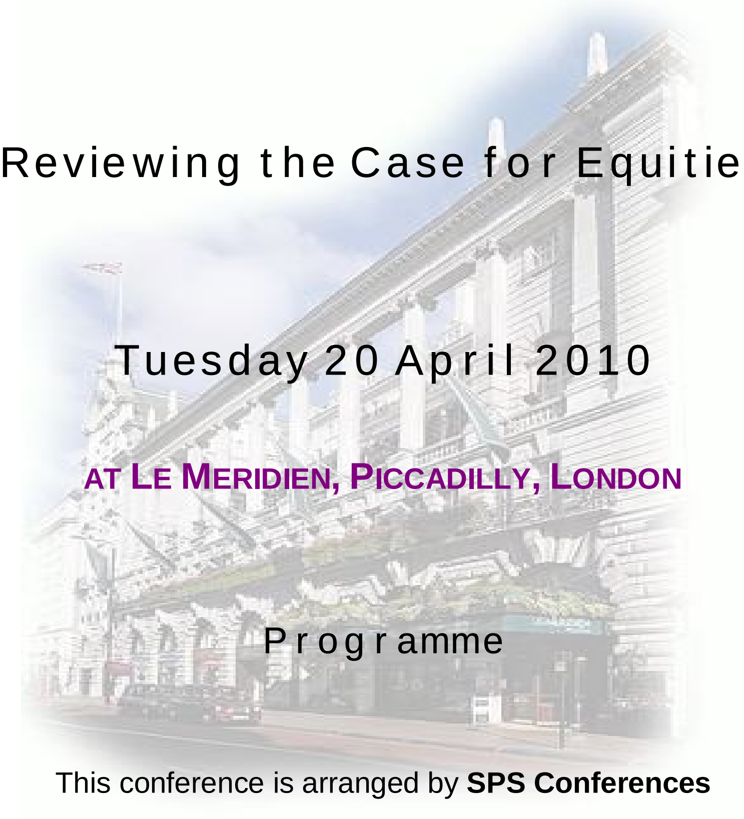
Equity Investment Strategies for Pension Funds



Reviewing the Case for Equities

Tuesday 20 April 2010

AT LE MERIDIEN, PICCADILLY, LONDON

Programme

This conference is arranged by **SPS Conferences**

Sponsored by:

Invesco Perpetual

M&G Investments

Neptune Investment Management

Pioneer Investments

Wegelin Asset Management

Wellington Management International

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PMI Accreditation 6½ hours
www.spsconferences.com

Programme

08.30 **Registration and coffee**

09.00 **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Fred Jaffe, Executive Director, Specialist Pension Services

09.10 **Equities Place in your Portfolio**

Moderated by: Peter Scales, Chair of Trustees, Scout Association Pension Fund

"The Long-term Case for Global Equities"

A new world order - a two-tier world where the East is outpacing the West; The macro environment - government deficits in the West, consumer spending in emerging markets; What matters for stockmarkets - demographics, corporate profits, investors' trust in equity markets; The outlook for equities - short term, medium term and long term; Stockpicking - the decade of the multinational?

Aled Smith, Co-Founder of M&G Global Equity Desk, M&G Investments

"Can Equities Surprise Investors this Decade and Outperform all other Asset Classes?"

What signals are there today that they can? What types of companies can thrive in an open, competitive world when capital is scarce? Unconstrained active investing remains the key strategy to capture this opportunity Ignore last decades ideas of risk management that have dominated over past decades.

Nick Hamilton, Head of International Equity Products, Invesco Perpetual

10.30 Coffee / Tea

11.00 **Looking to Add Value**

Moderated by: David Bennett-Rees, Trustee, Saul Trustee Company

"Emerging Markets: The Story Behind the Headlines"

How much comfort should we take from recent positive headlines surrounding this asset class? Emerging markets uncovered: what are the pitfalls and how do you avoid them? Exploring the long-term merits of this asset class; where will value come from in years to come? Moving on from BRIC and other key themes e.g. inflation; Is this the asset class to watch over the long-term and does it really have far greater potential than developed markets?

John Pollen, Head of Emerging Markets Equity, Pioneer Investments

"Inflation: drivers, outlook, and hedging strategies"

This presentation will examine the key drivers and the outlook for inflation. It will discuss equity returns in different inflation regimes and explore effective inflation hedging strategies should provide the best rewards? Does Niche equity investing really work?

Christophe Orly, Investment Director, Wellington Management International

12.20 **Drinks and Lunch**

13.50 **To Constrain or Retrain**

Moderated by: Roz Amos, Senior Investment Consultant, TowersWatson

"Revolution in Indexing Methods"

A History of Indexing; Assumptions of Efficient Market Hypothesis; Pros and Cons of Market Capitalisation weighted Indexing; A look at other types of Indexing Methods; enhanced, fundamental etc; Active Indexing – a revolutionary combination of both passive and active investing.

Des Morris, Head of UK Institutional, Wegelin Asset Management

"Unconstrained Investment"

A critique of index-based investing covering market irrationality, industrial and thematic over-concentration, liability matching and over- emphasis on the short term ; The concept and characteristics of unconstrained investing including, risk and performance measurement and monitoring; A detailed look at outcomes – the pattern of returns, turnover (and therefore costs) and diversification; Unconstrained as part of a larger investment strategy

Douglas McDowell, Head of Client Investment Strategies, Neptune Investment Management

15.10 Coffee / Tea

15.40 **Practical Issues**

Moderated by: Dave Lyons, Divisional Director, JLT Benefits Solutions

"Value and Growth Strategies: How have they performed?"

Are there really size and value premiums in equity investing? If so, how and when can they be exploited? Who performs best in periods of low GDP growth and are there links between inflation and the value premium and/or the size premium. What strategy performs best when short-term interest rates are low?

Robert Schwob, Principal & Founder, Style Research Ltd.

"Panel Session"

A look at the issues facing pension funds when deciding how to invest in equities today. How do equities fit into a liability driven investment programme? How to decide between domestic and global equities? Panellists:

Leyland Otter, Senior Investment Manager, Merseyside Pension Fund
Nick Greenwood, Pension Fund Manager, Berkshire Pension Fund

17.00 **Close of Conference** and drinks reception

Speaker Biographies

Having spent almost 25 years managing bonds and equities for both institutional investors and private clients **Nick Greenwood** moved to the Local Government Pension Scheme in 2004 when he joined the Environment Agency. Nick joined the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead in 2007 and is the Pension Fund Manager for the **Royal County of Berkshire Pension Fund**. He has been instrumental in conducting a thorough review of the Fund's governance structure as well as instigating a major overhaul of the Fund's investment strategy. In April 2008 the Fund announced its new investment strategy with a wholesale move away from equities into other return seeking assets. In December 2009 the Fund announced that it had entered into a longevity insurance contract covering almost 11,000 pensioner members with Swiss Re.

Des Morris is Head of UK Institutional business for **Wegelin Asset Management** (WAM). Prior to joining WAM in 2008, he worked as a consultant, primarily acting for international law firms in disputes involving derivatives, risk management, structured products and asset management. He is a regular speaker on both public and in-house training programmes. Des started his career at the International Petroleum Exchange before moving to Credit Lyonnais, working in derivative sales and marketing.

Douglas McDowell joined **Neptune** in November 2009 to manage client relationships from an investment strategy perspective. He has over 30 years' experience in the investment industry and spent 15 years as Client Services Director at Baillie Gifford before joining Neptune. There he was responsible for all aspects of the relationship with a range of institutional clients including private and public sector pension funds, charities and endowments. Douglas graduated in Economics from St Andrews University in 1978 and began his career in stockbroking before holding positions at Canada Life and Hill Samuel Investment Management managing a range of insurance funds, pension funds and unit trusts.

John Pollen is Head of Emerging Markets at **Pioneer Investments**. He was appointed to this role is January 2005. Prior to joining Pioneer Investments in 1999, John worked with Standard Bank of South Africa in Johannesburg as Domestic Portfolio Manager and Head of International Investment Strategy both for institutional and individual clients. A graduate of Kings College, London, John also worked with Barings Asset Management between 1982 and 1995 in London and Tokyo where he was in charge of European (including emerging) equity portfolios. At Pioneer Investments John is responsible for our flagship Global Emerging Market Equity strategy. He also oversees all Portfolio Managers specialising in other Emerging Market regions such as Eastern Europe and Latin America. John began his career at Pioneer Investments as Head of the European Emerging Markets Equity team in Dublin.

Robert Schwob is a Principal and the founder of **Style Research Limited**. He is also a Director of INQUIRE UK, former Chairman of the INQUIRE UK Research Committee, a member of the Advisory Council for the Scottish Institute for Research in Investment and Finance, and a member of the Editorial Board of the Journal of Asset Management. Previously, Robert was Chief Executive of Quorum Capital Management Limited, London (a global active Style-based investment manager) and prior to that Chief Investment Officer for The Citibank Private Bank (Europe, Middle East and Africa). Robert was educated in Canada, France and the UK and has gained Masters Degrees in Mathematics and International Economics. He speaks regularly at international investment conferences and is a respected lecturer on international investment practice and theory at professional investment training programmes and specialist seminars. Robert has also published broadly in the professional journals on Style Analysis and Style Management, Stock Selection, Benchmark Selection, Market Allocation, and Hedging and Currency Management.

Aled Smith joined **M&G** in December 2000 as a global equity fund manager. He manages the M&G Global Leaders Fund and the M&G American Fund. Before joining M&G, Aled worked at JP Morgan Asset Management for eight years, four of these as a specialist senior analyst for the media sector. Prior to joining JP Morgan, he was an actuarial consultant for Coopers & Lybrand from 1989 to 1992. Aled graduated from Lincoln College, Oxford, in 1989 with a BA in mathematics. He is a CFA charterholder.

Conference Notes

Purpose: This conference will explore the equity investment opportunities that are available to pension funds, looking at practical application issues, performance, prospects and how different equity strategies can be structured to achieve a fund's specific investment objectives. We will normally include both public and private equity in both developed and emerging markets considering mainstream as well as alternative strategies.

Date: Tuesday 20 April 2010

Venue: Le Meridien, 21 Piccadilly, London, W1J 0BH. Tel: 020 7734 8000.

Cost: **£865** plus VAT. In addition a limited number of sponsored places are available to representatives of pension funds (and other institutional investors who themselves do not offer investment management services to others) at **£435** plus VAT. Please check that you are eligible. The charge includes all conference documentation, drinks, lunch, tea and coffee breaks. Payment is required before the event. A VAT receipt will be supplied on request.

Cancellation: prior to 6 April 2010 subject to a fee of £60.00. No refunds can be made if cancellation is after this date but delegates may be substituted at any time.

Amendments: SPS reserves the right to amend or cancel the conference at any time but will always attempt to give prior notice. Cancellation by SPS will result in a full refund.

PMI Accreditation: Attendance at the conference will be given 6½ hours of CPD with the PMI.

Data Protection: Personal data is gathered in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. Your details may be passed to other companies including the conference sponsors who may wish to provide you with offers or other information related to your business activities. If you do not want to receive such information please tick the box in the booking form below.

Specialist Pension Services: please visit our website: ***www.spsconferences.com*** for an update of this conference and details of the other specialist pension and investment conferences we organise.

Queries: please contact: Ms Sue Golton at Specialist Pension Services Limited. Telephone +44 (0)1438 712345 Telefax +44 (0)1438 718883 Email: sue@spsconferences.com

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Booking Form

Please read the Conference Notes, then complete the details below.

Please reserve .... place(s) at The **SPS Equity Investment Strategies for Pension Funds Conference** taking place on 20 April 2010.

❑ delegates at £865 plus VAT @ 17.5% = £1016.38

❑ delegates at £ 435 plus VAT @ 17.5% = £511.25 (only applicable to trustees and other representatives of pension funds who do not themselves offer investment advisory services to other institutions).

Please indicate method of payment:

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