

External speakers



Mr. Bob Woodward

Associate Editor of The Washington Post

Bob Woodward is an associate editor of The Washington Post, where he has worked since 1971. He has shared in two Pulitzer Prizes, first in 1973 for the coverage of the Watergate scandal with Carl Bernstein, and second in 2002 as the lead reporter for coverage of the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

He has authored or coauthored 17 books, all of which have been national non-fiction best sellers. Twelve of those have been #1 national best sellers, spanning the years from 1974 to 2010. Bob Schieffer of CBS News has said, “Woodward has established himself as the best reporter of our time. He may be the best reporter of all time.”

In 2014, Robert Gates, former director of the CIA and Secretary of Defense, said that he wished he’d recruited Woodward into the CIA, saying of Woodward, “He has an extraordinary ability to get otherwise responsible adults to spill [their] guts to him...his ability to get people to talk about stuff they shouldn’t be talking about is just extraordinary and may be unique.”

Gene Roberts, the former managing editor of The New York Times, has called the Woodward-Bernstein Watergate coverage, “maybe the single greatest reporting effort of all time.” In listing the all-time 100 best non-fiction books, TIME magazine has called All the President’s Men, by Bernstein and Woodward, “Perhaps the most influential piece of journalism in history.”

External speakers



Mr. Tad Rivelle

Group Managing Director, Chief Investment Officer–Fixed Income of TCW and MetWest

Tad Rivelle is Chief Investment Officer, Fixed Income, overseeing \$140 billion in U.S. fixed income assets, including over \$85 billion of U.S. fixed income mutual fund assets under the TCW Funds and MetWest Funds brands. Prior to joining TCW, Tad served as Chief Investment Officer for MetWest, an independent institutional investment manager that he cofounded. The MetWest investment team has been recognized for a number of performance related awards, including Morningstar’s Fixed Income Manager of the Year.

Mr. Rivelle was also the co-director of fixed income at Hotchkis & Wiley and a portfolio manager at PIMCO. Tad holds a BS in Physics from Yale University, an MS in Applied Mathematics from University of Southern California, and an MBA from UCLA Anderson.

External speakers



Mr. Shawn Achor

Founder and CEO of GoodThink Inc.

Shawn Achor is the winner of over a dozen distinguished teaching awards at Harvard University, where he delivered lectures on positive psychology in the most popular class at Harvard. Achor has become one of the world's leading experts on the connection between happiness and success. His research on happiness made the cover of Harvard Business Review, his TED talk is one of the most popular all time with over 6 million views, and his lecture airing on PBS has been seen by millions. Achor teaches for the Advanced Management Program at Wharton Business School, and collaborates on research with Yale and Columbia University.

In 2007, Achor founded GoodThinkInc to share his research with the world. Subsequently, Shawn has lectured or researched in more than 50 countries, speaking to CEOs in China, school children in South Africa, doctors in Dubai and farmers in Zimbabwe. In 2012, Achor helped lead the Everyday Matters campaign with the National MS Society and Genzyme to show how happiness remains a choice for those struggling with a chronic illness.

Achor graduated magna cum laude from Harvard and earned a master's degree from Harvard Divinity School in Christian and Buddhist Ethics. For seven years, Achor also served as an officer of Harvard, living in Harvard Yard and counseling students through the stresses of their first year.

Achor is the author of New York Times' The Happiness Advantage (2010) and Before Happiness (2013), as well as Ripple's Effect and The Orange Frog. He is featured in PBS's The Happiness Advantage with Shawn Achor special.

External speakers



Mr. Jim Vos

Chief Executive Officer of Aksia, LLC

Jim has over 29 years of fund of hedge funds, research and derivatives experience in New York, London and Tokyo. Jim co-founded Aksia in October 2006 and serves as the firm's CEO. Jim is responsible for the overall management of Aksia and also leads the firm's top down sector and strategy analysis.

Prior to Aksia, Jim headed Credit Suisse's Hedge Fund Investment Group from its inception through December 2005. The group combined the fund of hedge funds investment management of the firm's investment bank and asset management divisions, which grew to over \$8 billion of total AUM while Jim was at Credit Suisse.

Jim started his career in 1985 when he joined Credit Suisse's Portfolio Strategies group, working on portfolio dedications, immunizations, and total return analysis. In 1987, Jim joined the research department in Tokyo where he ran a fixed income research desk. In 1991, he relocated to New York and joined Credit Suisse Financial Products, a derivatives trading boutique. From 1991 to 1997, Jim was responsible for structuring and marketing for the asset management, hedge fund and insurance areas. In 1998, Jim launched the Sapic-98 Fund of Hedge Funds, Credit Suisse's first institutional multi-strategy fund of hedge funds. In 2000, Jim transferred to London where he managed the investment bank's fund of hedge funds group as well as the Fund Linked Products business. In 2003, Jim took over responsibility for investment management for the firm's Hedge Funds Investment Group.

Jim graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1985 with a B.A. in Economics. Jim was recognized as Hedge Fund Consultant of the Year in 2009 and 2010 by Institutional Investor.

External speakers



Mr. William Moriarty, CFA

President & Chief Executive Officer of University of Toronto Asset Management Corporation

William W. Moriarty, CFA is President and Chief Executive Officer of the University of Toronto Asset Management Corporation. Prior to joining UTAM in April 2008, Mr. Moriarty was a Vice Chairman of RBC Capital Markets. Over his career at RBC, which began in 1983, Mr. Moriarty has served as: Director of Equity Research and Chair of the Investment Strategy Committee; Head of the Global Research Division; Head of the Global Equity Division; Co-Head of the Capital Markets Services Division; and Head of the Alternative Investments Division. He was also a member of the Bank's Pension Investment Committee, and a Director of RBC Asset Management Inc. and RBC Capital Partners Limited.

In addition, he has served on several community, industry and public Boards and was a founding director of IIROC and the Chair of Market Regulation Services Inc. – the SRO which regulated securities trading and market related activities of participants on Canadian Stock Exchanges and alternative trading systems. Mr. Moriarty holds a BA from the University of Toronto and an MA from the University of Chicago.

External speakers



Mr. Chris Li, CFA

President & Chief Investment Officer of Lockheed Martin Investment Manager Company

Chris Li is President and Chief Investment Officer (CIO) for Lockheed Martin Investment Management Company. Mr. Li oversees the management of \$70 billion of retirement trust assets.

Mr. Li began his career as a Statistician for the Hong Kong Government from 1983 to 1988 where he managed a staff of over 4,500 for the 1986 census operation.

Mr. Li joined The Dow Chemical Company in 1990 as Financial Risk Manager. He left Dow in 1994 to join MetLife Investment Management Company as a Managing Director and Co-chair of the Investment Policy Committee. In 1996, he joined Caxton Corporation as a hedge fund manager. Mr. Li rejoined Dow in 1999 as Director of Equity Investments and was promoted to President of Diamond Capital Management Inc. in 2001. Mr. Li joined Lockheed Martin Investment Management Company in 2007 as Chief Investment Officer. He was promoted to be President and Chief Investment Officer in 2011.

Mr. Li was a member of the Investment Advisory Committee of Microsoft Corporation, advising the company on the investment strategy for its \$50+ billion in financial assets. He also served as Vice Chairperson of the Investment Subcommittee for The Committee for Investment of Employee Benefit Assets (CIEBA), whose members oversee over \$1 trillion of retirement assets. Mr. Li was a member of the IEEE Investment Committee.

Mr. Li was named Large Corporate Pension Manager of the Year in the Institutional Investor's 2010 U.S. Investment Management Awards.

Mr. Li holds an MBA from Stanford University and a Master in Statistics and a Bachelor of Social Sciences in Economics and Statistics from the University of Hong Kong. He is a CFA charterholder.

External speakers



Mr. Donald Pierce, CFA

Chief Investment Officer of San Bernardino County Employees' Retirement Association

Mr. Pierce serves as the Chief Investment Officer for the San Bernardino County Employees' Retirement Association (SBCERA), where he has been part of the investment team since 2001. He works directly with the Board on developing policy and investment goals, implementing investment objectives and the selection of investment managers, and is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the investment division.

During his tenure with SBCERA, Mr. Pierce introduced international private equity, emerging market debt, and option strategies into the plan's mix. Additionally, he developed a UAAL forecasting model and he has spearheaded a new rebalancing methodology for the fund.

Mr. Pierce earned a Bachelors of Science in Statistics from San Diego State and is a CFA charter holder. He is a member of the CFA Institute and has shared his professional expertise with various professional organizations.

Internal speakers



Mr. Jeffrey MacLean

Chief Executive Officer

Mr. MacLean joined Verus in 1992 and is primarily responsible for managing the firm and providing investment advice to several clients. He has over 25 years of investment and consulting experience, working with all asset classes for a range of clients including corporate defined benefit plans, public institutions, multi-employer trusts, endowments, and foundations. He also chairs the firm's management committee and is a member of the alternative investments committee.

Mr. MacLean often speaks at investment forums regarding the macro-economic environment, asset allocation, risk management, alternative investments, and industry trends. Prior to joining Verus, Mr. MacLean was Vice President of Shurgard Realty Group, a real estate advisory firm, and a consultant for Arthur Andersen & Company.

Mr. MacLean currently volunteers for Children's Hospital of Los Angeles and he serves on the advisory board for the University of Washington Foster School of Business. He holds a masters degree in business administration (MBA) from the Darden School of Business and a bachelors degree in business administration (BBA) from the University of Washington, where he served as student body president in his senior year.

Internal speakers



Ms. Shelly Heier, CFA, CAIA

President | Chief Operating Officer | Senior Consultant

A shareholder of the firm since 2007, Ms. Heier is an integral part of the firm's leadership, serving on the Verus management committee, chairing the investment committee, and heading the Seattle-based consulting staff. In addition, Ms. Heier provides investment consulting services to a handful of clients, including charitable organizations, corporate retirement plans, and healthcare organizations. Ms. Heier is a frequent speaker at industry conferences, where she has presented on a broad range of topics including capturing alpha from quantitative strategies and portfolio operations efficiencies.

As chair of the investment committee, Ms. Heier provides strategic guidance to the firm's research staff on the important issues affecting clients and vetting the research department's initiatives. Ms. Heier joined Verus (previously known as Wurts & Associates) in 2000 as a member of the manager research group and was responsible for investment manager and market research. She served as director of manager research from 2002 to 2005. Prior to joining our firm, she worked as an analyst for a financial planning firm specializing in high net worth individuals.

Ms. Heier is active in numerous civic and industry groups, including the CFA Institute, CFA Society of Seattle, CAIA Association, Western Pension & Benefit Conference, and the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center's Innovators Network. In 2012, the Puget Sound Business Journal recognized Ms. Heier's accomplishments by selecting her as a "40 Under 40" honoree.

Ms. Heier graduated from the University of Puget Sound with a bachelor of arts (BA) in business and public administration with an emphasis in finance and a minor in economics. She earned the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation in 2001 and the Chartered Alternative Investment Analyst (CAIA) designation in 2011.

Internal speakers



Mr. Jeffrey Scott, CFA

Chief Investment Officer

Mr. Scott joined Verus in 2011. He is head of Verus Investors, LLC, the firm's discretionary asset management division, serves on the Verus management committee, and is a member of the investment committee. Mr. Scott previously held the position of chief investment officer for the Alaska Permanent Fund's \$40 billion investment portfolio, where he led the Fund in adopting a risk-factor approach to asset allocation, along with the development of risk-based investment policy. For this work, Alaska was awarded the aiCIO Industry Innovation Award for 2010, and Institutional Investor magazine recognized Mr. Scott with the 2011 Outstanding Industry Contribution Award for the Hedge Fund Industry.

As assistant treasurer at Microsoft Corporation, Mr. Scott's management responsibilities included \$80 billion global investment portfolio, \$10 billion foreign exchange hedging program, and \$60 billion capital distribution plan. His 30+ person team developed an extensive array of asset allocation and risk management models to set the strategic and tactical investment and hedging strategies, producing \$7 billion in added value.

Mr. Scott has 25 years of investment experience and is a frequently requested speaker on topics such as strategic asset allocation, risk management, and governance. He holds a masters degree in business administration (MBA) from Central Michigan University and a bachelor of Science (BS) in finance from the University of Idaho. He is a CFA charterholder, was a member of the Long Term Investor Council of the World Economic Forum for the year 2012, and a 2011-2012 visiting scholar at Stanford University's Collaboratory for Research on Global Projects.

Internal speakers



Mr. Scott Whalen, CFA

Executive Vice President | Senior Consultant

Mr. Whalen joined Verus in 2002. He is primarily responsible for providing high quality strategic investment advice and ensuring that clients meet their long-term investment objectives. A Verus shareholder and a key member of the Verus leadership team, Mr. Whalen is a member of the management committee and oversees the firm's consulting staff.

Prior to joining Verus, Mr. Whalen built a distinguished career in management consulting at McKinsey & Company and Ernst & Young, where he led corporate and public sector institutions to increase efficiency and improve operational performance. Mr. Whalen has extensive experience working with multiple stakeholders across industries, where he has honed his ability to foster effective decision-making in challenging environments.

Mr. Whalen is a recognized speaker at industry conferences, where he has presented on a broad range of topics including asset allocation, alternative investing, manager oversight, attaining operational efficiencies in investment programs, the challenges and potential benefits of dynamic asset allocation, and the importance of maintaining a long-term perspective.

Mr. Whalen received a bachelor of arts (BA) in economics from Wake Forest University and a masters in business administration (MBA) from the University of Southern California. He has earned the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation and is a member of the CFA Institute and the CFA Society of Los Angeles.

Internal speakers



Mr. Omer Tareen, CFA

Managing Director

Mr. Omer Tareen joined Verus in 2012. He serves on the management committee and holds a seat on the alternative investments committee. He has more than 15 years of investment management experience in such diverse areas as market risk, cross-asset class derivatives trading, portfolio management and overlay strategies.

Previously, Mr. Tareen led the portfolio management team for Samba Capital (formerly Citibank) which manages assets in excess of \$9 billion. During his leadership at Samba Capital, he restructured the asset management team through talent upgrade, product line rationalization, upgrade of support and risk management systems, and portfolio performance turnaround.

As a group portfolio manager and market risk manager in Microsoft Corporation's treasury group, Mr. Tareen's team was responsible for the implementation of cross-asset class overlay and tail risk hedging strategies for an \$80 billion investment portfolio. He also led the technological and technical initiative to design and implement a robust risk and performance monitoring system. As a result of these initiatives and their successful implementation, Mr. Tareen was awarded the distinguished Microsoft Gold Star Award two times. Later at Microsoft, he was directly responsible for the catastrophic hedging program for the \$80 billion portfolio along with overlay strategies and trading volatility as an asset class.

Mr. Tareen graduated from the University of California at Berkeley with a master of financial engineering degree (MFE). He also holds a master of business administration (MBA) in finance and a bachelor of engineering (B.Eng) degree from Lahore University of Management Sciences. Mr. Tareen has earned the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation. He was also a member of the GARP examination committee for FRM tests in 2005.

Internal speakers



Mr. Max Giolitti

Managing Director

Mr. Giolitti joined Verus in 2011. He was previously director of asset allocation and risk at the Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation (APFC) where he was also responsible for the external CIO program, the absolute return portfolio and multi-asset allocation managers. He has 19 years of industry experience.

Before joining APFC, Mr. Giolitti held several key positions in finance and technology, including chief risk officer at Tahoma Capital, director of quantitative analysis and group risk manager at Microsoft Corporation, head of research at Money Management Group and head of product management at GL Trade/FNX.

Mr. Giolitti is a frequent speaker at industry conferences, where he has presented on a broad range of topics from risk management to asset allocation.

Mr. Giolitti graduated from the University of California at Berkeley with a bachelor of arts (BA) and a double major in physics and mathematics. He also earned a master of science (MS) degree in applied mathematics from the University of Washington.

Internal speakers



Mr. Brent Nelson

Managing Director | Senior Consultant

For more than 10 years, Mr. Nelson has provided proactive guidance to ERISA and non-ERISA plan fiduciaries with respect to risk management, asset allocation, manager analysis and investment policy design. In addition to working directly with multi-employer trusts and nonprofit clients, Mr. Nelson is a member of the 401(k) Committee and the investment committee, where he provides strategic direction to research staff on important issues affecting client portfolios. Mr. Nelson also serves as practice lead on custodial, transition management and alternative strategies such as commodities and hedge funds.

Mr. Nelson's work on fiduciary constructs has brought the opportunity to speak at a wide array of industry conferences, where he has presented on topics including asset allocation, alternative investing, active vs. passive investing, and the challenges and potential benefits of opportunistic investing.

Mr. Nelson holds a bachelor of science (BS) in business administration from the University of Montana. He is a member of the International Foundation, the Seattle Alternative Investment Association and the Western Benefits Pension & Benefits Conference.

Internal speakers



Mr. Dewitt Miller, CFA, FRM

Senior Risk Consultant

Mr. Miller joined Verus in 2013. He is primarily responsible for providing risk management-focused consulting services to clients. This includes advising clients on the objectives, governance, implementation and execution of effective risk management as part of their overall investment process.

Prior to joining Verus, Mr. Miller was a vice president and consultant at MSCI, where he managed relationships with institutional investors using Barra risk management and portfolio management analytics. In this role, his clients included public and corporate plan sponsors, endowments and sovereign wealth funds.

In addition to his primary focus on risk advisory clients, Miller provides guidance on incorporating risk management into the investment process for all institutions. He has spoken at industry events on measuring, attributing and managing investment risk.

Mr. Miller graduated from Vanderbilt University with a bachelor of engineering (B.Eng) in biomedical engineering and a minor in mathematics. He holds the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation and the Financial Risk Manager (FRM) designation. He is a member of the CFA Society of San Francisco.

Internal speakers



Mr. Ian Toner, CFA

Managing Director | Strategic Research

Mr. Toner is responsible for ensuring that the research resources at the firm are focused on solving the real problems faced by the firm's clients, and on maintaining an appropriate balance between academic rigor and practical real-world client solutions. He has responsibility over all research, including manager research, capital markets research, and topics of interest, and is a key contributor to the investment committee. He is particularly engaged in finding ways to ensure that new insights created at the firm are used across the whole range of clients of the firm, whether those clients are large or small, and whether the services those clients consume are discretionary or non-discretionary.

He joined the firm in late 2013 from Russell Investments in Seattle, where he was most recently Director, capital markets research in the Investment Division. He was at Russell for 7 years, and was particularly focused on two key areas: understanding the effect of currency risk on client portfolios, and understanding and managing the complex range of risks that clients and investors experience when interacting with Wall Street. Before Russell Investments he was an Executive Director at UBS Investment Bank in London, and a Vice President at both Schroder Salomon Smith Barney and InterSec Research Corp. Earlier in his career he worked on the sell-side of the institutional markets in London, focused on European Equity markets.

Mr. Toner has a degree in Law from the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom and holds the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation. He is a regular author and speaker on a range of investment topics. He is a member of the CFA Institute and the CFA Society of Seattle. He is a board member at the Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, where he also sits on the Finance & Audit Committee. He is a member of the Advisory Board of the Washington Council on International Trade.

Internal speakers



Mr. Bryant Pierce

Consultant

Mr. Pierce joined Verus in 2005 as an analyst, then was promoted to a consulting associate, and now serves as a consultant supporting Seattle based clients. In his current role, Mr. Pierce provides in-depth research and quantitative analysis including: asset allocation studies, transition management, custom glide path analysis, manager fee analysis, investment policy development, securities lending, and custodial searches. He currently works with a broad array of institutional clients, including corporate defined benefit and defined contribution plans, endowment & foundations, public funds and Taft-Hartley funds.

Mr. Pierce graduated from the University of Washington with a bachelor of arts degree (BA) in economics. He is currently a level I candidate in the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Program.