); and some of which are backed only by the credit of the issuer itself, e.g., obligations of the Student Loan Marketing Association, the Federal Home Loan Banks and the Federal Farm Credit Bank; and (3) any of the foregoing purchased subject to repurchase agreements as described herein. The guarantee of the U.S. Government does not extend to the yield or value of U.S. Government Securities or the Funds' shares.

Obligations of GNMA, FNMA and FHLMC may include direct pass-through "Certificates," representing undivided ownership interests in pools of mortgages. Such Certificates are guaranteed as to payment of principal and interest (but not as to price and yield) by the U.S. Government or the issuing agency. Mortgage Certificates are subject to more rapid prepayment than their stated maturity date would indicate; their rate of prepayment tends to accelerate during periods of declining interest rates and, as a result, the proceeds from such prepayments may be reinvested in

instruments that have lower yields. To the extent such securities were purchased at a premium, such prepayments could result in capital losses. In September 2008, FNMA and FHLMC were each placed into conservatorship by the U.S. Government under the authority of the Federal Housing Finance Agency ("FHFA"), an agency of the U.S. Government, with a stated purpose to preserve and conserve the assets and property of FNMA and FHLMC and to put FNMA and FHLMC in a sound and solvent condition. No assurance can be given that the purposes of the conservatorship and related actions under the authority of FHFA will be met. Serious discussions among policymakers continue as to whether FMNA and FHLMC should be nationalized, privatized, restructured or eliminated altogether.

In August 2011, S&P lowered the long-term sovereign credit rating of U.S. Government securities from AAA to AA+ and also downgraded the long-term credit ratings of U.S. government-sponsored enterprises. In explaining the downgrade, S&P cited, among other reasons, controversy over raising the statutory debt ceiling and growth in public spending. In June 2013, S&P affirmed its AA+ long-term credit rating on the U.S. and revised its rating outlook to stable from negative to indicate its current view that the likelihood of a near-term downgrade of the rating is less than one in three. It is possible that the rating outlook could be revised downward if economic, fiscal and/or political circumstances change in the U.S. Such a credit event may result in higher interest rates and adversely impact the market prices and yields of securities supported by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government. Moreover, additional credit rating downgrades of U.S. sovereign debt or U.S. sponsored enterprises may result in financial market declines, increased volatility and significant disruption across various financial markets and asset classes.

Government debt can be adversely affected by large and sudden changes in local and global economic conditions that result in increased debt levels. The total public debt of the U.S. as a percentage of gross domestic product has grown rapidly since the beginning of the 2008-2009 financial downturn and has accelerated with the U.S. Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The U.S. Government adopted the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (the "CARES ACT") in 2020 and the American Rescue Plan in 2021, which directed support towards American workers and businesses adversely affected by the economic upheaval from the COVID-19 pandemic. Fiscal stimulus packages such as the CARES Act and the American Rescue Plan Act are the largest economic stimulus packages in recent history. The U.S. Government is also investing significantly in infrastructure and national defense, and government agencies project that the U.S. will continue to maintain high debt levels for the foreseeable future. On June 3, 2023, the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023 was signed into law, which suspends the limit on the federal debt through January 1, 2025. Because there is little precedent for this situation, it is difficult to predict the impact on the markets of this or other significant policy changes. Although high debt levels do not necessarily indicate or cause economic problems, they may create certain systematic risks if sound debt management practices are not implemented. A high national debt level may increase market pressures to meet government funding needs, which may drive debt costs higher and cause the U.S. Treasury to sell additional debt with shorter maturity periods, thereby increasing refinancing risk. A high national debt also raises concerns that the U.S. Government will not be able to make principal or interest payments when they are due. Although the U.S. Government has honored its credit obligations, it remains possible that the U.S. could default on its obligations, which could be highly disruptive to the U.S. and global securities markets and could significantly impair the value of a Fund's investments.

Zero Coupon Bonds and Treasury STRIPS. U.S. Government securities include "zero coupon" securities that have no coupons or have been stripped of their unmatured interest coupons, individual interest coupons from such securities that trade separately, and evidences of receipt of such securities. STRIPS are zero coupon securities that represent U.S. Treasury bills, notes and bonds that have been issued without interest coupons or stripped of their unmatured interest coupons, interest coupons that have been stripped from such U.S. Treasury securities, and receipts or certificates representing interests in such stripped U.S. Treasury securities and coupons. A STRIPS security pays no interest in cash to its holder during its life although interest is accrued for federal income tax purposes. Its value to an investor consists of the difference between its face value at the time of maturity and the price for which it was acquired, which is generally an amount significantly less than its face value. Investing in STRIPS may help to preserve capital during periods of declining interest rates. In anticipation of an interest rate decline, a Fund might purchase STRIPS, the value of which would be expected to increase when interest rates decline.

STRIPS do not entitle the holder to any periodic payments of interest prior to maturity. Accordingly, such securities usually trade at a deep discount from their face or par value and will be subject to greater fluctuations of market value in response to changing interest rates than debt obligations of comparable maturities that make periodic distributions of interest. On the other hand, because there are no periodic interest payments to be reinvested prior to maturity, STRIPS eliminate the reinvestment risk and lock in a rate of return to maturity. Current federal tax law requires that a holder of a STRIPS security accrue a portion of the discount at which the security was purchased as income each year even though the Fund received no interest payment in cash on the security during the year. Because interest on zero coupon securities is not distributed on a current basis but is, in effect, compounded, zero coupon securities tend to be subject to greater market risk than interest-paying securities with similar maturity and credit qualities.

Collateralized Mortgage Obligations and Other Mortgage-Related Securities. Collateralized mortgage obligations ("CMOs") are generally backed by mortgage pass-through securities or whole mortgage loans. CMOs are usually structured into classes of varying maturities and principal payment priorities. The prepayment sensitivity of each class may or may not resemble that of the CMOs' collateral depending on the maturity and structure of that class. CMOs pay interest and principal (including prepayments) monthly, quarterly or semiannually. Most CMOs are AAA rated, reflecting the credit quality of the underlying collateral; however, some classes carry greater price risk than that of their underlying collateral. The Adviser will invest in CMO classes only if their characteristics and interest rate sensitivity fit the investment objectives and policies of the investing Fund.

In addition to the mortgage pass-through securities and the CMOs mentioned above, a Fund may also invest in other mortgage derivative products if the Adviser views them to be consistent with the overall policies and objectives of the Fund. Current offerings include "principal only" (PO) and "interest only" (IO) Stripped Mortgage Backed Securities ("SMBS"). POs and IOs are created when a mortgage pass-through certificate is separated into two securities — one security representing a claim to principal distributions and the other representing a claim to the corresponding interest payments. As prepayments on the underlying mortgage loans rise (typically when interest rates fall), the PO security holders receive their principal sooner than expected, which serves to increase the POs' yield. The IO security holders receive interest payments only on the outstanding principal amount of the underlying mortgage loans. Therefore, if prepayments on the notional principal on the IO rise, the IO's price will fall. As POs generally benefit from

declining interest rates and IOs generally benefit from rising interest rates, these securities can provide an effective way to stabilize portfolio value.

SMBS are much more sensitive to prepayment fluctuations than are regular mortgage-backed securities and therefore involve more risk. Due to the deep discounted prices of SMBS, any mismatch in actual versus anticipated prepayments of principal will significantly increase or decrease the yield to maturity. In general, changes in interest rate levels will have the greatest effect on prepayments. Sufficiently high prepayments could result in purchasers of IOs not recovering the full amount of their initial investment.

The Adviser expects that governmental, government related, and private entities may create other mortgage-related securities offering mortgage pass-through and mortgage collateralized instruments in addition to those described herein. As new types of mortgage securities are developed and offered to the investment community, the Adviser may, consistent with the Fund's investment objectives, policies and quality standards, consider making investments in such new types of mortgage-related securities.

Asset-Backed Securities. The Balanced Income Fund may invest in asset-backed securities backed by various loans, such as automobile loans, home equity loans, credit card receivables, marine loans, recreational vehicle loans and manufactured housing loans. Typically, asset-backed securities represent undivided fractional interests in a pool whose assets consist of loans and security interests in the collateral securing the loans. Payments of principal and interest on asset-backed securities are passed through monthly to certificate holders. In some cases, asset-backed securities are divided into senior and subordinated classes so as to enhance the quality of the senior class. Underlying loans are subject to prepayment, which may reduce the overall return to certificate holders. If the subordinated classes are exhausted and the full amounts due on underlying loans are not received because of unanticipated costs, depreciation, damage or loss of the collateral securing the contracts, or other factors, certificate holders may experience delays in payment or losses on asset-backed securities. The Fund may invest in other asset-backed securities that may be developed in the future.

Variable and Floating Rate Securities. The Funds may invest in variable or floating rate securities which adjust the interest rate paid at periodic intervals based on an interest rate index. Typically, floating rate securities use as their benchmark an index such as the 1, 3 or 6-month Secured Overnight Financing Rate ("SOFR"), 3, 6 or 12-month Treasury bills, or the Federal Funds rate. Resets of the rates can occur at predetermined intervals or whenever changes in the benchmark index occur.

Forward Commitment and When-Issued Securities. A Fund may purchase securities on a when-issued basis or for settlement at a future date if the Fund holds sufficient assets to meet the purchase price. In such purchase transactions the Fund will not accrue interest on the purchased security until the actual settlement. Similarly, if a security is sold for a forward date, the Fund will accrue the interest until the settlement of the sale. When-issued security purchases and forward commitments have a higher degree of risk of price movement before settlement due to the extended time period between the execution and settlement of the purchase or sale. As a result, the exposure to the counterparty of the purchase or sale is increased. The Funds will purchase securities on a forward commitment or when-issued basis with the intention of taking delivery. Rule 18f-4 under the 1940 Act permits the Funds to invest in securities on a when-issued or forward-settling basis,

or with a non-standard settlement cycle, notwithstanding the limitation on the issuance of senior securities in Section 18 of the 1940 Act, provided that a Fund intends to physically settle the transaction and the transaction will settle within 35 days of its trade date (the "Delayed-Settlement Securities Provision"). A when-issued, forward-settling, or non-standard settlement cycle security that does not satisfy the Delayed-Settlement Securities Provision is treated as a derivatives transaction under Rule 18f-4.

**Municipal Bonds.** Municipal bonds are debt obligations issued by states, municipalities, and other political subdivisions, agencies, authorities, and instrumentalities of states and multi-state agencies or authorities (collectively, municipalities), the interest on which may be exempt from federal and/or state income tax. Municipal bonds include securities from a variety of sectors, each of which has unique risks. Municipal bonds include, but are not limited to, general obligation bonds, limited obligation bonds, and revenue bonds.

General obligation bonds are secured by the issuer's pledge of its full faith, credit, and taxing power for the payment of principal and interest. Limited obligation bonds are payable only from the revenues derived from a particular facility or class of facilities or, in some cases, from the proceeds of a special excise or other specific revenue source. Revenue or special tax bonds are payable only from the revenues derived from a particular facility or class of facilities or, in some cases, from the proceeds of a special excise or other tax, but not from general tax revenues. Revenue bonds involve the credit risk of the underlying project or enterprise (or its corporate user) rather than the credit risk of the issuing municipality.

Like other fixed income securities, municipal bonds are subject to credit risk, interest rate risk and call risk. Obligations of issuers of municipal bonds are generally subject to the provisions of bankruptcy, insolvency, and other laws affecting the rights and remedies of creditors. However, the obligations of certain issuers may not be enforceable through the exercise of traditional creditors' rights. The reorganization under the federal bankruptcy laws of a municipal bond issuer or payment obligor bonds may result in, among other things, the municipal bonds being cancelled without repayment or repaid only in part. In addition, lawmakers may seek to extend the time for payment of principal or interest, or impose other constraints upon enforcement of such obligations. Litigation and natural disasters, as well as adverse economic, business, legal, or political developments may introduce uncertainties in the market for municipal bonds or materially affect the credit risk of particular bonds. Certain municipalities of the United States and its territories are financially strained and may face the possibility of default on their debt obligations, which could directly or indirectly affect other municipal obligations.

# SHARES OF OTHER INVESTMENT COMPANIES

The Funds may invest in shares of other investment companies which may include open and closedend investment companies, shares of ETFs and shares of exchange-traded notes ("ETNs"). To the extent the Funds invest in securities of other investment companies, Fund shareholders would indirectly pay a portion of the operating costs of such companies. These costs include management, brokerage, shareholder servicing and other operational expenses. Indirectly, then, shareholders may pay higher operational costs than if they owned the underlying investment companies directly. Exchange-Traded Funds ("ETFs"). An ETF is an investment company registered under the 1940 Act that often holds a portfolio of securities designed to track the performance of a particular index. ETFs sell and redeem their shares at net asset value ("NAV") in large blocks (typically 50,000 of its shares) called "creation units." Shares representing fractional interests in these creation units are listed for trading on national securities exchanges and can be purchased and sold in the secondary market in lots of any size at any time during the trading day. Some ETFs are subject to percentage investment limitations imposed by the 1940 Act, except to the extent that investments in such ETFs are exempt from percentage limitations, pursuant to an SEC exemptive order, in which case they will not be subject to any such investment limitation. Investments in ETFs involve certain inherent risks generally associated with investments in a broadly-based portfolio of securities including: (1) risks that the general level of securities prices may decline, thereby adversely affecting the value of each unit of the ETF; (2) an ETF may not fully replicate the performance of its benchmark index because of the temporary unavailability of certain index securities in the secondary market or discrepancies between the ETF and the index with respect to the weighting of securities or number of securities held; (3) an ETF may also be adversely affected by the performance of the specific index, market sector or group of industries on which it is based; and (4) an ETF may not track an index as well as a traditional index fund because ETFs are valued by the market and, therefore, there may be a difference between the market value and the ETF's NAV.

**Exchange-Traded Notes.** ETNs are senior, unsecured, unsubordinated debt securities whose returns are linked to the performance of a particular market benchmark or strategy, minus applicable fees. ETNs are traded on an exchange (e.g., the NYSE) during normal trading hours; however, investors also can hold ETNs until they mature. At maturity, the issuer pays to the investor a cash amount equal to the principal amount, subject to the day's market benchmark or strategy factor. ETNs do not make periodic coupon payments or provide principal protection. ETNs are subject to credit risk, including the credit risk of the issuer, and the value of the ETN may drop due to a downgrade in the issuer's credit rating, despite the underlying market benchmark or strategy remaining unchanged. The value of an ETN also may be influenced by time to maturity, level of supply and demand for the ETN, volatility and lack of liquidity in underlying assets, changes in the applicable interest rates, changes in the issuer's credit rating, and economic, legal, political, or geographic events that affect the referenced underlying asset. When a Fund invests in ETNs, it will bear its proportionate share of any fees and expenses borne by the ETN. A decision by a Fund to sell ETN holdings may be limited by the availability of a secondary market. In addition, although an ETN may be listed on an exchange, the issuer may not be required to maintain the listing, and there can be no assurance that a secondary market will exist for an ETN

**iShares.** iShares Trust and iShares, Inc. ("iShares") are registered investment companies that consist of numerous separate series (each, an "iShares Fund"), each of which seeks investment results similar to the performance of a single stock market or a group of stock markets in a single geographic location. iShares combine characteristics of stocks with those of index funds. Like stocks, iShares are liquid and can be traded in any number of shares; like index funds, they provide diversification and market tracking. iShares trade on the Chicago Board of Options Exchange and the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") in the same way as shares of a publicly held company.

**Limitations on Investing in Other Investment Companies**. Generally, under the 1940 Act, a fund may not acquire shares of another investment company (including ETFs) if, immediately after such acquisition, (i) the fund would hold more than 3% of the other investment company's total outstanding shares, (ii) the fund's investment in securities of the other investment company would

be more than 5% of the value of the total assets of the fund, or (iii) more than 10% of the fund's total assets would be invested in investment companies. Under certain conditions, a fund may invest in registered and unregistered money market funds in excess of these limitations. Rule 12d1-4 under the 1940 Act allows, subject to certain conditions, the Funds (except the Core Leaders Fund) to invest in other registered investment companies and other registered investment companies to invest in the Funds beyond the limits contained in Section 12(d)(1) of the 1940 Act. Rule 12d1-4 generally requires a Fund to enter into a fund of funds investment agreement with the acquired fund and specifies certain reporting responsibilities of the Adviser. In accordance with Section 12(d)(1)(F)(i) of the 1940 Act, the Funds (except the Core Leaders Fund) may also invest in ETFs and in other investment companies in excess of these limits, as long as the Funds (and all of their affiliated persons, including the Adviser) do not acquire more than 3% of the total outstanding stock of such ETF or other investment company, unless otherwise permitted to do so pursuant to permission granted by the SEC. If a Fund seeks to redeem shares of an ETF or investment company purchased in reliance on Section 12(d)(1)(F), the ETF is not obligated to redeem an amount exceeding 1% of the ETF's outstanding shares during a period of less than 30 days.

#### OTHER INVESTMENTS AND RISK CONSIDERATIONS

Passive Foreign Investment Companies. Some securities of companies domiciled outside the U.S. in which the Funds may invest may be considered passive foreign investment companies ("PFICs") under U.S. tax laws. PFICs are foreign corporations which generate primarily passive income. Investing in PFICs involves the risks associated with investing in foreign securities, as described above. There is also the risk that a Fund may not realize that a foreign corporation it invests in is a PFIC for federal tax purposes. Federal tax laws impose severe tax penalties for failure to properly report investment income from PFICs. There can be no guarantee that a Fund's efforts to ensure compliance with federal tax reporting of PFIC investments will always be successful.

Special Purpose Acquisition Companies. A Fund may invest in stock, rights, warrants, and other securities of special purpose acquisition companies (SPACs) or similar special purpose entities. A SPAC is a publicly traded company that raises investment capital in the form of a blind pool via an initial public offering (IPO) for the purpose of acquiring or merging with an existing company. The shares of a SPAC are typically issued in "units" that include one share of common stock and one right or warrant (or partial right or warrant) conveying the right to purchase additional shares or partial shares. At a specified time following the IPO (generally 1-2 months), the rights and warrants may be separated from the common stock at the election of the holder, after which they become freely tradeable. After going public and until an acquisition is completed, a SPAC generally invests the proceeds of its IPO (less a portion retained to cover expenses), which are held in trust, in government securities, money market securities and cash. To the extent the SPAC is invested in cash or similar securities, this may impact a Fund's ability to meet its investment objective. If a SPAC does not complete an acquisition within a specified period of time after going public, the SPAC is dissolved, at which point the invested funds are returned to the SPAC's shareholders (less certain permitted expenses) and any rights or warrants issued by the SPAC expire worthless. Because SPACs and similar entities are in essence blank check companies without an operating history or ongoing business other than seeking acquisitions, the value of their securities is particularly dependent on the ability of the entity's management to identify a merger target and complete a profitable acquisition. Some SPACs may pursue acquisitions only within

certain industries or regions, which may increase the volatility of their prices. The securities issued by a SPAC, which are typically traded in the over-the-counter market, may be considered illiquid and/or be subject to restrictions on resale. In addition, investments in SPACs may be subject to the same risks as investing in any initial public offering, including the risks associated with companies that have little operating history as public companies, including unseasoned trading, small number of shares available for trading and limited information about the issuer. The Insider Buying Fund currently does not intend to invest in SPACs.

Master Limited Partnerships ("MLPs"). MLPs are formed as limited partnerships or limited liability companies and taxed as partnerships for federal income tax purposes. The securities issued by many MLPs are listed and traded on a U.S. exchange. An MLP typically issues general partner and limited partner interests or managed member and member interests. The general partner or managing member manages and often controls, has an ownership stake in, and may receive incentive distribution payments from, the MLP. The limited partners, or members, through their ownership of limited partner or member interests, provide capital to the entity, are intended to have no role in the operations and management of the entity and receive cash distributions.

The general partner or managing member may be structured as a private or publicly-traded corporation or other entity. Due to their structure as partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes and the expected character of their income, MLPs generally do not pay federal income taxes. Currently most MLPs operate in the midstream energy (oil and gas pipelines and storage) or real estate sectors. Equity securities issued by MLPs typically consist of common and subordinated units (which represent the limited partner or member interests) and a general partner or management member interest.

Repurchase Agreements. The Funds may acquire U.S. Government Securities subject to repurchase agreements. A repurchase transaction occurs when, at the time a Fund purchases a security, it also resells it to the vendor (normally a member bank of the Federal Reserve System or a registered Government Securities dealer). The Fund must deliver the securities (and/or securities substituted for them under the repurchase agreement) to the vendor on an agreed upon date in the future. Such securities, including any securities so substituted, are referred to as the "Repurchase Securities." The repurchase price exceeds the purchase price by an amount which reflects an agreed upon market interest rate effective for the period of time during which the repurchase agreement is in effect.

The majority of these transactions run day to day and the delivery pursuant to the resale typically will occur within one to five days of the purchase. The Funds' risk is limited to the ability of the vendor to pay the agreed upon sum upon the delivery date. In the event of bankruptcy or other default by the vendor, there may be possible delays and expenses in liquidating the instrument purchased, a decline in its value and loss of interest to the extent that the proceeds from the sale and accrued interest on the security are less than the resale price provided in the repurchase agreement. These risks are minimized when the Funds hold a perfected security interest in the Repurchase Securities and can therefore sell the instrument promptly. Under guidelines adopted by the Trustees, the Adviser will carefully consider the creditworthiness of a vendor during the term of the repurchase agreement. Repurchase agreements are considered as loans collateralized by the Repurchase Securities; such agreements being defined as "loans" under the 1940 Act. The return on such "collateral" may be more or less than that from the repurchase agreement. The market value of the resold securities will be monitored so that the value of the "collateral" is at all

times at least equal to the value of the loan, including the accrued interest earned thereon. All Repurchase Securities will be held by the Funds' custodian either directly or through a securities depository. Each Fund will not enter into a repurchase agreement which will cause more than 15% of its net assets to be invested in repurchase agreements that extend beyond seven days and other illiquid securities.

**Hybrid Securities.** A Fund may invest in hybrid securities, which generally combine both debt and equity characteristics. Types of hybrid securities include, without limitation, preferred stock, convertible securities, warrants, and capital securities. Typically, preferred stock has a specified dividend and ranks after an issuer's debt obligations but before common stocks in its claim on income for dividend payments and on assets should the company become subject to reorganization or liquidation. Preferred stock may be perpetual (i.e., have no maturity date) or have a long-dated maturity. A Fund may also invest in debt or preferred equity securities convertible into or exchangeable for equity securities. Traditionally, convertible securities have paid dividends or interest at rates higher than common stock dividend rates but lower than nonconvertible securities. They generally participate in the appreciation or depreciation of the underlying stock into which they are convertible, but to a lesser degree.

Hybrid securities are subject to many of the same risks that apply to equity and debt securities, but also have unique risk characteristics that depend on the type of hybrid security. Hybrid securities may include features such as deferrable and non-cumulative coupon payments, a long-dated maturity (or absence of maturity) and may include loss absorption provisions. This is particularly true in the financials sector. For example, a hybrid security may have a provision where the liquidation value of the security may be reduced in whole or in part upon a regulatory action or a reduction in the issuer's capital levels to below a specified threshold. This may occur, for example, in the event that business losses have eroded the issuer's capital base to a substantial extent. The downward adjustment to liquidation value may occur automatically without the need for a bankruptcy proceeding.

Warrants and Rights. Warrants are essentially options to purchase equity securities at a specific price during the life of the warrant and are valid for a specific period of time (generally two or more years). Prices of warrants do not necessarily move in concert with the prices of the underlying securities and can be volatile. Rights are similar to warrants but generally have a short duration and are distributed directly by the issuer to its shareholders. Rights and warrants have no voting rights, receive no dividends, and have no rights with respect to the assets of the issuer.

Money Market Instruments. Money market instruments may include shares of money market funds, U.S. Government Securities or corporate debt obligations (including those subject to repurchase agreements) as described herein, provided that they mature in thirteen months or less from the date of acquisition and are otherwise eligible for purchase by the Funds. Money market instruments also may include Bankers' Acceptances and Certificates of Deposit of domestic branches of U.S. banks, Commercial Paper and Variable Amount Demand Master Notes ("Master Notes"). Bankers' Acceptances are time drafts drawn on and "accepted" by a bank, which are the customary means of effecting payment for merchandise sold in import-export transactions and are a source of financing used extensively in international trade. When a bank "accepts" such a time draft, it assumes liability for its payment. When the Funds acquire a Bankers' Acceptance, the bank that "accepted" the time draft is liable for payment of interest and principal when due. The Bankers' Acceptance, therefore, carries the full faith and credit of such bank. A Certificate of Deposit

("CD") is an unsecured interest-bearing debt obligation of a bank. CDs acquired by the Funds would generally be in amounts of \$100,000 or more. Commercial Paper is an unsecured, short term debt obligation of a bank, corporation or other borrower. Commercial Paper maturity generally ranges from two to 270 days and is usually sold on a discounted basis rather than as an interest-bearing instrument. The Funds will invest in Commercial Paper only if it is rated in the highest rating category by NRSRO or, if not rated, the issuer has an outstanding unsecured debt issue rated in the three highest categories by any NRSRO or is of equivalent quality in the Adviser's assessment. Commercial Paper may include Master Notes of the same quality. Master Notes are unsecured obligations that are redeemable upon demand of the holder and permit the investment of fluctuating amounts at varying rates of interest. Master Notes are acquired by the Funds only through the Master Note program of the Funds' custodian, acting as administrator thereof. The Adviser will monitor, on a continuous basis, the earnings power, cash flow and other liquidity ratios of the issuer of a Master Note held by the Funds.

Writing Covered Call Options (Balanced Income Fund only). The Balanced Income Fund will only write and purchase options that are issued by the Options Clearing Corporation and listed on a national securities exchange. When the Adviser believes that individual portfolio securities held by the Fund are approaching the top of the Adviser's growth and price expectations, covered call options ("calls") may be written (sold) against such securities. When the Fund writes a call, it receives a premium and agrees to sell the underlying security to a purchaser of a corresponding call at a specified price ("strike price") by a future date ("exercise price"). To terminate its obligation on a call the Fund has written, it may purchase a corresponding call in a "closing purchase transaction." A profit or loss will be realized, depending upon whether the price of the closing purchase transaction is more or less than the premium (net of transaction costs) previously received on the call written. The Balanced Income Fund may realize a profit if the call it has written lapses unexercised, in which case the Fund keeps the premium and retains the underlying security as well. If a call written by the Balanced Income Fund is exercised, the Fund forgoes any possible profit from an increase in the market price of the underlying security over an amount equal to the exercise price plus the premium received. The Fund will write options only for income generation and hedging purposes and not for speculation.

Risks of Options Generally. The use of options requires special skills and knowledge of investment techniques that are different than those normally required for purchasing and selling securities. If the Adviser is incorrect in its price expectations and the market price of a security subject to a call option rises above the exercise price of the option, the Fund will lose the opportunity for further appreciation of that security, but continue to bear the risk of a decline in the value of the underlying stock. The price the Fund realizes from the sale of a stock option upon exercise of the option could be substantially below its prevailing market price. If a liquid market for an option does not exist, the Fund will not be able to sell the underlying security until the option expires or is exercised. The premiums received by the Fund for writing options may decrease as a result of certain factors, such as a reduction in interest rates, a decline in stock market volumes or a decrease in the price volatility of the underlying securities.

**Borrowing.** Each of the Core Leaders Fund and the Value & Income Fund may borrow, temporarily, up to 5% of its total assets for extraordinary or emergency purposes and may increase the limit to one-third of its total assets to meet redemption requests which might otherwise require untimely disposition of portfolio holdings. Each of the Core Leaders Fund and Value & Income Fund will not make any additional investments while its outstanding borrowings exceed 5% of the

current value of its total assets. Each of the Equity Opportunities Fund, Small Cap Focus Fund, Balanced Income Fund and Insider Buying Fund may borrow up to one-third of its total assets, including the amount of such borrowing, for extraordinary or emergency purposes or to meet redemption requests that might otherwise require untimely disposition of portfolio holdings. To the extent the Funds borrow for these purposes, the effects of market price fluctuations on NAV will be exaggerated. If, while such borrowing is in effect, the value of a Fund's assets declines, the Fund may be forced to liquidate portfolio securities when it is disadvantageous to do so. The Funds would incur interest and other transaction costs in connection with such borrowings.

Lending. Each Fund (except the Core Leaders Fund) has reserved the right to lend its securities to qualified broker-dealers, banks or other financial institutions. By lending its portfolio securities, a Fund would attempt to increase its income by receiving a fixed fee or a percentage of the collateral, in addition to continuing to receive the interest or dividends on the securities loaned. The terms, structure and aggregate amount of such loans would be consistent with the 1940 Act. The borrower would be required to secure any such loan with collateral in cash or cash equivalents maintained on a current basis in an amount at least equal to the total market value and accrued interest of the securities loaned by the Fund. If the borrower defaults on its obligation to return the securities lent because of insolvency or other reasons, a Fund could experience delays and costs in recovering the securities lent or in gaining access to the collateral. As part of participating in a lending program, a Fund will invest its cash collateral only in investments that are consistent with the investment objectives, principal investment strategies and investment policies of the Fund. If such investments lose value, a Fund will have to cover the loss when repaying the collateral. Any income or gains and losses from investing and reinvesting any cash collateral delivered by a borrower shall be at the Fund's risk.

**Inflation and Deflation.** The Funds may be subject to inflation and deflation risk. Inflation risk is the risk that the present value of assets or income of the Funds will be worth less in the future as inflation decreases the present value of money. The rate of inflation in many countries worldwide has increased recently due to supply chain disruptions, fiscal or monetary stimulus, energy price increases, wage inflation and the Russian invasion of Ukraine, among other factors. Although the Federal Reserve has raised the federal funds rate numerous times in an effort to control inflation, there is no guarantee that these actions will be effective. Unanticipated or persistent inflation may have a material and adverse impact on the financial condition or operating results of companies in which a Fund may invest, which may cause the value of the Fund's holdings in such companies to decline. In addition, higher interest rates that often accompany or follow periods of high inflation may cause investors to favor asset classes other than common stocks, which may lead to broader market declines not necessarily related to the performance of specific companies. Deflation risk is the risk that the prices of goods and services in the U.S. and many foreign economies may decline over time. Deflation may have an adverse effect on stock prices and the creditworthiness of issuers and may make defaults on debt more likely. If a country's economy slips into a deflationary pattern, it could last for a prolonged period and be difficult to reverse.

Commodity Exchange Act Regulation. The Adviser has claimed an exclusion from the definition of the term "commodity pool" under the Commodity Exchange Act ("CEA") and, therefore, is not subject to registration or regulation under the CEA. An adviser claiming the exclusion is limited in its ability to use certain derivatives, such as futures, certain options, and swaps, without the fund becoming subject to U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission

("CFTC") regulation. On an annual basis, the Adviser is required to reaffirm its eligibility to continue to claim the exclusion. If a Fund's use of derivatives would prevent the Adviser from claiming the exclusion (or any other exclusion or exemption available under CFTC regulations), then the Adviser may be subject to regulation as a commodity pool operator or commodity trading advisor with respect to the Fund, and the Fund may become subject to regulation by the CFTC. A Fund may incur additional expenses in complying with the CFTC's recordkeeping, reporting and disclosure requirements.

**Portfolio Turnover.** Portfolio turnover will not be a limiting factor when the Adviser deems changes appropriate. By utilizing the approach to investing described herein, it is expected that each Fund's annual portfolio turnover will generally not exceed 100%. Market conditions may dictate, however, a higher rate of portfolio turnover in a particular year. The degree of portfolio activity may have an impact on the total amount of taxable distributions to shareholders. Because all agency trades are expected to be executed through Pershing LLC at no charge to the Funds, the degree of portfolio turnover is not expected to affect the brokerage costs of the Funds. However, a Fund could potentially incur brokerage commissions at any time if the Adviser does not waive commissions or if Fund trades are placed through outside brokers.

Cybersecurity Risk. The Funds and their service providers may be prone to operational and information security risks resulting from cyber-attacks. Cyber-attacks include, among other behaviors, stealing or corrupting data maintained online or digitally, preventing legitimate users from accessing information or services on a website, releasing confidential information without authorization and causing operational disruption. Successful cyber-attacks affecting the Funds, the Adviser, custodian, transfer agent, intermediaries and other third-party service providers may adversely impact the Funds. For instance, cyber-attacks may interfere with the processing of shareholder transactions, impact the ability to calculate a Fund's NAV, cause the release of private shareholder information or confidential business information, impede trading, subject a Fund to regulatory fines, financial losses, additional compliance costs associated with corrective measures and/or cause reputational damage. Cyber-attacks may render records of a Fund's assets or transactions, shareholder ownership of Fund shares and other data integral to the functioning of a Fund inaccessible, inaccurate or incomplete. There is no guarantee that efforts designed to reduce the risks associated with cybersecurity will succeed, especially since there are inherent limitations in the efforts, including that certain risks have not been identified, given the evolving nature of this threat. The Funds rely on third party service providers for many of their daily operations and are subject to the risk that the protections and protocols implemented by those service providers will be ineffective to protect the Funds from cyber-attacks. Similar types of cyber security risk are also present for the issuers of securities in which the Funds invest, which could result in material adverse consequences for such issuers and may cause a Fund's investment in such securities to lose value. The use of cloud-based technology and work-from-home arrangements may increase the overall risks of cybersecurity attacks, while recent geopolitical tensions may increase the scale and sophistication of deliberate cybersecurity attacks.

Market Events and Global Economic Risks. General economic and financial conditions and events in particular countries or geographic regions may adversely impact the prices of securities held by a Fund. Global economies and financial markets are increasingly interconnected, which increases the possibility that conditions in one country or region might adversely impact issuers in, or foreign exchange rates with, a different country or region. In addition, investments in securities of U.S. companies may create indirect exposure to non-U.S. markets if the issuer of the security is exposed

to non-U.S. markets, conducts business in, or relies upon suppliers from non-U.S. markets. The severity and duration of adverse economic conditions may also be affected by policy changes made by governments or quasi-governmental organizations. The imposition of sanctions by the U.S. or another government or country could cause disruptions to the country's financial system and economy, which could negatively impact the value of securities issued by that country.

Geopolitical and other risks, including war, terrorism, social unrest, trade disputes, political or economic dysfunction within some nations, public health crises and related geopolitical events, as well as environmental disasters such as earthquakes, fires, and floods, may add to instability in world economies and markets generally. The health crisis caused by the coronavirus outbreak has exacerbated other pre-existing political, social, and economic risks in certain countries and has negatively affected the global economy, the economics of individual countries, and the markets in general, in significant and unforeseen ways. Although the immediate effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, such as business closures, layoffs, travel restrictions, quarantines, and delays in the delivery of health care services, have dissipated, global markets and economies continue to contend with the ongoing and long-term impact of the pandemic and the resultant economic disruptions. Moreover, proposed and adopted policy and legislative changes in the U.S. have changed and may continue to change many aspects of financial, public health, environmental and other regulations. U.S. and global markets also experienced increased volatility as a result of financial difficulties and, in some cases, failures of certain U.S. and non-U.S. banks in March 2023. Any bank failures in the future could reduce confidence in financial institutions and the economy as a whole, heighten market volatility, reduce liquidity, increase the cost of banking services, or result in issuers in which a Fund invests being unable to obtain or refinance indebtedness, at all, or on as favorable terms as could otherwise have been obtained. These events, as well as other changes in foreign and domestic political and economic conditions could adversely affect individual issuers or related groups of issuers, securities markets, interest rates, secondary trading, credit ratings, inflation, investor sentiment, and other factors affecting the value of a Fund's investments.

Various countries have recently seen significant internal conflicts and in some cases, civil wars and new disturbances due to acts of war or other political developments, including the armed conflicts among Israel, Hamas and other militant groups in the Middle East, and Russia's invasion of Ukraine in Europe. The responses and sanctions by the United States and other countries following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, and the potential for wider conflict have had, and could continue to have, severe adverse effects on regional and global economic markets for securities and commodities. The ban on oil and other energy imports from Russia by the U.S. and other countries has put Russia's economy into a recession. The duration of ongoing hostilities and the vast array of sanctions and related events cannot be predicted.

In addition to financial market volatility, reduced liquidity in the credit and fixed-income markets may adversely affect many issuers worldwide. This reduced liquidity may cause issuers to have more difficulty obtaining financing, which may cause a decline in their stock prices. Actions taken by the U.S. Federal Reserve or foreign central banks to stimulate or stabilize economic growth, such as decreases or increases in short-term interest rates, or interventions in currency markets, could cause high volatility in the equity and fixed-income markets. In 2022, the Federal Reserve raised interest rates and began a quantitative tightening program to reduce its U.S. treasury and mortgage-backed securities holdings in order to reduce the excessive liquidity in the banking system. The impact of quantitative tightening or future interest rate increases by the Federal

Reserve could cause markets to experience high volatility. These events and possible continuing market volatility may have an adverse effect on a Fund, including making it more difficult for the Fund to accurately value its securities or to sell its securities on a timely basis.

#### **INVESTMENT LIMITATIONS**

The Funds have adopted certain fundamental investment limitations designed to reduce the risk of an investment in the Funds. These limitations may not be changed with respect to any Fund without the affirmative vote of a majority of the outstanding voting shares of such Fund. For purposes of the discussion of these fundamental investment limitations, the term "majority" of the outstanding shares of a Fund means the lesser of (i) 67% of the Fund's outstanding shares represented in person or by proxy at a meeting at which more than 50% of its outstanding shares are represented, or (ii) more than 50% of the Fund's outstanding shares.

Under these fundamental limitations, the Core Leaders Fund may not:

- (1) Invest more than 5% of the value of its total assets in the securities of any one corporate issuer or purchase more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities or of any class of securities of any one corporate issuer;
- (2) Invest 25% or more of the value of its total assets in any one industry (except that securities of the U.S. Government, its agencies and instrumentalities are not subject to these limitations);
- (3) Invest for the purpose of exercising control or management of another issuer;
- (4) Invest in interests in real estate, real estate mortgage loans, oil, gas or other mineral exploration or development programs, except that the Fund may invest in the securities of companies (other than those which are not readily marketable) which own or deal in such things, and the Fund may invest in mortgage-backed securities;
- (5) Underwrite securities issued by others, except to the extent the Fund may be deemed to be an underwriter under the federal securities laws in connection with the disposition of portfolio securities;
- (6) Purchase securities on margin (but the Fund may obtain such short-term credits as may be necessary for the clearance of transactions);
- (7) Make short sales of securities or maintain a short position, except short sales "against the box" (A short sale is made by selling a security the Fund does not own. A short sale is "against the box" to the extent that the Fund contemporaneously owns or has the right to obtain at no added cost securities identical to those sold short.);
- (8) Make loans of money or securities, except that the Fund may invest in repurchase agreements;
- (9) Write, purchase or sell commodities, commodities contracts, commodities futures contracts, warrants on commodities or related options;

- (10) Issue any senior security as defined by the Investment Company Act of 1940 except insofar as any borrowing that the Fund may engage in may be deemed to be an issuance of a senior security;
- (11) Borrow money or pledge its assets, except that it may borrow from banks as a temporary measure (a) for extraordinary or emergency purposes, in amounts not exceeding 5% of the Fund's total assets, or (b) in order to meet redemption requests which might otherwise require untimely disposition of portfolio securities if, immediately after such borrowing, the value of the Fund's assets, including all borrowings then outstanding, less its liabilities (excluding all borrowings), is equal to at least 300% of the aggregate amount of borrowings then outstanding, and may pledge its assets to secure all such borrowings;
- (12) Invest in restricted securities, or invest more than 15% of the Fund's net assets in other illiquid securities, including repurchase agreements maturing in over seven days, and other securities for which there is no established market or for which market quotations are not readily available;
- Write, acquire or sell puts, calls or combinations thereof, or purchase or sell commodities, commodities contracts, futures contracts or related options; or
- (14) Purchase securities of other investment companies, except through purchases in the open market involving only customary brokerage commissions and as a result of which not more than 5% of the Fund's total assets would be invested in such securities, or except as part of a merger, consolidation or other acquisition.

## Under these fundamental limitations, the Value & Income Fund may not:

- (1) Purchase securities which would cause 25% or more of the value of its total assets at the time of purchase to be invested in the securities of one or more issuers conducting their principal business activities in the same industry (except that such limitation does not apply to securities of the U.S. Government, its agencies and instrumentalities).
- (2) With respect to 75% of its total assets, invest more than 5% of the value of its total assets in the securities of any one issuer or purchase more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of any one issuer (except that such limitation does not apply to securities of the U.S. Government, its agencies and instrumentalities and securities of other investment companies).
- (3) Borrow money or pledge its assets, except that it may borrow from banks as a temporary measure (a) for extraordinary or emergency purposes, in amounts not exceeding 5% of the Fund's total assets, or (b) in order to meet redemption requests which might otherwise require untimely disposition of portfolio securities if, immediately after such borrowing, the value of the Fund's assets, including all borrowings then outstanding, less its liabilities (excluding all borrowings), is equal to at least 300% of the aggregate amount of borrowings then outstanding, and may pledge its assets to secure all such borrowings;

- (4) Make loans to other persons except (i) by the purchase of a portion of an issue of bonds, debentures or other debt securities; (ii) by lending portfolio securities in an amount not to exceed 331/3% of the value of its total assets; and (iii) by entering into repurchase agreements.
- (5) Underwrite securities of other issuers, except to the extent that the disposition of portfolio securities, either directly from an issuer or from an underwriter for an issuer, may be deemed to be an underwriting under the federal securities laws.
- (6) Purchase securities of companies for the purpose of exercising control.
- (7) Purchase or sell real estate, except that the Fund may invest in securities of companies that invest in real estate or interests therein and in securities that are secured by real estate or interests therein.
- (8) Purchase or sell commodities or commodities contracts, except that the Fund may purchase and sell futures contracts and options thereon.
- (9) Issue any senior security as defined by the Investment Company Act of 1940 except insofar as any borrowing that the Fund may engage in may be deemed to be an issuance of a senior security;

# Under these fundamental limitations, the Equity Opportunities Fund, the Small Cap Focus Fund, the Balanced Income Fund and the Insider Buying Fund may not:

- (1) Engage in borrowing except as permitted by the 1940 Act, any rules and regulations promulgated thereunder or interpretations of the SEC or its staff;
- (2) Issue senior securities. This limitation is not applicable to activities that may be deemed to involve the issuance or sale of a senior security by a Fund, provided that the Fund's engagement in such activities is consistent with or permitted by the 1940 Act, the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder or interpretations of the SEC or its staff.
- (3) Purchase or sell commodities unless acquired as a result of ownership of securities or other investments to the extent permitted under the 1940 Act and the regulations of any other agency with authority over the Fund. This limitation does not preclude the Fund from purchasing or selling options or futures contracts, from investing in securities or other instruments backed by commodities or from investing in companies that are engaged in a commodities business or have a significant portion of their assets in commodities;
- (4) Invest more than 25% of its total assets in a particular industry or group of industries. This limitation is not applicable to investments in obligations issued or guaranteed by the U.S. government, its agencies and instrumentalities or repurchase agreements with respect thereto, or investments in other investment companies;
- (5) Purchase or sell real estate directly. This limitation is not applicable to investments in marketable securities which are secured by or represent interests in real estate. This

limitation does not preclude the Fund from holding or selling real estate acquired as a result of the Fund's ownership of securities or other instruments, investing in mortgage-related securities or investing in companies engaged in the real estate business or that have a significant portion of their assets in real estate (including real estate investment trusts).

- (6) Act as underwriter of securities issued by other persons. This limitation is not applicable to the extent that, in connection with the disposition of portfolio securities (including restricted securities), the Fund may be deemed an underwriter under certain federal securities laws or in connection with investments in other investment companies;
- (7) Make loans to other persons, except (a) by loaning portfolio securities, (b) by engaging in repurchase agreements, (c) by purchasing non-publicly offered debt securities, (d) by purchasing commercial paper, or (e) by entering into any other lending arrangement permitted by the 1940 Act, any rules and regulations promulgated thereunder or interpretations of the SEC or its staff. For purposes of this limitation, the term "loans" shall not include the purchase of a portion of an issue of publicly distributed bonds, debentures or other debt securities.

Percentage restrictions stated as an investment policy or investment limitation apply at the time of investment; if a later increase or decrease in percentage beyond the specified limits results from a change in securities values or total assets, it will not be considered a violation. In the case of the borrowing limitations above, each Fund will, to the extent necessary, reduce its existing borrowings (within 3 days, excluding Sundays and holidays) to comply with the limitation.

While the Core Leaders Fund has reserved the right to make short sales "against the box" (limitation number 7, above), the Adviser has no present intention of engaging in such transactions at this time or during the coming year.

#### TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS

Overall responsibility for the oversight of each series, or funds, of the Trust rests with the Board under the 1940 Act and laws of Massachusetts governing business trusts. The Trustees serve until their retirement at age 75, subject to periodic review, and the officers are elected annually by the Trustees. The following is a list of the Trustees and executive officers of the Trust. John P. Ackerly, IV as an affiliated person of an investment adviser to the Trust, is an "interested person" of the Trust within the meaning of Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act ("Interested Trustees"). The Trustees who are not affiliated with an investment adviser or the principal underwriter of the Trust are referred to as the "Independent Trustees."

				Number of
			Principal Occupation(s)	Portfolios
			and Directorships	in Trust
	Length of	Position(s) Held	of Various Companies	Overseen
Name, Address and Age	Time Served	with Trust	During Past 5 Years	by Trustee
<b>Interested Trustee:</b>				
John P. Ackerly, IV	Since	Trustee;	Senior Vice President, Director and member of	9
One James Center	July 2012	President of	the Executive Committee of the Adviser.	
901 E. Cary Street		The Davenport		
Richmond, Virginia 23219		Funds		
Year of Birth: 1963				

Independent Trustees:				
Robert S. Harris, Ph. D. c/o Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450 Cincinnati, Ohio 45246 Year of Birth: 1949	·	Trustee	C. Stewart Sheppard Professor of Business Administration at The Darden Graduate School of Business Administration at the University of Virginia; consultant to corporations and government agencies.	
George K. Jennison c/o Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450 Cincinnati, Ohio 45246 Year of Birth: 1957	Since January 2015	Trustee	Retired. He was President of Oyster Consulting (a management consulting firm to the financial services industry) from December 2014 until May 2019.	
Harris V. Morrissette c/o Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450 Cincinnati, Ohio 45246 Year of Birth: 1959	Since March 1993	Trustee	President of China Doll Rice and Beans, Inc. and Dixie Lily Foods. Director of Trustmark Corporation (bank holding company), White-Spunner Construction and Royal Cup Coffee and Tea.	
Elizabeth W. Robertson c/o Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450 Cincinnati, Ohio 45246 Year of Birth: 1953 Executive Officers:	Since February 2014	Trustee	Trustee of TowneBank Foundation and Community Board since 2015. Chief Financial Officer for Monument Restaurants LLC (restaurant franchisees) from 2011 until her retirement in 2018.	
Margaret H. Alves 210 St. Joseph Street Mobile, Alabama 36602 Year of Birth: 1972	Since February 2006	Vice President of The Government Street Funds	J	
Michael J. Nanosky 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450 Cincinnati, Ohio 45246 Year of Birth: 1966	Since March 2020	Chief Compliance Officer	Senior Compliance Officer of Northern Lights Compliance Services, LLC (the Trust's compliance service provider) since January 2020; Chief Compliance Officer for the PNC Funds from 2014 until 2019.	
Charles M. Caravati, III 1802 Bayberry Court, Suite 400 Richmond, Virginia 23226 Year of Birth: 1965	Since January 1996	President of The Jamestown Equity Fund	Managing Director of Brockenbrough	
Timothy S. Healey 2712 18 <sup>th</sup> Place South Birmingham, Alabama 35209 Year of Birth: 1953	Since January 1995	Vice President of The Government Street Funds	Portfolio Manager. Member of Executive Committee, Chief Investment Officer and Director of Leavell Investment Management, Inc. from 2006 until 2022.	
David K. James 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450 Cincinnati, Ohio 45246 Year of Birth: 1970	Since November 2018	Secretary	Executive Vice President and Chief Legal and Risk Officer of Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC and a member of the board of managers of Ultimus Fund Distributors, LLC, the Trust's distributor, Northern Lights Distributors, LLC and Northern Lights Compliance Services, LLC, each an affiliate of Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC (2018 to present).	
Thomas W. Leavell 210 St. Joseph Street Mobile, Alabama 36602 Year of Birth: 1943	Since February 2004	President of The Government Street Funds	Portfolio Manager of Leavell Investment Management, Director of Leavell Investment Management, Inc. of August 2016 and President and Chief Executive Officer of January 2014.	until

Alison S. Crowder	Since	Vice President of	Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer of the
One James Center	June	The Davenport	Davenport Asset Management Division of the Adviser since
901 E. Cary Street	2022	Funds	June 2022; Chief Compliance Officer and Controller of
Richmond, Virginia 23219			Barrett Capital Management, LLC from 2016 until 2022.
Year of Birth: 1974			
David Lyons	Since	Vice President of	Managing Director, Chief Operating Officer, and Chief
1802 Bayberry Court, Suite 400	January 2021	The Jamestown	Compliance Officer of Brockenbrough.
Richmond, Virginia 23226		Equity Fund	
Year of Birth: 1965			
Mark J. Seger	Since	Treasurer	Vice Chairman of Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC.
225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450	November		
Cincinnati, Ohio 45246	2000		
Year of Birth: 1962			
George L. Smith, III	Since	Vice President of	Managing Director and Director of the Adviser
One James Center	February 2011	The Davenport	
901 E. Cary Street		Funds	
Richmond, Virginia 23219			
Year of Birth: 1975			
Carly Carmichael	Since	Vice President of	Relationship Manager/Vice President of the Adviser since
One James Center	August 2024	The Davenport	April 2022. She previously served as Trader/Vice President
901 E. Cary Street		Funds	of the Adviser from March 2021 until April 2022 and
Richmond, Virginia 23219			Trader/Associate Vice President of the Adviser from
Year of Birth: 1990			January 2018 until March 2021.

**Trustees' Ownership of Fund Shares.** The following table shows each Trustee's beneficial ownership of shares of the Funds and, on an aggregate basis, of shares of all funds within the complex overseen by the Trustee. Information is provided as of December 31, 2023.

	Dollar Range	Aggregate Dollar Range of
	of Shares of the Funds	Shares of All Funds in Trust
Name of Trustee	Owned by Trustee	Overseen by Trustee
Interested Trustee:		
John P. Ackerly, IV	Core Leaders Fund: Over \$100,000	Over \$100,000
	Value & Income Fund: Over \$100,000	
	Small Cap Focus Fund: Over \$100,000	
	Balanced Income Fund: Over \$100,000	
	Equity Opportunities Fund: \$10,001 - \$50,000	
	Insider Buying Fund: \$10,001 - \$50,000	
Independent Trustees:		
Robert S. Harris	Core Leaders Fund: \$10,001 - \$50,000	\$50,001 - \$100,000
George K. Jennison	None	None
Harris V. Morrissette	Core Leaders Fund: Over \$100,000	Over \$100,000
	Value & Income Fund: \$50,001 - \$100,000	
	Equity Opportunities Fund: Over \$100,000	
Elizabeth W. Robertson	Core Leaders Fund: \$50,001 - \$100,000	Over \$100,000
	Value & Income Fund: \$50,001 - \$100,000	
	Equity Opportunities Fund: Over \$100,000	
	Small Cap Focus Fund: \$10,001-\$50,000	

As of July 2, 2024, the Trustees and officers of the Trust as a group owned beneficially (i.e., had voting and/or investment power) less than 1% of the outstanding shares of each Fund.

Trustee Compensation. No director, officer or employee of an investment adviser or principal underwriter of the Trust will receive any compensation from the Trust for serving as an officer or Trustee of the Trust. Effective April 1, 2024, each Independent Trustee receives from the Trust an annual retainer of \$41,000, payable quarterly; a fee of \$2,000 for attendance at each meeting of the Board (except the fee is \$3,000 for each meeting attended by the Chairman of the Board); and \$1,000 for attendance at each meeting of any committee of the Board (except the fee is \$1,500 for the committee chair); plus reimbursement of travel and other expenses incurred in attending meetings. The allocation of the quarterly retainer paid to each Independent Trustee is based on the size of the fund (\$5,000 per fund for funds with more than \$100 million in net assets and \$4,000 per fund for funds with less than \$100 million in assets) and the meeting fees are split equally among all funds in the Trust. Prior to April 1, 2024, each Independent Trustee received a quarterly retainer of \$30,000 and the same meeting attendance fees that are currently in effect, all of which were split equally among each series in the Trust.

The following table shows the compensation paid to the Independent Trustees during the March 31, 2024 fiscal year.

	Aggregate	Pension or	Estimated	Total
	Compensation	Retirement	Annual	Compensation
	From	Benefits	Benefits Upon	From all Funds
Trustee	the Funds	Accrued	Retirement	within the Trust
Robert S. Harris	\$ 28,195	None	None	\$ 49,000
George K. Jennison	26,764	None	None	47,000
Harris V. Morrissette	26,167	None	None	45,000
Elizabeth W. Robertson	26,729	None	None	46,500

#### **Leadership Structure and Qualifications of Trustees**

The Board consists of five Trustees, four of whom are Independent Trustees. The Board is responsible for overseeing the operations of the Trust, its investment advisers and other service providers in accordance with the 1940 Act, other applicable federal and state laws, and the Trust's Agreement and Declaration of Trust. The Board has engaged the investment advisers to oversee the management of the funds on a day-to-day basis.

The Board meets in person or by telephone at regularly scheduled meetings four times throughout the year and may also meet in person or by telephone at special meetings or on an informal basis, as needed. The Independent Trustees meet without the presence of any representatives of management at their regularly scheduled meetings. The Board has established two standing committees to help ensure that the Funds have effective and independent governance and oversight. The Board may also establish ad hoc committees or working groups from time to time to assist the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities. The Independent Trustees have also engaged independent legal counsel, and may from time to time engage consultants and other advisors to assist them in performing their oversight responsibilities.

The Board is led by its Chairman, Dr. Robert S. Harris. As Chairman, Dr. Harris has primary responsibility for setting the agenda for each Board meeting, presiding at each Board meeting and acting as the Board's liaison with the investment advisers. The Board reviews its structure regularly and believes that its leadership structure, including having a majority of Independent Trustees, coupled with the responsibilities undertaken by Dr. Harris as Chairman, is appropriate and in the best interests of the Trust, given its specific characteristics. These characteristics include having a structure consisting of three distinct fund complexes, each having its own investment adviser and compliance officer at the fund complex level. The Board also believes its leadership structure facilitates the orderly and efficient flow of information to the Independent Trustees from Fund management.

**Board Committees.** The Board has established an Audit Committee and a Governance, Nomination, Compensation and Qualified Legal Compliance Committee (the "Governance Committee"). The members of each Committee are the four Independent Trustees: Robert S. Harris, George K. Jennison, Harris V. Morrissette and Elizabeth W. Robertson. Elizabeth W. Robertson serves as the Chair of the Audit Committee and George Jennison serves as Chair of the Governance Committee. The Chair position for each Committee may be rotated periodically. Each Committee Chair has primary responsibility for setting the agendas and presides at all meetings of the Committee for which he or she serves as Chair. Each Committee Chair facilitates communications and coordination between the Independent Trustees and management with respect to the matters overseen by that Committee.

# Audit Committee

The Audit Committee (i) oversees the Trust's accounting and financial reporting policies and practices, its internal controls and, as appropriate in its judgment, the internal controls of certain service providers; (ii) oversees the quality and objectivity of the financial statements of each of the Funds and the independent audits thereof; (iii) acts as liaison between the Trust's independent registered public accounting firm and the full Board; (iv) pre-approves the scope and cost of the audit and non-audit services provided by the Trust's independent registered public accounting firm; and (v) resolves any issues arising under the Trust's Code of Ethics for Principal Executive and Senior Financial Officers. The Audit Committee met three times during the fiscal year ended March 31, 2024.

# Governance Committee

The Governance Committee is responsible for (i) selecting and nominating persons to serve as Independent Trustees; (ii) determining the level of compensation for the Independent Trustees; (iii) reviewing information relating to the investment advisory, underwriting and other contracts with third party service providers and making recommendations to the Board; (iv) monitoring the activities of the Trust's Chief Compliance Officer ("CCO") and making recommendations to the Board with respect to the compliance policies and procedures of the Trust and its service providers; (v) reviewing the responsibilities of the committees of the Board and evaluating whether there is a need for additional or combined committees; (vi) evaluating the performance of the Board; and (vii) receiving and investigating reports from attorneys representing the Trust of material violations of securities laws, a material breach of fiduciary duty or a similar material violation. The Governance Committee will review shareholder recommendations for nominations to fill vacancies on the Board if such recommendations are submitted in writing, addressed to the Committee at the Trust's offices and meet any minimum qualifications that may be adopted by the Committee. The Governance Committee met four times during the fiscal year ended March 31, 2024.

Qualifications of the Trustees. The Governance Committee reviews the experience, qualifications, attributes, and skills of potential candidates for nomination or election by the Board. In evaluating a candidate for nomination or election as a Trustee, the Committee takes into account the contribution that the candidate would be expected to make to the diverse mix of experience, qualifications, attributes and skills that the Committee believes contribute to good governance for the Trust. In addition, the Trustees are subject to periodic evaluation for their continued service on the Board. On a staggered three-year basis, members of the Governance Committee review the qualifications of each Trustee, evaluate his or her contributions to the Board and make a recommendation as to whether such Trustee should continue to serve on the Board. The Board has concluded, based on each Trustee's experience, qualifications, attributes, or skills on an individual basis and in combination with the other members of the Board, that each Trustee is qualified to serve on the Board. The Board believes that the Trustees' ability to review critically, evaluate, question and discuss information provided to them; to interact effectively with the investment advisers, other service providers, legal counsel and independent public accountants; and to exercise effective business judgment in the performance of their duties as Trustees, support this conclusion. In determining that a particular Trustee is and will continue to be qualified to serve as a Trustee, the Board considers a variety of criteria, none of which, in isolation, is controlling.

#### **Interested Trustee:**

# Mr. John Ackerly, IV

Mr. John Ackerly, IV is a Senior Vice President and member of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors of Davenport & Company, the investment adviser to the Davenport Funds. Prior to joining Davenport & Company in 1994, he worked as a portfolio manager for Central Fidelity Bank. He is President of the Davenport Funds and past president of the Richmond Society of Financial Analysts. Mr. Ackerly earned an undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia and an M.B.A degree from Virginia Commonwealth University. He is a Chartered Financial Analyst and has over 30 years of experience in the investment management profession. He has served as a Trustee since 2012. The Board has concluded that Mr. Ackerly is suitable to serve as a Trustee because of his past service and experience as a Trustee, his professional investment and business experience and his academic background.

## **Independent Trustees:**

# Dr. Robert S. Harris

Dr. Robert S. Harris, Ph.D. is the C. Stewart Sheppard Professor of Business at The Darden Graduate School of Business Administration at the University of Virginia where from 2001 until 2005, he served as Dean. Dr. Harris teaches courses in financial management and policies and valuation in financial markets. His research has focused on corporate finance, financial market analysis and mergers and acquisitions. He has been widely published in leading academic and practitioner journals and has authored financial textbooks. Dr. Harris has been an active consultant and advisor to corporations and government agencies and has held a range of offices in professional societies. He previously served as Chief Learning Officer and Vice President of United Technologies Corporation. Dr. Harris earned a B.A. degree (summa cum laude) from Davidson College and a doctorate in economics from Princeton University. He

	has served as a Trustee of the Trust since 2007. The Board has concluded that Dr. Harris is suitable to serve as a Trustee because of his past service and experience as a Trustee of the Trust, his distinguished academic background and positions of leadership, and his business experience.
Mr. George K. Jennison	Mr. George K. Jennison has over 30 years' experience managing trading and execution platforms and integrating capital markets services into retail brokerage and clearing firm sales channels. He worked at Oyster Consulting (a provider of audit, compliance, financial, operations, technology, trading and strategic management consulting to financial service firms) from 2013 until his retirement in 2019, where he last served as President. Mr. Jennison began his career as a NASDAQ trader at Robinson-Humphrey Company where he specialized in bank stocks and convertible securities. Later, he served as a Senior Vice President at Shearson Lehman where he was responsible for managing the Financial Institutions NASDAQ Group and then became the Managing Director, Head of NASDAQ Trading at Wheat First Securities. From 2009 until 2012, he was Senior Managing Director, head of the Equity Services Group at Wachovia Securities, where he was responsible for managing the equity trading platform for the firm's retail brokerage, clearing and managed accounts. Mr. Jennison has served on a number of investment industry committees as well as capital commitment committees for several foundations and investment firms. He earned his B.A. degree in Economics and Management Services from Duke University and attended the Executive Program at the University of Virginia Darden School of Business. He has served as a Trustee of the Trust since 2015. The Board has concluded that Mr. Jennison is suitable to serve as a Trustee because of his professional investment and business experience, leadership positions and academic background.
Mr. Harris V. Morrissette	Mr. Harris V. Morrissette has served as president and chief executive officer of several privately held businesses and currently is President of China Doll Rice & Beans Inc. and Dixie Lily Foods. He serves as a director of Trustmark Corporation (a bank holding company), White-Spunner Construction, Inc. and Royal Cup Coffee and Tea. He previously served as a director of EnergySouth, Inc. until its merger with Sempra Energy in 2008; chairman of Azalea Aviation, Inc. (airplane fueling) until 2013; and International Shipholding Corporation (cargo transportation) until 2017. He is a board member of a number of not-for-profit organizations, among them the Economic Development Partnership of Alabama and the University of Alabama System. Mr. Morrissette holds a B.S. degree from The University of Alabama. He has served as a Trustee of the Trust since 1993. The Board has concluded that Mr. Morrissette is suitable to serve as a Trustee because of his past service and experience as a Trustee of the Trust, his extensive business experience, and his service on other boards.
Ms. Elizabeth W. Robertson	Ms. Elizabeth W. Robertson served as Chief Financial Officer of Monument Restaurants LLC (restaurant franchises) and was employed by Monument Restaurants from 2011 until her retirement in 2018. She previously served as Chief Financial Officer for the Virginia Resources Authority (municipal bond authority) and a Senior Manager at KPMG (public accounting firm) where she specialized in audit and SEC reporting services for financial institutions. Ms.

Robertson has served as a Trustee of TowneBank Foundation, TowneBank Corporate Board, TowneBank Community Board and an Audit Committee

Chair of TowneBank since 2015. She was a director of Franklin Financial Corporation from 1996 until 2014. She previously performed accounting and tax services for small businesses and individuals on a part-time basis and is a board member of a number of not-for-profit organizations, including the Richmond Ballet and the St. Andrew's School Foundation. She holds a B.S. degree from the University of Virginia McIntire School of Commerce and earned her Certified Public Accountant designation in 1975. The Board has concluded that Ms. Robertson is suitable to serve as a Trustee because of her business experience and expertise in accounting matters and her leadership positions and service on other boards.

**Risk Oversight.** An integral part of the Board's overall responsibility for overseeing the management and operations of the Trust is the Board's oversight of the risk management of the Trust's investment programs and business affairs. The funds are subject to a number of risks, such as investment risk, credit risk, valuation risk, operational risk, and legal, compliance and regulatory risk. The Trust, the investment advisers, and the other service providers have implemented various processes, procedures and controls to identify risks to the funds, to lessen the probability of their occurrence and to mitigate any adverse effect should they occur. Different processes, procedures and controls are employed with respect to different types of risks. These systems include those that are embedded in the conduct of the regular operations of the Board and in the regular responsibilities of the officers of the Trust and the other service providers.

The Board exercises oversight of the risk management process through the Board itself and through the various committees. In addition to adopting, and periodically reviewing, policies and procedures designed to address risks to the funds, the Board requires management of the investment advisers and the Trust, including the Trust's CCO, to report to the Board and the committees on a variety of matters, including matters relating to risk management, at regular meetings. The Board and the committees receive regular reports from the Trust's independent public accountants on internal control and financial reporting matters. On at least an annual basis, the Independent Trustees meet separately with the Trust's CCO outside the presence of management, to discuss issues related to compliance. Furthermore, the Board receives a quarterly report from the Trust's CCO regarding the operation of the compliance policies and procedures of the Trust and its primary service providers. The Trust's CCO is supported by three compliance officers who serve at the fund complex level. The Board also receives quarterly reports from the investment advisers on the investment performance of the funds and the valuation of the funds' securities. In addition, in its annual review of the advisory agreements for the Trust, the Board reviews information provided by the investment advisers relating to their operational capabilities, financial condition and resources. The Board also conducts an annual self-evaluation that includes a review of its effectiveness in overseeing the number of funds in the Trust and the effectiveness of its committee structure.

Although the risk management policies of the investment advisers and the Trust's other service providers are designed to be effective, those policies and their implementation vary among service providers and there is no guarantee they will be effective over time. Not all risks that may affect the Trust can be identified or processes and controls developed to eliminate or mitigate their occurrence or effects, and some risks are simply beyond the control of the Trust, the investment advisers or their affiliates, or other service providers to the Trust. The Board may at any time, and in its sole discretion, change the manner in which it conducts its risk oversight role.

## **INVESTMENT ADVISER**

Davenport & Company LLC (the "Adviser") supervises each Fund's investments pursuant to an Investment Advisory Agreement (the "Advisory Agreement") described in the Prospectus. Each Fund's Advisory Agreement has an initial two-year term and continues thereafter, subject to annual approval by a majority of a Fund's outstanding voting securities or by the Board of Trustees, including a majority of the Independent Trustees by vote cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such approval. Each Advisory Agreement is terminable without penalty on sixty days' notice by the Board or by the Adviser. Each Advisory Agreement will terminate automatically in the event of its assignment.

The Adviser was originally organized in 1863, re-organized as a Virginia corporation in 1972, and subsequently converted to a Limited Liability Company in 1997. Through three corporate unitholders, the Adviser is 100% owned by its employees, none of whom own in excess of 10% of the Adviser. In addition to acting as adviser to the Funds, the Adviser also provides investment advice to corporations, trusts, pension and profit-sharing plans, other business and institutional accounts and individuals. The Adviser is also a full-service broker-dealer.

The Adviser provides a continuous investment program for the Funds, including investment research and management with respect to all of securities, investments, cash and cash equivalents of the Funds. The Adviser determines what securities and other investments will be purchased, retained or sold by the Funds in accordance with the investment objective and policies of the Funds as described herein and in the Prospectus. The Adviser must adhere to the brokerage policies of the Funds in placing all orders which provide that the Adviser must seek at all times the most favorable price and execution for all securities brokerage transactions. The Adviser relies upon Pershing LLC's broker/dealer services for best execution. The Adviser also provides certain executive officers to the Trust at its own expense, and pays the cost of distributing the Funds' shares under the Distribution Agreement.

Compensation of the Adviser with respect to each Fund is at the annual rate of 0.75% of the Fund's average daily net assets. Listed below are the advisory fees paid by the Funds during the past three fiscal years.

	March 31, 2024	March 31, 2023	March 31, 2022
Core Leaders Fund	\$6,203,924	\$5,486,159	\$6,292,524
Value & Income Fund	\$6,069,741	\$6,209,772	\$6,519,483
Equity Opportunities Fund	\$5,526,298	\$4,868,707	\$5,554,210
Small Cap Focus Fund	\$5,287,152	\$4,126,274	\$4,116,953
Insider Buying Fund*	\$ 144,288	N/A	N/A
Balanced Income Fund	\$1,652,542	\$1,666,937	\$1,630,864

<sup>\*</sup>Represents the fiscal period November 30, 2023 – March 31, 2024.

Expense Limitation Agreement (Insider Buying Fund). Pursuant to an Expense Limitation Agreement, the Adviser has contractually agreed to reduce advisory fees and reimburse other Fund expenses to the extent necessary that ordinary operating expenses (excluding interest on borrowings, taxes, brokerage costs, acquired fund fees and expenses, litigation, operational expenses and other extraordinary expenses) do not exceed an amount equal to 1.25% annually of

the Fund's average daily net assets. The Expense Limitation Agreement is in effect until August 1, 2025. Any fee reductions and/or expense reimbursements by the Adviser are subject to repayment by the Fund for a period of three years from the end of the fiscal year when such fee reductions or reimbursements occurred, provided the Fund is able to effect such repayment and remain in compliance with the undertaking by the Adviser to limit expenses of the Fund. The Adviser did not reduce any advisory fees or reimburse any operating expenses for the Insider Buying Fund during the March 31, 2024 fiscal period.

**Financial Intermediary Arrangements**. The Adviser may enter into arrangements with certain brokerage firms and financial institutions to provide administrative, shareholder sub-accounting and other services, including sales-related services. The Funds may compensate these organizations for their administrative and shareholder sub-accounting (but not sales-related) services based on the number of customer accounts maintained in the Funds by such organizations.

The Adviser, not the Funds, may also compensate certain brokerage firms, financial institutions and other organizations for their sales-related services; however, the payment of such compensation by the Adviser will not affect the expense ratios of the Funds. This may include dealers, representatives of the Adviser, or others based on sales of shares of the Funds to clients of such dealers, representatives, or others. Compensation may be based on the amount of sales of Fund shares or on the average balance of all accounts in the Funds for which such dealers, representatives, or others are designated as the person responsible for the account.

# **Portfolio Managers**

The following table shows the portfolio managers of each Fund. The portfolio managers are also responsible for the day-to-day management of other accounts, as indicated below.

Core Leaders Fund - Other Accounts Managed (as of March 31, 2024)					
Name of Portfolio Manager	Type of Accounts	Number of Other Accounts Managed	Total Assets in Other Accounts Managed	Number of Accounts with Advisory Fee Based on Performance	Total Assets in Accounts with Advisory Fee Based on Performance
Jeffrey F. Omohundro,	Registered investment				
CFA	companies:	0	0	0	0
	Other pooled investment				
	vehicles:	0	0	0	0
	Other Accounts:	2,463	\$ 2,921,019,787	0	0
Christopher G. Pearson, CFA	Registered investment companies:	2	\$1,905,795,477	0	0
	Other pooled investment vehicles:	3	\$ 696,031,604	2	\$483,817,987
	Other Accounts:	3,448	\$3,862,581,004	0	0
George L. Smith, III, CFA	Registered investment companies:	4	\$2,997,812,405	0	0
	Other pooled investment vehicles:	3	\$ 696,031,604	2	\$483,817,987
	Other Accounts:	6,877	\$6,420,902,800	0	0

Value & Income Fund	- Other Accounts Managed	(as of March 3	1 2024)		
Name of Portfolio Manager	Type of Accounts	Number of Other Accounts Managed	Total Assets in Other Accounts Managed	Number of Accounts with Advisory Fee Based on Performance	Total Assets in Accounts with Advisory Fee Based on Performance
Michael S. Beall,	Registered investment				
CFA	companies:	1	\$228,063,214	0	0
	Other pooled investment				
	vehicles:	3	\$696,031,604	2	\$483,817,987
	Other Accounts:	4,610	\$3,605,257,627	0	0
Adam Bergman, CFA	Registered investment				
	companies:	1	\$228,063,214	0	0
	Other pooled investment				
	vehicles:	0	0	0	0
	Other Accounts:	3,413	\$2,524,634,267	0	0
George L. Smith, III,	Registered investment				
CFA	companies:	4	\$3,119,055,642	0	0
	Other pooled investment				
	vehicles:	3	\$ 696,031,604	2	\$483,817,987
	Other Accounts:	6,877	\$6,420,902,800	0	0
Equity Opposituation	Fund Other Assemble Man	agad (ag of May	rob 21 2024)		
Equity Opportunities	Fund - Other Accounts Man	aged (as of Mai	TCH 31, 2024)	Number of	Total Assets
		Number of	Total Assets in	Accounts with	
		Other	Other		in Accounts
Name of		Accounts	Accounts	Advisory Fee Based on	with Advisory Fee Based on
Portfolio Manager	Type of Accounts	Managed	Managed	Performance	Performance
Christopher G.	Registered investment	Manageu	Manageu	1 er for mance	1 er for mance
Pearson, CFA	companies:	2	\$1,993,336,414	0	0
Tearson, CFA	Other pooled investment		\$1,993,330,414	0	0
	vehicles:	3	\$ 696,031,604	2	\$483,817,987
	Other Accounts:	3,448	\$3,862,581,004	0	0
Coorse I Craith III	Registered investment	3,446	\$5,002,301,004	U	U
George L. Smith, III,		4	\$3,085,353,343	0	0
CFA	companies:	4	\$5,065,555,545	U	1 ()
				-	·
	Other pooled investment	2	\$ 606.021.604		
	vehicles:	3	\$ 696,031,604	2	\$483,817,987
	*	3 6,877	\$ 696,031,604 \$6,420,902,800		
Small Can Focus Fund	vehicles: Other Accounts:	6,877	\$6,420,902,800	2	\$483,817,987
Small Cap Focus Fund	vehicles:	6,877	\$6,420,902,800	2 0	\$483,817,987
Small Cap Focus Fund	vehicles: Other Accounts:	6,877 (as of March 3	\$6,420,902,800 <b>1, 2024)</b>	2 0 Number of	\$483,817,987 0 <b>Total Assets</b>
Small Cap Focus Fund	vehicles: Other Accounts:	6,877 (as of March 3 Number of	\$6,420,902,800 1, 2024) Total Assets in	2 0 Number of Accounts with	\$483,817,987 0 Total Assets in Accounts
•	vehicles: Other Accounts:	6,877 (as of March 3 Number of Other	\$6,420,902,800 1, 2024) Total Assets in Other	2 0 Number of Accounts with Advisory Fee	\$483,817,987 0 Total Assets in Accounts with Advisory
Name of	vehicles: Other Accounts:  1 - Other Accounts Managed	6,877  (as of March 3  Number of Other Accounts	\$6,420,902,800  1, 2024)  Total Assets in Other Accounts	2 0 Number of Accounts with Advisory Fee Based on	\$483,817,987 0  Total Assets in Accounts with Advisory Fee Based on
Name of Portfolio Manager	vehicles: Other Accounts  - Other Accounts Managed  Type of Accounts	6,877 (as of March 3 Number of Other	\$6,420,902,800 1, 2024) Total Assets in Other	2 0 Number of Accounts with Advisory Fee	\$483,817,987 0  Total Assets in Accounts with Advisory
Name of Portfolio Manager Christopher G.	vehicles: Other Accounts:  I - Other Accounts Managed  Type of Accounts  Registered investment	6,877  (as of March 3  Number of Other Accounts Managed	\$6,420,902,800  1, 2024)  Total Assets in Other Accounts Managed	2 0 Number of Accounts with Advisory Fee Based on Performance	\$483,817,987 0  Total Assets in Accounts with Advisory Fee Based on Performance
Name of Portfolio Manager	Vehicles: Other Accounts:  I - Other Accounts Managed  Type of Accounts  Registered investment companies:	6,877  (as of March 3  Number of Other Accounts	\$6,420,902,800  1, 2024)  Total Assets in Other Accounts	2 0 Number of Accounts with Advisory Fee Based on	\$483,817,987 0  Total Assets in Accounts with Advisory Fee Based on
Name of Portfolio Manager Christopher G.	vehicles: Other Accounts:  I - Other Accounts Managed  Type of Accounts  Registered investment companies: Other pooled investment	6,877  (as of March 3  Number of Other Accounts Managed	\$6,420,902,800  1, 2024)  Total Assets in Other Accounts Managed  \$1,882,852,966	2 0 Number of Accounts with Advisory Fee Based on Performance	\$483,817,987 0  Total Assets in Accounts with Advisory Fee Based on Performance
Name of Portfolio Manager Christopher G.	Vehicles: Other Accounts:  I - Other Accounts Managed  Type of Accounts  Registered investment companies: Other pooled investment vehicles:	6,877  (as of March 3  Number of Other Accounts Managed  2	\$6,420,902,800  1, 2024)  Total Assets in Other Accounts Managed  \$1,882,852,966	2 0 Number of Accounts with Advisory Fee Based on Performance 0	\$483,817,987  O  Total Assets in Accounts with Advisory Fee Based on Performance  O  \$483,817,987
Name of Portfolio Manager Christopher G.	vehicles: Other Accounts:  I - Other Accounts Managed  Type of Accounts  Registered investment companies: Other pooled investment	6,877  (as of March 3  Number of Other Accounts Managed	\$6,420,902,800  1, 2024)  Total Assets in Other Accounts Managed  \$1,882,852,966	2 0 Number of Accounts with Advisory Fee Based on Performance	\$483,817,987  0  Total Assets in Accounts with Advisory Fee Based on Performance

				Т	1
	Other pooled investment	2	ф coc oo1 co4	2	<b>*</b> 402.017.007
	vehicles:	3	\$ 696,031,604	2	\$483,817,987
	Other Accounts:	6,877	\$6,420,902,800	0	0
Insider Buying Fund -	Other Accounts Managed (a	s of March 31,	2024)		
Name of Portfolio Manager	Type of Accounts	Number of Other Accounts Managed	Total Assets in Other Accounts Managed	Number of Accounts with Advisory Fee Based on Performance	Total Assets in Accounts with Advisory Fee Based on Performance
Adam B. Bergman, CFA	Registered investment companies:	2	\$1,092,016,929	0	0
	Other pooled investment vehicles:	0	0	0	0
	Other Accounts:	3,413	\$2,524,634,267	0	0
Kevin C. Bennett, CFA	Registered investment companies:	0	0	0	0
	Other pooled investment vehicles:	0	0	0	0
	Other Accounts:	13	\$1,498,117	0	0
Dalanged Income Fun	d- Other Accounts Managed	 (aa af Marah 3	1 2024)		
Balanceu income run	d- Other Accounts Manageu	(as of whatch 5	1, 2024)	Number of	<b>Total Assets in</b>
NI		Number of Other	Total Assets in Other	Accounts with Advisory Fee	Accounts with Advisory Fee
Name of Portfolio Manager	Type of Accounts	Accounts Managed	Accounts Managed	Based on Performance	Based on Performance
FULLIUHU Manager	Registered investment	Manageu	Manageu	1 CHOI Mance	Terror mance
Michael S. Beall, CFA		1	\$863,953,715	0	0
1111011001 5. 20011, 0	Other pooled investment	-	Ψουσ, σου, που	Ŭ	
	vehicles:	3	\$696,031,604	2	\$483,817,987
	Other Accounts:	4,610	\$3,605,257,627	0	0
Adam Bergman, CFA	Registered investment companies:	2	\$942,507,489	0	0
	Other pooled investment vehicles:	0	0	0	0
	Other Accounts:	3,413	\$2,524,634,627	0	0
George L. Smith, III, CFA	Registered investment companies:	4	\$3,754,946,143	0	0
	Other pooled investment vehicles:	3	\$ 696,031,604	2	\$483,817,987
	Other Accounts:	6,877	\$6,420,902,800	0	0
Kevin J. Hopkins, Jr., CFA	Registered investment companies:	0	0	0	0
	Other pooled investment vehicles:	0	0	0	0
	Other Accounts:	1,727	\$778,849,944	0	0
William B. Cleland	Registered investment companies:	0	0	0	0
	Other pooled investment				
	vehicles:	0	0	0	0

1,760

Other Accounts:

\$781,239,742

0

0

# Potential Conflicts of Interest

It is possible that the portfolio managers might not present the Funds and other client portfolios with the same investment opportunities that may come to their attention even if such opportunities are consistent with a Fund's and other clients' investment objectives. The Adviser will endeavor to allocate investment opportunities to all of its clients, including the Funds, in a manner that is fair and equitable over time. At all times, the portfolio managers will use their best judgment and specific knowledge of the Funds and other client accounts when determining which securities to recommend or invest in specific instances.

The Adviser has adopted a Code of Ethics and personal trading policies that allow portfolio managers who wish to buy or sell the same securities at the same time as their clients (including the Funds) to aggregate (bunch) orders for their personal accounts with client orders according to the Adviser's bunched trading policies. When investment decisions are suitable for a group of advisory clients, to the extent possible, the orders will be aggregated. If more than one price is paid for securities in an aggregated transaction throughout the day, each participating account will receive the average price paid for the block of securities on that day. In addition, procedures are in place to monitor personal trading by the portfolio managers to ensure that the interests of the Adviser's clients come first.

Certain portfolio managers may have an incentive to favor performance-based fee clients over other client portfolios. However, the Adviser does not believe that such conflict of interest is material because the investment objectives and strategies of the performance-based fee clients are substantially different from that of the Funds.

The Adviser also engages in providing independent research on various companies, including companies in which the Funds may invest. A research analyst may publish an internal memo on a company held or being considered by the Funds. These internal memos will be prepared and disseminated without regard to the effects on investments by the Funds and the Adviser's other clients.

# Compensation

The portfolio managers are compensated by one of, or a combination of the following: (i) a fixed salary, which may change on an annual basis; (ii) commissions and fees earned on individual retail and managed customer accounts, which vary by month; and (iii) a stipend for sitting on various committees of the Adviser, which may include, but is not limited to, the Investment Policy Committee ("IPC"), Executive Committee, and the Audit Committee.

All portfolio managers are eligible for, and typically receive, a variable bonus, which is paid on a discretionary basis, typically at the end of each year, representing discretionary allocations made by the Adviser's Executive Committee.

All portfolio managers receive a safe harbor contribution to the Adviser's 401(k) plan as a percentage of eligible compensation. All portfolio managers receive an annual contribution to the Advisor's profit-sharing plan, which is a discretionary amount based on a percentage of eligible compensation determined annually by the Board of Directors of the Adviser.

George L. Smith, III, Christopher G. Pearson and Jeffrey F. Omohundro are generally compensated by a stipend for sitting on various committees of the Adviser (e.g., IPC, Executive Committee and/or Audit Committee). Michael S. Beall, George L. Smith, III, Christopher G. Pearson and Jeffrey F. Omohundro as Directors of the Adviser, are compensated by a fixed fee for sitting on the Adviser's Board of Directors. Michael S. Beall, George L. Smith, III, and Christopher G. Pearson each receive a discretionary bonus, which is typically paid at the end of the year, based on the profitability, if any, of Son of EWF, EWF Partners and EWF Partners II, other private investment funds managed by the Adviser.

# Ownership of Fund Shares

The following table indicates, as of March 31, 2024, the dollar value of shares of the Davenport Funds beneficially owned by the portfolio manager of the Fund or Funds for which the portfolio manager serves. In addition to ownership of Fund shares, each manager has a considerable amount invested in the strategies used in the portfolio management process of the Funds through the Adviser's profit-sharing plan and 401(k) plan.

Portfolio Manager/Managed Fund(s)	Dollar Value of Fund Shares Beneficially Owned
Michael S. Beall, CFA	·
Value & Income Fund	None
Balanced Income Fund	None
Adam Bergman, CFA	
Value & Income Fund	\$10,001-\$50,000
Balanced Income Fund	\$10,001-\$50,000
Insider Buying Fund	\$100,001- \$500,000
William B. Cleland, CFP	
Balanced Income Fund	None
Christopher G. Pearson, CFA	
Core Leaders Fund	\$50,001 - \$100,000
Equity Opportunities Fund	\$500,001-\$1,000,000
Small Cap Focus Fund	\$100,001-\$500,000
George L. Smith, III, CFA	
Core Leaders Fund	\$100,001-\$500,000
Value & Income Fund	\$100,001-\$500,000
Equity Opportunities Fund	\$500,001- \$1,000,000
Small Cap Focus Fund	Over \$1,000,000
Balanced Income Fund	None
Jeffrey F. Omohundro, CFA	
Core Leaders Fund	Over \$1,000,000
Kevin J. Hopkins, Jr., CFA	
Balanced Income Fund	None
Kevin C. Bennett, CFA	
Insider Buying Fund	\$100,001-\$500,000

# **Portfolio Managers**

Each portfolio manager listed below is jointly and primarily responsible for the portfolio management of his managed Fund(s).

- Michael S. Beall, CFA (age 70) joined the Adviser in 1980 and currently serves as an Executive Vice President, and Director.
- **Kevin C. Bennett, CFA** (age 39) joined the Adviser in 2016 and currently serves as First Vice President.
- Adam Bergman, CFA (age 49) joined the Adviser in 2022 and currently serves as a Senior Vice President. Prior to joining the Adviser, Mr. Bergman was a Portfolio Manager and Executive Director at Sterling Capital Management, a Truist subsidiary, from 2007 until 2022.
- William B. Cleland, CFP (age 52) joined the Adviser in 2005 and serves as Vice President.
- **Kevin J. Hopkins, Jr., CFA** (age 47) joined the Adviser in 2019 and currently serves as Senior Vice President.
- **Jeffrey F. Omohundro, CFA** (age 60) joined the Adviser in 2012 and currently serves as Senior Vice President, Director and co-head of Equity Research.
- Christopher G. Pearson, CFA (age 40) joined the Adviser in 2006 and currently serves as a Senior Vice President and Director.
- George L. Smith, III, CFA (age 48) joined the Adviser in 1997 and currently serves as a Managing Director, Director and coordinator of the buy-side research for the Adviser.

# **ADMINISTRATOR**

The Trust retains Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC (the "Administrator"), 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450, Cincinnati, Ohio 45246, to provide administrative, pricing, accounting, dividend disbursing, shareholder servicing and transfer agent services. The Administrator maintains the records of each shareholder's account, answers shareholders' inquiries concerning their accounts, processes purchases and redemptions of Fund shares, acts as dividend and distribution disbursing agent and performs other shareholder service functions. The Administrator also provides accounting and pricing services to the Funds and supplies non-investment related statistical and research data, internal regulatory compliance services and executive and administrative services. The Administrator supervises the preparation of reports to shareholders of the Funds, reports to and filings with the SEC and state securities commissions, and materials for Board meetings.

For the performance of these services, each Fund pays the Administrator a monthly fee based upon the average value of its daily net assets, subject to a minimum monthly fee, plus a shareholder recordkeeping fee (on a per shareholder basis) for shareholder accounts in excess of 1,000. In addition, the Funds pay out-of-pocket expenses, including but not limited to, postage, envelopes, checks, drafts, forms, reports, record storage, communication lines and all costs of external pricing services. Listed below are the administration fees paid during the past three fiscal years:

<b>Administration Fees</b>	March 31, 2024	March 31, 2023	March 31, 2022
Core Leaders Fund	\$724,647	\$670,930	\$717,820
Value & Income Fund	\$729,837	\$739,089	\$750,819
Equity Opportunities Fund	\$700,901	\$650,515	\$683,886
Small Cap Focus Fund	\$684,902	\$567,681	\$544,973
Insider Buying Fund*	\$ 24,325	N/A	N/A
Balanced Income Fund	\$249,781	\$250,834	\$242,492

<sup>\*</sup>Represents the fiscal period November 30, 2023 – March 31, 2024.

# **COMPLIANCE SERVICE PROVIDER**

Under the terms of a Compliance Consulting Agreement dated July 1, 2024 between the Trust and Northern Lights Compliance Services, LLC ("NLCS"), an affiliate of the Administrator, NLCS provides an individual to serve as the Trust's Chief Compliance Officer and administer the Trust's compliance policies and procedures. For these services, the Trust pays NCLS an annual base fee, an asset-based fee based on the average value of the Trust's aggregate daily net assets, plus a liquidity program administration fee. The Trust reimburses NLCS for its reasonable out-of-pocket expenses relating to these compliance services. Prior to July 1, 2024, the Trust's Compliance Consulting Agreement was with the Administrator.

The compliance service fees paid to the Administrator during the past three fiscal years are:

<b>Compliance Service Fees</b>	March 31, 2024	March 31, 2023	March 31, 2022
Core Leaders Fund	\$32,489	\$29,657	\$32,658
Value & Income Fund	\$31,870	\$33,060	\$33,665
Equity Opportunities Fund	\$29,369	\$26,782	\$29,348
Small Cap Focus Fund	\$28,249	\$23,319	\$23,065
Insider Buying Fund*	\$ 1,972	N/A	N/A
Balanced Income Fund	\$11,780	\$11,802	\$11,322

<sup>\*</sup>Represents the fiscal period November 30, 2023 – March 31, 2024.

# **DISTRIBUTOR**

Ultimus Fund Distributors, LLC (the "Distributor"), 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450, Cincinnati, Ohio 45246, serves as principal underwriter for the Funds pursuant to a Distribution Agreement. Shares are sold on a continuous basis by the Distributor. The Distributor has agreed to use its best efforts to solicit orders for the sale of Fund shares, but it is not obliged to sell any particular amount of shares. The Distribution Agreement provides that, unless sooner terminated, it will continue in effect as long as its continuance is approved at least annually (i) by the Board or a vote of a majority of the outstanding shares of the Funds, and (ii) by a majority of the Independent Trustees by vote cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such approval. The Distribution Agreement may be terminated by the Funds at any time, without the payment of any penalty, by vote of a majority of the Board or by vote of a majority of the outstanding shares of the Funds on 60 days' written notice to the Distributor, or by the Distributor at any time, without the payment of any penalty, on 60 days' written notice to the Trust. The Distribution Agreement will automatically terminate in the event of its assignment. The Distributor is an affiliate of the Administrator.

## OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS

**Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**. The firm of Cohen & Company, Ltd., independent registered public accounting firm, 342 North Water Street, Suite 830, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202, has been retained by the Board to perform an independent audit of the financial statements of the Trust.

**Legal Counsel**. Sullivan & Worcester LLP, 1666 K Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20006, serves as legal counsel to the Trust and the Independent Trustees.

Custodian. The custodian of the Funds' assets is U.S. Bank NA, 425 Walnut Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202. The custodian holds all cash and securities of the Funds (either in its possession or in its favor through "book entry systems" authorized by the Trustees in accordance with the 1940 Act), collects all income and effects all securities transactions on behalf of the Funds.

**Securities Lending**. During the March 31, 2024 fiscal year, the Funds did not engage in any securities lending activities and therefore did not receive any income related to securities lending.

# PORTFOLIO SECURITIES AND BROKERAGE

It is the Funds' practice to seek the best price and execution for all portfolio securities transactions. The Adviser (subject to the general supervision of the Board of Trustees) uses the execution and custody services of Pershing LLC and its affiliates to execute the Funds' agency (common stock) transactions. The Adviser relies upon Pershing LLC's broker/dealer services for best execution. The Funds' agency transactions will normally be exchange traded or traded in the over-the-counter market. With respect to securities traded only in the over-the-counter market, orders will be executed on a principal basis with primary market makers in such securities except where better prices or execution may be obtained on an agency basis or by dealing with other than a primary market maker. The Funds' agency portfolio transactions will normally be executed at no cost to the Funds, but may be executed through broker-dealers who charge brokerage commissions.

The Funds' fixed income portfolio transactions will normally be principal transactions executed in over-the-counter markets on a "net" basis, which may include a dealer markup. Principal trades are ordinarily transacted with the issuer, the issuer's underwriter, or with a primary market maker acting as principal on a net basis, with no brokerage commission being paid by the Fund. The price of the fixed income securities generally reflects the spread between the bid and asked prices, which is not disclosed separately. Transactions are placed through dealers who are serving as primary market makers. When effecting a fixed income securities transaction in the secondary market, the Adviser generally will select dealers who are deemed likely to provide best execution for the specific transaction based on certain factors. These factors may include, but are not limited to, access to offerings; market familiarity; integrity (ability to maintain confidentiality); history of competitive pricing; trade settlement capability; expertise; financial condition (credit risk); and reliability and willingness to commit capital.

Subject to the requirements of the 1940 Act and procedures adopted by the Board of Trustees, the Funds may execute portfolio transactions through any broker or dealer and pay brokerage commissions to a broker (i) that is an affiliated person of the Trust, or (ii) that is an affiliated person of such person, or (iii) an affiliated person of which is an affiliated person of the Trust or the

## Adviser.

The Funds have not paid any brokerage commissions during each of the last three fiscal years. All agency transactions were executed through the Adviser, which waived all brokerage commissions. A Fund could potentially incur brokerage commissions at any time if the Adviser or Pershing LLC elects not to waive commissions or if trades are placed through brokers that charge commissions. In all cases, the Adviser is obligated to effect transactions for the Fund based upon obtaining the most favorable price and execution. Factors considered by the Adviser in determining whether the Fund will receive the most favorable price and execution include, among other things: the size of the order, the broker's ability to effect and settle the transaction promptly and efficiently and the Adviser's perception of the broker's reliability, integrity and financial condition.

While there is no formula, agreement or undertaking to do so, a portion of the Funds' brokerage commissions may, in the discretion of the Adviser, be allocated to those brokers or dealers that provide the Adviser with research services. The types of research services that the Adviser may obtain include, but are not limited to, investment recommendations, financial, economic, political, fundamental and technical market and interest rate data, and other statistical or research services. Much of the information obtained may also be used by the Adviser for the benefit of its other clients, and the Funds may benefit from transactions effected for the Adviser's other clients. In all cases, the Adviser is obligated to effect transactions for the Funds based upon obtaining the most favorable price and execution. The Adviser relies upon Pershing LLC's broker/dealer services for best execution.

As of March 31, 2024, the following Funds held equity securities issued by the parent company of J.P Morgan Securities LLC, one of the Balanced Income Fund's "regular broker-dealers," as defined in the 1940 Act.

Core Leaders Fund	\$20,495,698
Value & Income Fund	\$17,402,688
Balanced Income Fund	\$ 3,821,123

**Codes of Ethics**. The Trust, the Adviser and the Distributor have each adopted a Code of Ethics pursuant to Rule 17j-1 under the 1940 Act which permits personnel subject to the Code of Ethics to invest in securities, including securities that may be purchased or held by the Funds. The Codes of Ethics adopted by the Trust, the Adviser and the Distributor are on public file with, and are available from, the SEC.

### SHAREHOLDER ACCOUNT INFORMATION

As noted in the Prospectus, the Funds offer the following shareholder services:

**Shareholder Account.** When an investor makes an initial investment in a Fund, a shareholder account is opened in accordance with the investor's registration instructions and the investor can make voluntary investments thereafter at any time. Shareholders will receive a statement each time there is an account transaction, such as an additional investment or a dividend reinvestment. Stock certificates will not be issued for your shares. Evidence of ownership will be given by issuance of periodic account statements showing the number of shares owned.

Automatic Investment Plan. The automatic investment plan enables shareholders to make regular periodic investments through automatic charges to their bank account. With shareholder authorization and bank approval, the Administrator will automatically charge the account for the amount specified (\$50 minimum) which will be automatically invested in shares at the NAV on the date(s) specified by the shareholder on the Account Application. The shareholder may change the amount of the investment or discontinue the plan at any time by writing to the Administrator.

**Systematic Withdrawal Plan.** Shareholders owning shares with a value of \$10,000 or more may establish a Systematic Withdrawal Plan. A shareholder may receive monthly or bi-monthly payments, in amounts of not less than \$100 per payment, by authorizing the Funds to redeem the necessary number of shares on a specified date. Payments may be made directly to an investor's account with a commercial bank or other depository institution via an Automated Clearing House ("ACH") transaction.

Instructions for establishing this service are included in the Account Application or are available by calling the Funds. Payment may also be made by check made payable to the designated recipient and mailed within 7 days of the withdrawal date. If the designated recipient is other than the registered shareholder, the signature of each shareholder must be guaranteed on the application (see "Signature Guarantees" in the Prospectus). A corporation (or partnership) must also submit a "Corporate Resolution" (or "Certification of Partnership") indicating the names, titles and required number of signatures authorized to act on its behalf. The Application must be signed by a duly authorized officer(s) and the corporate seal affixed. No redemption fees are charged to shareholders under this plan. Costs in conjunction with the administration of the plan are borne by the Funds. Shareholders should be aware that systematic withdrawals may deplete or use up entirely their initial investment. In addition, systematic withdrawals may result in realized longterm or short-term capital gains or losses, or, in certain circumstances, may be treated as dividends for tax purposes. The Systematic Withdrawal Plan may be terminated at any time by the Funds upon sixty days written notice or by a shareholder upon written notice to the Funds. Applications and further details may be obtained by calling the Funds at 1-800-281-3217, or by writing to The Davenport Funds, Shareholder Services, P.O. Box 46707, Cincinnati, Ohio 45246-0707.

**Transfer of Registration**. To transfer shares to another owner, send a written request to the Funds at the address shown herein. Your request should include the following: (1) the Fund name and existing account registration; (2) signature(s) of the registered owner(s) exactly as the signature(s) appear(s) on the account registration; (3) the new account registration, address, social security or taxpayer identification number and how dividends and capital gains are to be distributed; (4) signature guarantees (see the Prospectus under the heading "Signature Guarantees"); and (5) any additional documents that are required for transfer by corporations, administrators, executors, trustees, guardians, etc. If you have any questions about transferring shares, call or write the Funds.

### **PURCHASE OF SHARES**

The purchase price of shares of each Fund is the NAV next determined after the order is received in proper form. An order received prior to the close of the regular session of trading of the NYSE, generally 4:00 p.m., Eastern time, will be executed at the price computed on the date of receipt; and an order received after that time will be executed at the price computed on the next Business Day. An order to purchase shares is not binding on the Funds until it has been confirmed in writing (or unless other arrangements have been made with the Funds, for example in the case of orders

utilizing wire transfer of funds) and payment has been received.

Shares of the Funds generally may be sold only to U.S. citizens, U.S. residents and U.S. domestic corporations, partnerships, trusts, or estates. For purposes of this policy, U.S. citizens and U.S. residents must reside in the U.S. and U.S. domestic corporations, partnerships, trusts, and estates must have a U.S. address of record.

Due to Internal Revenue Service regulations, applications without social security or tax identification numbers will not be accepted. If you have already applied for a social security or tax identification number at the time of completing your account application, you should indicate that on your application. The Funds are required to, and will, withhold taxes on all distributions and redemption proceeds if the number is not delivered to the Funds within 60 days.

Each Fund reserves the right in its sole discretion to (i) suspend the offering of shares, (ii) reject purchase orders when it is in the best interest of the Fund and its shareholders, in the judgment of management, and (iii) reduce or waive the minimum for initial and subsequent investments under some circumstances, including those when certain economies can be achieved in the sale of Fund shares.

**Purchases in Kind.** The Funds may accept securities in lieu of cash in payment for the purchase of shares of the Funds. The acceptance of such securities is at the sole discretion of the Adviser based upon the suitability of the securities accepted for inclusion as a long term investment of the Funds, the marketability of such securities, and other factors that the Adviser may deem appropriate. If accepted, the securities will be valued using the same criteria and methods to determine NAV as described in the Prospectus.

Employees and Affiliates of the Funds. The Funds have adopted initial investment minimums in order to reduce the cost to the Funds (and to shareholders) of communicating with and servicing shareholders. However, a reduced minimum initial investment requirement of \$2,000 applies to Trustees, officers and employees of the Funds, the Adviser and certain parties related thereto, including clients of the Adviser or any sponsor, officer, committee member thereof, or any of their immediate family members. In addition, accounts having the same mailing address may be aggregated for purposes of the minimum investment if shareholders consent in writing to share a single mailing of shareholder reports, proxy statements (but each shareholder would receive his/her own proxy) and other Fund literature.

# **REDEMPTION OF SHARES**

Each Fund may suspend redemption privileges or postpone the date of payment (i) during any period that the NYSE is closed, or trading on the NYSE is restricted as determined by the SEC, (ii) during any period when an emergency exists as defined by the rules of the SEC as a result of it not being reasonably practicable for the Fund to dispose of securities owned by it, or to fairly determine the value of its assets, and (iii) for other periods as the SEC may permit.

No charge is made by the Funds for redemptions, although the Trustees could impose a redemption charge in the future. Any redemption may be for more or less than the amount of the shareholder's investment depending on the market value of the securities held by the Funds. There is currently no charge by the Funds for wire redemptions. However, the Funds reserve the right, upon thirty

days written notice, to make reasonable charges for wire redemptions. All charges will be deducted from your account by redemption of shares in your account. Your bank or brokerage firm may also impose a charge for processing the wire. In the event that wire transfer of funds is impossible or impractical, the redemption proceeds will be sent by mail to the designated account.

Redemptions in Kind. The Funds do not intend, under normal circumstances, to redeem their securities by payment in kind. It is possible, however, that conditions may exist that would, in the opinion of the Adviser, make it in the best interests of the Funds and their shareholders to do so. The Board has authorized payment to be made in portfolio securities or other property of the Funds. Securities delivered in payment of redemptions would be valued at the same value assigned to them in computing the NAV. Shareholders receiving them would incur brokerage costs when these securities are sold. An irrevocable election has been filed under Rule 18f-1 of the 1940 Act, wherein each Fund commits to pay redemptions in cash, rather than in kind, to any shareholder of record of the Fund who redeems during any ninety day period, the lesser of (a) \$250,000 or (b) one percent (1%) of a Fund's net assets at the beginning of such period unless the shareholder consents to receiving the entire distribution in kind.

### PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS

As of July 2, 2024, Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. Special Custody Account For the Benefit of its Customers, 211 Main Street, San Francisco, California 94105, owned of record 9.13% of the outstanding shares of the Small Cap Focus Fund; and Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. FBO a Customer, 211 Main Street, San Francisco, California 94105, owned of record 9.14% of the outstanding shares of the Small Cap Focus Fund. No other shareholder is known to have owned of record or beneficially 5% or more of the outstanding shares of a Fund as of July 2, 2024.

# **NET ASSET VALUE DETERMINATION**

Under the 1940 Act, the Trustees are responsible for overseeing the good faith determination of the fair value of the securities and other assets held by the Funds and have designated the Adviser as the valuation designee to fair value securities or other investments pursuant to procedures approved by the Board. Each Fund's NAV is determined as of the close of the regular session of trading of the NYSE (normally 4:00 p.m., Eastern time) on each "Business Day." A Business Day means any day, Monday through Friday, except for the following holidays: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Juneteenth National Independence Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas. NAV per share is determined by dividing the total value of all Fund securities and other assets, less liabilities, by the total number of outstanding shares. NAV includes interest on fixed income securities, which is accrued daily.

Equity securities are valued at their market value when reliable market quotations are readily available. Securities that are traded on a national stock exchange, including common stocks and ETFs, are valued based upon the closing price of the principal exchange where the security is traded, if available, otherwise at the last quoted bid price. Securities that are quoted by NASDAQ are valued at the NASDAQ Official Closing Price. Investments representing shares of money market funds and other open-end investment companies (except ETFs) are valued at their NAV as reported by those companies.

Fixed income securities are valued at their market value when reliable market quotations are readily available. Typically, fixed income securities, including corporate bonds and U.S. Treasury obligations, are valued using information provided by a third-party pricing service. The prices provided by the pricing service are determined with consideration given to institutional bid and last sale prices and take into account securities prices, yields, maturities, call features, ratings, institutional trading in similar groups of securities, and developments related to specific securities. Certain fixed income securities may have few or no trades, or trade infrequently, and information regarding a specific security may not be widely available or may be incomplete. Because there is less reliable, objective data available, elements of judgment may play a greater role in the valuation of fixed income securities than for other types of securities. If the Adviser determines that a price provided by the pricing service does not accurately reflect the fair market value of the security, if prices are not readily available from a pricing service or if restricted or illiquid securities are being valued, securities are valued at fair value as determined in good faith by the Adviser, in conformity with guidelines established by the Adviser, as the valuation designee, in conformity with guidelines established by the Adviser and approved by the Board, subject to the Board's oversight. When fair value pricing is employed, the price of securities used by a Fund to calculate its NAV is based on consideration of a number of subjective factors and therefore may differ from quoted or published prices for the same securities.

### **FUND EXPENSES**

Each Fund pays all expenses not assumed by the Adviser, including, among others, its advisory fees, the fees and expenses, if any, of the Independent Trustees, fees of the custodian, interest expense, taxes, brokerage fees and commissions, fees and expenses of the Funds' shareholder servicing operations, fees and expenses of qualifying and registering the Funds' shares under federal and state securities laws, expenses of preparing, printing and distributing prospectuses and reports to existing shareholders, auditing and legal expenses, insurance expenses, association dues, fees and expenses of the Trust's CCO, and the expense of shareholders' meetings and proxy solicitations. The Funds are also liable for any nonrecurring expenses that may arise such as litigation to which the Funds may be a party. The Funds may be obligated to indemnify the Trustees and officers with respect to such litigation. All expenses of a Fund are accrued daily on the books of the Fund at a rate which, to the best of its belief, is equal to the actual expenses expected to be incurred by the Fund in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices.

General Trust expenses are allocated among the Trust's series, or funds, which allocation may be based on the relative net assets of each fund (on or about the date the expense is paid) or the nature of the services performed and the relative applicability to each fund.

### ADDITIONAL TAX INFORMATION

Taxation of the Funds. Each Fund has qualified and intends to qualify annually for the special tax treatment afforded a "regulated investment company" ("RIC") under Subchapter M of the Code so that it does not pay federal taxes on income and capital gains distributed to shareholders. Among the requirements to qualify under Subchapter M, each Fund must distribute annually at least 90% of its net investment income. In addition to this distribution requirement, each Fund must (1) derive at least 90% of its gross income each taxable year from dividends, interest, payments with respect to securities loans, gains from the sale or other disposition of stock, securities or foreign currency, certain other income (including but not limited to gains from

options, futures and forward contracts) derived with respect to its business of investing in stock, securities or currencies, or from net income derived from an interest in a qualified publicly traded partnership ("PTP"); and (2) diversify its holdings so that at the end of each quarter of its taxable year the following two conditions are met: (a) at least 50% of the value of the Fund's total assets is represented by cash, U.S. Government securities, securities of other RICs and other securities (for this purpose such other securities will qualify only if the Fund's investment is limited in respect to any issuer to an amount not greater than 5% of the value of the Fund's total assets and not greater than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of such issuer) and (b) not more than 25% of the value of the Fund's total assets is invested in securities (other than U.S. Government securities or securities of other RICs) of any one issuer, the securities of any two or more issuers that the Fund controls and are determined to be engaged in the same or similar trades or businesses or related trades or businesses, or the securities of one or more qualified PTPs. For these purposes, a qualified PTP is generally a PTP other than one where at least 90% of its gross income is gross income that would otherwise be qualifying income for a RIC.

While the above requirements are aimed at qualification of the Funds as RICs under Subchapter M of the Code, the Funds also intend to comply with certain requirements of the Code to avoid liability for federal income and excise tax. If the Funds remain qualified under Subchapter M, they will not be subject to federal income tax to the extent they distribute their taxable net investment income and net realized capital gains. A nondeductible 4% federal excise tax will be imposed on each Fund to the extent it does not distribute at least 98% of its ordinary taxable income for a calendar year, plus 98.2% of its capital gain net taxable income for the one year period ending each October 31, plus certain undistributed amounts from prior years. While each Fund intends to distribute its taxable income and capital gains in a manner so as to avoid imposition of the federal excise and income taxes, there can be no assurance that the Funds will make sufficient distributions to avoid entirely the imposition of federal excise or income taxes. If a Fund fails to qualify as a RIC for any year, all of its taxable income will be subject to tax at regular corporate rates without any deduction for distributions to shareholders, and its distributions (including capital gains distributions) generally will be taxable as ordinary income dividends to its shareholders, subject to the dividends received deduction for corporate shareholders and the provisions relating to qualified dividend income. The Board reserves the right not to maintain the qualification of the Funds as RICs if it determines such course of action to be beneficial to shareholders.

There is a remedy for failure to meet the Subchapter M diversification test if the failure was due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect. The remedy involves certain divestiture and procedural requirements, and payment of a tax. In certain de minimis situations, no tax is due in the event of a failure to meet the diversification requirements, but the divestiture and procedural requirements apply. Similarly, in the event of a failure to meet the Subchapter M income requirements, if the failure was due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect it can be cured by satisfaction of procedural requirements and payment of a tax.

Each Fund's net realized capital gains from securities transactions will be distributed only after reducing such gains by the amount of any available capital loss carryforwards. These capital loss carryforwards are available indefinitely to offset realized capital gains in future years, thereby reducing future taxable gains distributions. During the March 31, 2024 fiscal year, the Balanced Fund had short-term capital loss carryforwards of \$2,631,190 and long-term capital loss carryforwards of \$1,623,503 for federal tax purposes, which may be utilized in future years to offset net realized capital gains, if any. During the March 31, 2024 fiscal year, the Equity

Opportunities Fund deferred \$12,607,922 of losses incurred after October 31, 2023 (post-October losses) to April 1, 2024 for federal income tax purposes.

Should additional series, or funds, be created by the Trustees, each fund would be treated as a separate tax entity for federal income tax purposes.

Tax Status of the Funds' Dividends and Distributions. Individual shareholders may benefit from lower rates applicable to long-term capital gains on certain distributions that are attributable to certain dividends received by the Funds from U.S. corporations and certain foreign corporations ("Qualified Dividends"). Long-term capital gains are generally taxable to individuals at a maximum rate of 20%, with lower rates potentially applicable to taxpayers depending on their income levels. For 2024, the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 subjects individual taxpayers with taxable incomes above \$518,901 (\$583,751 for married taxpayers filing jointly, \$551,351 for heads of households) to a 20% rate of tax on long-term capital gains and Qualified Dividends. Taxpayers that are not in the highest tax bracket continue to be subject to a maximum 15% tax rate on long-term capital gains and Qualified Dividends. These rates may change over time. Distributions of net short-term capital gains that exceed net long-term capital losses will generally be taxable as ordinary income. In addition, for an individual shareholder to benefit from the lower tax rate on Qualified Dividends (either 15% or 20%, depending on income levels), the shareholder must hold shares in the Fund, and the Fund must hold shares in the dividend-paying corporation, at least 61 days during a prescribed period. Under current IRS practice, the prescribed period is the 121-day period beginning 60 days before the date on which the shareholder or the Fund, as the case may be, becomes entitled to receive the dividend. Furthermore, in determining the holding period for this purpose, any period during which the recipient's risk of loss is offset by means of options, short sales or similar instruments is not included. Additionally, an individual shareholder would not benefit from the lower tax rate to the extent it or the Fund is obligated (e.g., pursuant to a short sale) to make related payments with respect to positions in substantially similar or related property.

Certain U.S. shareholders, including individuals and estates and trusts whose income exceeds certain levels, will be subject to an additional 3.8% Medicare tax on all or a portion of their "net investment income," which should include dividends from the Funds and net gains from the disposition of shares of the Funds. U.S. shareholders are urged to consult their own tax advisors regarding the implications of the additional Medicare tax resulting from an investment in the Funds.

For corporate shareholders, the dividends received deduction, if applicable, should apply to a portion of the dividends paid by each Fund. Each Fund will send shareholders information each year on the tax status of dividends and disbursements. A dividend or capital gains distribution paid shortly after shares have been purchased, although in effect a return of investment, is subject to federal income taxation. Dividends from net investment income, along with capital gains, will be taxable to shareholders, whether received in cash or shares and regardless of how long you have held your Fund shares, even if they reduce the NAV of shares below your cost and thus in effect result in a return of a part of your investment.

Federal law requires that mutual fund companies report their shareholders' cost basis, gain/loss, and holding period to the IRS on the Funds' shareholders' Consolidated Form 1099s when "covered" shares are sold. Covered shares are any regulated investment company shares acquired

on or after January 1, 2012 and any such shares acquired before January 1, 2012 are considered non-covered shares. In response to this federal law, the Funds chose "average cost," which is the mutual fund industry standard, as the Funds' default tax lot identification for all shareholders. Average cost will be the method used for reporting the redemption of any covered shares on your Consolidated Form 1099 unless you select a different tax lot identification method. You may choose a method different than average cost as long as you do so at the time of your purchase or upon the redemption of covered shares. Please keep in mind that the Funds are not responsible for providing you with cost basis information on shares acquired prior to January 1, 2012.

The Funds are required to withhold U.S. tax (at a 24% rate) on payments of taxable dividends, redemption proceeds and certain capital gain dividends paid to certain non-U.S. entities that fail to comply (or be deemed compliant) with extensive new reporting and withholding requirements designed to inform the U.S. Department of Treasury of U.S.-owned foreign investment accounts. Shareholders may be requested to provide additional information to the Funds to enable the Funds to determine whether withholding is required.

Passive Foreign Investment Companies ("PFICs"). For federal tax purposes, a corporation is deemed a PFIC if 75% or more of the foreign corporation's gross income for its tax year is passive income or, in general, if 50% or more of its assets are assets that produce or are held to produce passive income. Passive income is further defined as any income to be considered foreign personal holding company income within the subpart F provisions defined by Section 954 of the Internal Revenue Code. Each Fund that holds equity interests in a PFIC intends to mark-to-market these securities and recognize any realized or unrealized gains at the end of its fiscal year. Deductions for losses on PFIC shares marked to market are allowable only to the extent of any previously recognized gains on those shares. These gains (reduced by allowable losses) are treated as ordinary income that the Fund may be required to distribute, even though it has not sold the securities. There can be no assurance that a Fund will be able to identify all investments that may be classified as PFICs or that it will be able to make the mark-to-market election with respect to all PFICs. In such an event tax and interest charges may be imposed on the Fund with respect to gains and/or certain distributions with respect to securities of such PFIC.

Sale, Exchange or Redemption of Fund Shares. A sale, exchange or redemption of shares of the Funds by a shareholder is generally a taxable event. For federal income tax purposes, any loss upon the sale of shares of the Funds held for six months or less will be treated as long-term capital loss to the extent of any long-term capital gains distributions received by the shareholder. Shareholders should consult their tax advisors regarding the federal, state, local and foreign tax consequences resulting from the ownership of shares of the Funds.

# PROXY VOTING AND PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS DISCLOSUREPOLICIES

Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures. The Trust and the Adviser have adopted Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures that describe how the Funds intend to vote proxies on behalf of the portfolio securities held by the Funds. The Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures of the Trust and the Adviser are attached to this SAI as Appendix B. Information regarding how the Funds voted proxies relating to portfolio securities held during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 is available without charge upon request by calling toll-free 1-866-738-1126, by sending an email to <a href="mailto:fulfillment@ultimusfundsolutions.com">fulfillment@ultimusfundsolutions.com</a>, on the Funds' website at <a href="mailto:www.investdavenport.com">www.investdavenport.com</a>, or on the SEC's website at <a href="http://www.sec.gov">http://www.sec.gov</a>

Portfolio Holdings Disclosure Policy. The Board of the Trust has adopted policies to govern the circumstances under which disclosure of the securities held by the Funds, and disclosure of purchases and sales of such securities may be made available to shareholders of the Funds or other persons. The Trust's CCO is responsible for monitoring the use and disclosure of information relating to the Funds' portfolio securities. Although no material conflicts of interest are believed to exist that could disadvantage the Funds or their shareholders, various safeguards have been implemented to protect the Funds and their shareholders from conflicts of interest, including: the adoption of codes of ethics pursuant to Rule 17j-1 under the 1940 Act designed to prevent fraudulent, deceptive or manipulative acts by officers and employees of the Trust, the Adviser and the Distributor in connection with their personal securities transactions; the adoption by the Adviser and the Distributor of insider trading policies and procedures designed to prevent their employees' misuse of material non-public information; and the adoption by the Trust of a Code of Ethics for Principal Executive and Senior Financial Officers that requires the Trust's Principal Executive Officer(s), Principal Financial Officer(s) and Principal Accounting Officer(s) to report to the Board any affiliations or other relationships that could potentially create a conflict of interest with the Funds.

- Public disclosure regarding the securities held by the Funds ("Portfolio Securities") is made quarterly in Annual Reports and Semi-Annual Reports to shareholders, and in holdings reports on Form N-PORT ("Official Reports"). Except for such Official Reports and as otherwise expressly permitted herein or required by applicable law, shareholders and other persons may not be provided with information regarding Portfolio Securities held, purchased or sold by the Funds.
- Each Fund posts a complete listing of its Portfolio Securities on a daily basis at <a href="https://www.investdavenport.com">www.investdavenport.com</a>. The listing of Portfolio Securities is current to the previous day's close of the market. The website is open to the general public. Information regarding Portfolio Securities and other information regarding the investment activities of the Funds may be disclosed to analytical service providers for use in connection with investment research services provided to the Funds. Each disclosure arrangement must be approved by the CCO of the Trust. Currently, the Funds are providing portfolio information to FactSet Research Systems, Inc. at the end of each day.
- Information regarding Portfolio Securities and other information regarding the investment activities of the Funds is disclosed to rating and ranking organizations for use in connection with their rating or ranking of the Funds. Currently, the Funds are providing portfolio information to four different rating or ranking organizations. These organizations offer various services to investors. Each disclosure arrangement has been approved by the CCO of the Trust. The CCO found that this disclosure was in the best interest of shareholders and serves a legitimate business interest of the Funds.

Below is a table listing the rating or ranking groups that are currently receiving portfolio information along with the types of information received, conditions or restrictions on use, timing of disclosure and any compensation received for providing portfolio information.

			Receipt of Compensation or other Consideration
Name of Rating or		Timing of Release and	by the Funds or
Ranking Group	Information Provided	Conditions or Restrictions on Use	Affiliated Party
Morningstar, Inc.	CUSIP, description, shares/par,	Provided monthly, with a 30-day lag. No	None
	market value	formal conditions or restrictions.	
Lipper	CUSIP, description, shares/par,	Provided monthly, with a 30-day lag. No	None
	market value	formal conditions or restrictions. Lipper	
		indicates that it will not trade based on the	
		Funds' portfolio information, and it prohibits	
		its employees from any such trading.	
Bloomberg L.P.	CUSIP, description, shares/par,	Provided monthly, with a 30-day lag. No	None
	market value	formal conditions or restrictions.	
		Bloomberg indicates that it requires all	
		employees to sign confidentiality	
		agreements acknowledging all information	
		received during their employment must be	
		used for legitimate business purposes only.	
FactSet	CUSIP, description, shares/par,	Provided monthly, with a 30-day lag. No	None
	market value	formal conditions or restrictions. FactSet	
		employees are required to follow a code of	
		business conduct and ethics that obligates	
		them to use a reasonable degree of care to	
		safeguard confidential information and must	
		agree in writing to comply with this code of	
		business conduct and ethics.	

- These policies relating to disclosure of the Funds' Portfolio Securities do not prohibit: (i) disclosure of information to the Adviser or other Fund service providers, including but not limited to the Funds' Administrator, Distributor, custodian, legal counsel, accountants, proxy service, financial printer/typesetter, performance and regulatory reporting platform, and proxy voting service, or to brokers and dealers in connection with the Funds' purchase and sale of Portfolio Securities; and (ii) disclosure of holdings of or transactions in Portfolio Securities by a Fund that is made on the same basis to all shareholders of the Fund.
- In the event a Fund processes a shareholder's redemption request in-kind, the Fund may, under certain circumstances, provide portfolio holdings information to such shareholder to the extent necessary to allow the shareholder to prepare for the receipt of such portfolio securities.
- Neither the Adviser nor the Trust (or any affiliated person, employee, officer, trustee or director of the Adviser or the Trust) may receive any direct or indirect compensation in consideration of the disclosure of information relating to Portfolio Securities held, purchased or sold by the Funds.
- The CCO of the Trust may approve other arrangements, not described herein, under which information relating to Portfolio Securities held by a Fund, or purchased or sold by a Fund (other than information contained in Official Reports), is disclosed to any shareholder or other person. The CCO shall approve such an arrangement only if he concludes (based on a consideration of the information to be disclosed, the timing of the disclosure, the intended use of the information and other relevant factors) that the arrangement is reasonably necessary to aid in conducting the ongoing business of the Funds and is unlikely to affect adversely the Funds or any shareholder of the Funds and is in the best interests of

- shareholders and subject to a confidentiality agreement and prohibition of trading based upon material non-public information.
- The CCO of the Trust shall inform the Board of any arrangements that are approved by the CCO pursuant to these policies, and the rationale supporting such approval, at the next regular quarterly meeting of the Board following such approval. At least annually, the CCO shall provide the Board with a report as to compliance with these policies.

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements of the Funds for the year ended March 31, 2024, together with the report of Cohen & Company, Ltd., the Funds' Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm, thereon, are incorporated herein by reference to the Annual Report of the Funds.

## APPENDIX A - DESCRIPTION OF BOND RATINGS

The various ratings used by the NRSROs are described below.

# **Description of Moody's Investors Service, Inc.'s Bond Ratings:**

**Aaa:** Obligations rated Aaa are judged to be of the highest quality, with minimal credit risk.

**Aa:** Obligations rated Aa are judged to be of high quality and are subject to very low credit risk.

**A:** Obligations rated A are considered upper-medium grade and are subject to low credit risk.

**Baa:** Obligations Baa are subject to moderate credit risk. They are considered medium grade, and as such may possess speculative characteristics.

**Ba:** Obligations rated Ba are judged to have speculative elements and are subject to substantial credit risk.

**B:** Obligations rated B are considered speculative and are subject to high credit risk

Moody's appends numerical modifiers 1, 2 and 3 to each generic rating classification from Aa through Caa. The modifier 1 indicates that the obligation ranks in the higher end of its generic rating category; the modifier 2 indicates a mid-range ranking; and the modifier 3 indicates a ranking in the lower end of that generic rating category.

# **Description of S&P Global Ratings Definitions:**

AAA: An obligation rated 'AAA' has the highest rating assigned by S&P. The obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is extremely strong.

AA: An obligation rated 'AA' differs from the highest-rated obligations only to a small degree. The obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is very strong.

A: An obligation rated 'A' is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligations in higher-rated categories. However, the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment is still strong.

**BBB:** An obligation rated 'BBB' exhibits adequate protection parameters. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to weaken the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

BB, B, Obligations rated 'BB,' 'B,' 'CCC','CC' and 'C' are regarded as having significant CCC, speculative characteristics. 'BB' indicates the least degree of speculation and 'C' the highest. While such obligations will likely have some quality and protective characteristics, these may be outweighed by large uncertainties or major exposures to adverse conditions.

The ratings from 'AA' to 'CCC' may be modified by the addition of a plus (+) or minus (-) sign to show relative standing within the major rating categories.

# **Description of Fitch Ratings:**

Ratings of individual securities or financial obligations of a corporate issuer address relative vulnerability to default on an ordinal scale. In addition, for financial obligations in corporate finance, a measure of recovery given default on that liability is also included in the rating assessment. This notably applies to covered bond ratings, which incorporate both an indication of the probability of default and of the recovery given a default of this debt instrument. The relationship between issuer scale and obligation scale assumes a historical average recovery of between 30% - 50% on the senior, unsecured obligations of an issuer. As a result, individual obligations of entities, such as corporations, are assigned ratings higher, lower, or the same as that entity's issuer rating.

AAA:	
Highest	credit
quality	

'AAA' ratings denote the lowest expectation of default risk. They are assigned only in cases of exceptionally strong capacity for payment of financial commitments. This capacity is highly unlikely to be adversely affected by foreseeable events.

# AA: Very high credit quality

AA' ratings denote expectations of very low default risk. They indicate very strong capacity for payment of financial commitments. This capacity is not significantly vulnerable to foreseeable events.

# A: High credit quality

A' ratings denote expectations of low default risk. The capacity for payment of financial commitments is considered strong. This capacity may, nevertheless, be more vulnerable to adverse business or economic conditions than is the case for higher ratings.

# BBB: Good credit quality

'BBB' ratings indicate that expectations of default risk are currently low. The capacity for payment of financial commitments is considered adequate but adverse business or economic conditions are more likely to impair this capacity.

# BB: Speculative

'BB' ratings indicate an elevated vulnerability to default risk, particularly in the event of adverse changes in business or economic conditions over time; however, business or financial flexibility exists which supports the servicing of financial commitments.

# B: Highly Speculative

'B' ratings indicate that material default risk is present, but a limited margin of safety remains. Financial commitments are currently being met; however, capacity for continued payment is vulnerable to deterioration in the business and economic environment.

The modifiers "+" or "-"may be appended to a rating to denote relative status within major rating categories. Such suffixes are not added the "AAA obligation rating category.

## APPENDIX B – POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR VOTING PROXIES

# WILLIAMSBURG INVESTMENT TRUST

1. <u>Purpose.</u> The purpose of this memorandum is to describe the policies and procedures for voting proxies received from issuers whose securities are held by the Trust. These policies and procedures are to be implemented by the Investment Advisers to the various Funds.

# 2. Definitions

- (a) <u>Proxy.</u> A proxy permits a shareholder to vote without being present at annual or special meetings. A proxy is the form whereby a person who is eligible to vote on corporate matters transmits written instructions for voting or transfers the right to vote to another person in place of the eligible voter. Proxies are generally solicited by management, but may be solicited by dissident shareholders opposed to management's policies or strategies.
- (b) <u>Proxy Manager.</u> Proxy manager, as used herein, refers to the individual, individuals or committee of individuals appointed by the Investment Advisers to the various Funds as being responsible for supervising and implementing these Policies and Procedures.

# 3. Policy for Voting Proxies.

- (a) <u>Fiduciary Considerations.</u> Proxies are voted solely in the interests of the shareholders of the Trust. Any conflict of interest must be resolved in the way that will most benefit the shareholders.
- (b) <u>Management Recommendations.</u> Since the quality and depth of management is a primary factor considered when investing in a company, the recommendation of management on any issue should be given substantial weight.

The vote with respect to most issues presented in proxy statements should be cast in accordance with the position of the company's management, unless it is determined that supporting management's position would adversely affect the investment merits of owning the stock. However, each issue should be considered on its own merits, and the position of the company's management should not be supported in any situation where it is found not to be in the best interests of the Trust's shareholders.

4. <u>Conflicts of Interest.</u> The Trust recognizes that under certain circumstances the Investment Advisers may have a conflict of interest in voting proxies on behalf of the various Funds. Such circumstances may include, but are not limited to, situations where the Investment Adviser or one or more of its affiliates, including officers, directors and employees, has or is seeking a client relationship with the issuer of the security that is the subject of the proxy vote. The Investment Adviser shall periodically inform its employees that they are under an obligation to be aware of the potential for conflicts of interest on the part of the Investment Adviser with respect to voting proxies on behalf of the Funds, both as a result of the employee's personal relationships and due to circumstances that may arise during the conduct of the Investment Adviser's business, and to bring conflicts of interest of which they become aware to the attention

of the proxy manager. The Investment Adviser shall not vote proxies relating to such issuers on behalf of the Funds until it has determined that the conflict of interest is not material or a method of resolving such conflict of interest has been determined in the manner described below. A conflict of interest will be considered material to the extent that it is determined that such conflict has the potential to influence the Adviser's decision-making in voting a proxy. Materiality determinations will be based upon an assessment of the particular facts and circumstances. If the proxy manager determines that a conflict of interest is not material, the Investment Adviser may vote proxies notwithstanding the existence of a conflict. If the conflict of interest is determined to be material, either (i) the conflict shall be disclosed to the Audit Committee and the Investment Adviser shall follow the instructions of the Audit Committee or (ii) the Investment Adviser shall vote the issue in question based upon the recommendation of an independent third party under a contractual arrangement approved by the Audit Committee. The proxy manager shall keep a record of all materiality decisions and report them to the Audit Committee on a quarterly basis.

5. <u>Routine Proposals.</u> Proxies for routine proposals (such as election of directors, selection of independent public accountants, stock splits and increases in capital stock) should generally be voted in favor of management.

# 6. Non-routine Proposals.

- (a) <u>Guidelines on Anti-takeover Issues.</u> Since anti-takeover proposals generally reduce shareholders' rights, the vote with respect to these proposals should generally be "against." During review of the proposal, if it is concluded that the proposal is beneficial to shareholders, a vote for the proposal should be cast. This may (but is not required to) be the case for staggered board and fair price amendments. Other anti-takeover issues include supermajority rules, superstock, poison pills and greenmail.
- (b) <u>Guidelines on Social and Political Issues.</u> Social and political issues should be reviewed on a case by case basis. Votes should generally be cast with management on social or political issues, subject to review by the proxy manager appointed by the Investment Adviser who shall be the portfolio manager, securities analyst or other investment professional.
- 7. <u>Proxy Manager Approval.</u> Votes on non-routine matters (including the matters in paragraph 5 and mergers, stock option and other compensation plans) and votes against a management's recommendations are subject to approval by the proxy manager.
- 8. <u>Proxy Voting Procedures.</u> Proxy voting will be conducted in compliance with the policies and practices described in this memorandum and is subject to the proxy manager's supervision. A reasonable effort should be made to obtain proxy material and to vote in a timely fashion. Records should be maintained regarding the voting of proxies under these Policies and Procedures.
- 9. Report to the Board. On an annual basis, the proxy manager or his designee will report in writing to the Board of Trustees on the general manner in which proxy proposals relating to anti-takeover, social and political issues were voted, as well as proposals that were voted in opposition to management's recommendations.

60

10. <u>Investment Advisers' Voting Procedures.</u> The Trust acknowledges that the Investment Advisers to the various Funds have adopted voting policies and procedures for their clients which have been delivered to the Trust. To the extent that such policies and procedures are consistent with these Policies and Procedures, the Investment Advisers may implement them with respect to voting proxies on behalf of the various Funds. However, the provisions of paragraph 4 of these Policies and Procedures relating to conflicts of interest shall supercede any comparable provisions of the Investment Advisers' policies and procedures.

As adopted November 1, 2004





# Davenport & Company LLC (The "Adviser")

# **Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures**

If directed in writing by the client, Adviser will be responsible for voting proxies for accounts in Adviser's Investment Advisory programs. The Adviser intends to exercise a voice on behalf of clients in matters of corporate governance through the proxy process. The Adviser takes its fiduciary responsibilities very seriously and believes the right to vote a proxy is a significant asset of shareholders and clients. The Adviser exercises its voting responsibilities as a fiduciary, solely with the goal of maximizing the value of clients' investments.

The Adviser has delegated the responsibility of overseeing the proxy voting process to a Proxy Voting Coordinator (the "Coordinator"). The Adviser's proxy voting policies and procedures are outlined below.

# **General Policy for Voting Proxies**

The Adviser will vote proxies solely in the interests of its clients and will vote consistently across the client base.

The Adviser shall not vote proxies for privately held securities, nor shall extraordinary measures, such as, but not limited to travel, be taken to submit a proxy vote. The Adviser will generally not vote proxies when the cost of voting on a particular proxy proposal could exceed the expected benefit to a client.

From time to time, the Adviser may abstain from voting proxies for securities that have not been selected through the advisory process but are held in a client account per the client's direction.

Since the quality and depth of management is a primary factor considered when investing in a company, the Adviser gives substantial weight to the recommendation of management on any issue. However, the Adviser will consider each issue on its own merits, and the position of a company's management will not be supported in any situation where it is found not to be in the best interests of clients. Proxy voting, absent any unusual circumstances or conflicts of interest, will be conducted in accordance with the procedures set forth below.

# **Proxy Voting Process: Voting Governance**

The Adviser has contracted with Broadridge, an independent third party to provide all proxy voting and recordkeeping services through "ProxyEdge". ProxyEdge has contracted with Glass Lewis, a leading independent provider of global proxy analysis and voting services to provide voting recommendations. The Coordinator will monitor the voting and recordkeeping of all

proxies and generally review each vote to ensure the voting follows the established Adviser guidelines. The Coordinator has the ability to override the recommended vote of Glass Lewis if it is determined the recommended vote is in direct conflict with the established guidelines of the Adviser or if it is determined a conflict of interest exists.

# **The Monitoring Process**

The Adviser has elected to use the "Typical Investment Manager Policy" provided by ProxyEdge for voting recommendations. This policy was designed to maximize returns for investment advisors by voting in a manner that generally supports management while carefully limiting risk to investors. ProxyEdge automatically records the vote utilizing the recommendations supplied by Glass Lewis and this policy.

The Coordinator and his/her designee receive email alerts from ProxyEdge, notifying the Adviser of meeting dates and voting deadlines. As part of the monitoring process, the ProxyEdge website is checked regularly to ensure votes have been cast on securities with outstanding proxies. At this time the votes are checked to ensure they are cast within the established Adviser guidelines.

# The Coordinator will have the following responsibilities:

- 1. Review contract with Broadridge (ProxyEdge) and communicate with them to resolve any problems that may arise
- Monitor "ProxyEdge" email alerts
- 3. Monitor voting recommendations from a professional proxy voting service (Glass Lewis),
- 4. Solicit information from the Adviser and its' employees about potential conflict of interest,
- 5. Maintain a "proxy conflicts watch list" in coordination with the Adviser's Compliance Department,
- 6. Notify the Chief Investment Officer and the responsible Compliance Officer when an upcoming vote is subject to a conflict of interest,
- 7. Monitor proxy votes via the ProxyEdge website to ensure they are voted in accordance with recommendation of Glass Lewis and/or the established guidelines of the Adviser,
- 8. Maintain records for any client requests for voting information.

# **Conflicts of Interest**

The Adviser recognizes that under certain circumstances it may have a conflict of interest in voting proxies on behalf of its clients. Conflicts of interest may be the result of personal or business relationships, or due to circumstances that may arise during the conduct of the Adviser's business. Such circumstances may include, but are not limited to, situations where the Adviser or one or more of its affiliates, including officers, directors and employees, has or is seeking a client relationship with the issuer of the security that is the subject of the proxy vote. The Adviser shall periodically inform its employees that they are under an obligation to be aware of the potential for conflicts of interest on the part of the Adviser with respect to voting proxies on behalf of clients and to bring such information to the attention of the Coordinator.

Coordinator will make a reasonable effort to be aware of the potential for conflicts of interest on the part of the Adviser with respect to voting proxies on behalf of clients. The Coordinator shall bring any known conflict of interest to the attention of the Chief Investment Officer.

The Adviser believes that certain proxies pertaining to a mutual fund are a potential conflict. For example, the Adviser may have a conflict of interest when the Adviser is solicited to vote client proxies approving an increase in fees deducted from mutual fund assets pursuant to a 12b-1 plan if the fees are a source of revenue for the Adviser.

The Coordinator may vote proxies relating to issuers where a potential conflict of interest is identified, if the Coordinator, in consultation with the Compliance Department, has determined that the conflict of interest is not material. A conflict of interest will be considered material if it is determined that such conflict has the potential to influence the Adviser's decision-making in voting a proxy. Materiality determinations will be based upon an assessment of the particular facts and circumstances. In the event that a material conflict arises, the proxy will be voted in accordance with the recommendation of Glass Lewis. The Coordinator shall memorialize all materiality decisions.

# **Appointment of Coordinator**

In general, the Coordinator is appointed by the Adviser's Chief Investment Officer.

# **Common Proposals**

The Adviser recognizes that there are common proposals that routinely appear on proxies. Listed below are examples of voting decisions for the types of proposals that are most frequently presented:

### **Election of the Board of Directors**

The Adviser believes that good governance starts with an independent board, unfettered by significant ties to management, all of whose members are elected annually. In addition, key board committees should be entirely independent.

The Adviser generally supports the election of directors that result in a board made up of a majority of independent directors.

The Adviser generally does not support the election of non-independent directors who serve on the audit, compensation, and/or nominating committees of the board.

The Adviser will hold directors accountable for the actions of the committees on which they serve. For example, the Adviser generally does not support nominees who serve on the compensation committee if they approve excessive compensation arrangements or propose equity-based compensation plans that unduly dilute the ownership interests of stockholders.

The Adviser generally supports shareholder efforts to declassify existing boards, and will generally block efforts by companies to adopt classified board structures.

# **Approval of Independent Auditors**

The Adviser believes that the relationship between the company and its auditors should be limited primarily to the audit engagement, although it may include certain closely related activities that do not, in the aggregate, raise any appearance of impaired independence.

The Adviser does not support proposed auditors where non-audit fees make up more than 50% of the total fees paid by the company to the audit firm.

The Adviser will evaluate on a case-by-case basis instances in which the audit firm has a substantial non-audit relationship with the company (regardless of its size relative to the audit fee) to determine whether the Adviser believes independence has been compromised.

# **Equity-based Compensation Plans**

The Adviser believes that appropriately designed equity-based compensation plans, approved by shareholders, can be an effective way to align the interests of long-term shareholders and the interests of management, employees, and directors. Conversely, the Adviser is opposed to plans that substantially dilute its clients' ownership interest in the company, provide participants with excessive awards, or have inherently objectionable structural features.

The Adviser generally does not support plans where total potential dilution (including all equity-based plans) exceeds 15% of shares outstanding.

The Adviser generally does not support plans if annual option grants have exceeded 2% of shares outstanding.

These total and annual dilution thresholds are guidelines, not ceilings, and when assessing a plan's impact on our clients, the Adviser considers other factors such as the nature of the industry and size of the company. The Adviser generally opposes plans that have any of the following structural features:

- Ability to re-price underwater options
- Ability to issue options with an exercise price below the stock's current market price.
- Ability to issue reload options.
- Automatic share replenishment ("evergreen") feature.

The Adviser generally supports measures intended to increase long-term stock ownership by executives. These may include:

 Requiring senior executives to hold a minimum amount of stock in the company (frequently expressed as a certain multiple of the executive's salary).

- Requiring stock acquired through option exercise to be held for a certain period of time.
- Using restricted stock grants instead of options.

To this end, the Adviser supports expensing the fair market value of option grants because it substantially eliminates their preferential financial statement treatment vis-à-vis stock grants, furthering the case for increased ownership by corporate leaders and employees.

The Adviser generally supports the use of employee stock purchase plans to increase company stock ownership by employees, provided that shares purchased under the plan are acquired for no less than 85% of their market value.

# **Corporate Structure and Shareholder Rights**

The Adviser believes that shareholders should have voting power equal to their equity interest in the company and should be able to approve (or reject) changes to the corporation's by-laws by a simple majority vote.

The Adviser generally supports proposals to remove super-majority (typically from 66.7% to 80%) voting requirements for certain types of proposals.

The Adviser supports proposals to lower barriers to shareholder action (e.g., limited rights to call special meetings, limited rights to act by written consent).

The Adviser generally opposes proposals for a separate class of stock with disparate voting rights.

The Adviser generally supports proposals to subject shareholder rights plans ("poison pills") to a shareholder vote. In evaluating these plans, the Adviser is more likely to support arrangements with short-term (less than 3 years) sunset provisions, qualified bid/permitted offer provisions ("chewable pills") and/or mandatory review by a committee of independent directors at least every three years (so-called "TIDE" provisions).

## **Corporate and Social Policy Issues**

The Adviser believes that "ordinary business matters" are primarily the responsibility of management and should be approved solely by the corporation's board of directors. Proposals in this category, initiated primarily by shareholders, typically request that the company disclose or amend certain business practices.

The Adviser generally opposes these types of proposals, although the Adviser may make exceptions in certain instances where it believes a proposal has substantial economic implications. The Adviser recognizes it may not be able to reflect accurately the stance of the Adviser's broad client base, and, therefore reserves the right to issue an abstention from vote regarding this type of proposal.