INVESTMENT THEORY AND PRACTICE

Objective: To become a successful investor, an individual must command a considerable amount of financial market knowledge as well as a wide variety of qualitative and quantitative skills. This course is designed to provide students with a solid conceptual and analytical basis for making investment decisions. In addition to establishing a background for evaluating financial risk and return dynamics as well as how global capital markets are organized and function, the focus will be on the examination and valuation of the major investment vehicles and strategies popular today. In particular, we will consider how investors allocate their financial assets by forming, managing, and evaluating portfolios consisting of instruments such as stocks, bonds, futures and option contracts, exchange-traded funds and mutual funds. Although the ultimate objective will be to develop a theoretical background upon which the student can expand his or her knowledge of the field of investments, the topical treatment will be rather practically oriented. This course is also appropriate for anyone contemplating a career as professional investment advisor, portfolio manager, or security analyst.

Prerequisites: Admission to the MSF Program

Required Materials: Students will be expected to have access to the following course materials on a continual basis throughout the entire semester:

(1) Textbook:  
*Investment Analysis and Portfolio Management 10e* by F. Reilly and K. Brown  
(Cengage South-Western, 2012)

(2) Supplementary Readings:  
As detailed in the Course Outline, in addition to formal assignments from the textbook there will also be a significant amount of supplementary reading in the form of journal articles and other lecture notes. All of these supplementary readings can be downloaded from the course website on Blackboard.

(3) Financial Calculator:  
Any business calculator with versions of the following function keys will be acceptable: PV, FV, PMT, I, n, CF and IRR. (The HP 12c is considered by many to be the finance industry standard, along with the TI BA II Plus.) The use of a calculator will be required on all examinations in the course.
There will be several sources of evaluation in this course:

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As noted, your mastery of the course material will be evaluated through traditional exams as well as projects.

**1) Examinations:**

The two examinations (the midterm and final) will carry equal weight toward your final grade. The tests will involve a combination of questions designed to assess your analytical and interpretative (i.e., qualitative) skills. Each examination will be designed to include problem-solving, short-answer and multiple choice questions. The difficulty level of the multiple choice questions will be similar that found on professional credentialing examinations, such as for the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation.

Each test will be closed-book, closed-note. All necessary materials (i.e., test booklet, equation sheet, extra paper) will be provided to you. You will need to bring to each exam the following items: writing instruments and financial calculator. You will not be allowed to use laptop computers or any other electronic devices during the examinations.

The examinations will test all of the material that is covered in class, some of which may not appear in the textbook or other assigned readings. The quantitative test problems will be modeled after (but not be identical to) the assigned end-of-chapter problems and other numerical examples that are demonstrated during the relevant class sessions. A topic review sheet will be provided prior to each examination to help in the preparation process.

Two other course policies regarding examination should be noted: (i) copies of examinations from past semesters will not be released or posted; and (ii) students will not be allowed to keep their graded examinations, but will have ample opportunity to review their performance.

**2) Stock-Trak Project**

This project will allow you to explore several different aspects of the investment process, including the asset allocation decision, the valuation and selection of individual securities in the context of the portfolio formation process, and a performance evaluation of a security portfolio. The specific descriptions associated with these assignments will be distributed formally beginning in early September.

Completion of the assigned projects will require you to work in **groups of two or three people**. You will be assigned to the same group for the duration of the project, but you will be allowed to select your own group. While you will be able to work fully with other members within your assigned group, you will not be permitted to collaborate in any form with members of other groups. At the end of the semester, you will have the opportunity to provide a peer evaluation of the other members of the group to help determine the quality of each person’s relative contribution.

For this project, the same grade will be assigned to each member of the group, assuming each person contributes equal effort and output to the assignment. Further, no late projects will be accepted for any reason.
(3) Book Project:

This project is intended to further your investments education and to help you to realize that you can continue to educate yourself when you graduate. For your project, we want you to read and OUTLINE “The Essays of Warren Buffett: Lessons for Corporate America” by Warren Buffett and edited by Lawrence Cunningham.

There are two reasons that we have you do this project: (1) people love this book; and (2) there is probably no better way to learn about the market than by reading Buffett’s letters to his shareholders. This book consolidates key points from letters. All of his letters are available online at www.berkshirehathaway.com.

Your paper must be in outline form and cannot be longer than ten pages plus a cover page. Ten pages is the total (other than the cover) regardless of whether you call something an appendix or anything else. If you want an example of an outline, look at how my packet is written.

The goal of your outline should be to allow someone who has not read this book to fully understand what it is about. A good outline clearly distinguishes thoughts. It is not simply sentences with a letter in front of it. It eliminates unnecessary words and groups ideas together.

The Book project is usually not a grade differentiator in FIN 397.1. The reality is that the exams and the Stock-Trak project will result in grade differentiation. This project is a learning exercise and the grading scale is normally pretty tight (usually 88 - 94). With that said, every so often someone turns in something that results in a significantly lower grade. The fact that the grade range is normally tight is not intended to diminish the importance of this assignment. Normally, we grade your exams (because they have the largest impact on your final grade) and we have our TA grade your outlines. This assignment is to be done alone.

In the past, students have received low grades on this assignment for various reasons. Examples include students who have clearly not read all of the book, students who did this in sentence form and students who collaborated (which is an act of academic dishonesty). The highest grade that you can get if you do this in paragraph form is 80 (which means that you will be in the 70s because we don’t give perfect scores on this assignment). If you have not read the entire book, the highest grade you can receive is 50 (and again, that score isn’t likely). But, if you read the book and outline it and you feel like you have made a good-faith effort, you should not worry. You will know if you fall into one of the “troubled” categories.
(4) Final Course Grades:

At the end of the semester, the raw number of points that you earned on each graded component will be averaged by the weighting percentages listed above. The weighted total scores for all students will then be combined to determine a final distribution. The following percentile ranges will be applied to this distribution of final scores:

- **A: 92.0 and Above**
- **A-: 90.0-91.9**
- **B+: 87.0-89.9**
- **B: 82.0-86.9**
- **B-: 80.0-81.9**
- **C+: 77.0-79.9**
- **C: 72.0-76.9**
- **C-: 70.0-71.9**
- **D+: 67.0-69.9**
- **D: 62.0-66.9**
- **D-: 60.0-61.9**
- **F: Below 60.0**

In considering the assignment of final course grades, there will be two distinct evaluations using this grading scale:

(i) *Curved Score Evaluation:* For all students who satisfy the Class Attendance Policy described below, the raw weighted average score they accumulate over the semester will be adjusted upwards by curving the final distribution of eligible students.

(ii) *Raw Score Evaluation:* For all students who do not satisfy the Class Attendance Policy, the raw weighted score they accumulate over the semester will not be adjusted upwards.

Based on past experience, the upward score adjustments associated with curving the final distribution can be considerable. *It is in the best interest of every student to satisfy the Class Attendance Policy and become eligible to be part of the curved distribution.*

Course Structure: The material covered in the course can be divided into the following sections that will be taught over 27 class sessions (excluding the day of the midterm exam):

1. Overview of the Investment Process
2. Professional Investment Management
3. Portfolio Theory & Asset Pricing Models
4. Investment Instruments: Fixed-Income
5. Investment Instruments: Equity Securities
6. Investment Performance Measurement
7. Investment Instruments: Derivative Securities

(1) *Location of Daily Class Sessions:*

The class will meet every Tuesday and Thursday of the semester (with the exception of the day that we have our midterm exam) in the regularly assigned classroom (UTC 4.124). Each class session will run between 75-80 minutes in length. Our midterm exam will be outside of class to ensure that we have enough time.

On a few occasions during the semester, we may hold our class meeting (or additional sessions outside of class) in the Financial Trading and Technology Center (FTTC) classroom to facilitate our use of the myriad financial databases now available to us. These FTTC sessions will be announced in advance and take place during the normal class time.
(2) **Class Session Topic Coverage:**

The Course Outline gives a specific session-by-session breakdown of the topics we will cover in class. Throughout the semester, we will announce in class the details of the precise assignment for subsequent sessions; this information will also be posted in the appropriate location on the course home page. If you have any questions about what is to be covered in any class, please consult the website or ask us directly before the class session.

The course home page on Blackboard will also serve as an important mechanism for communicating course-related information. However, anything crucial to your class performance that is posted online also will be available through either more traditional outlets (e.g., e-mail, class handouts) or upon request. In addition to electronic versions of many of the materials distributed in class, the website will contain a file that summarizes the material covered in previous classes as well as one that specifies the required readings and problems for the next session. These files will be updated—assuming there are no network problems—no later than 2:00 pm on the day before a class session.

Electronic files containing the class lecture notes will also be posted no later than 2:00 pm on the day before a class session. As a rule, these notes will not be distributed in class; if you would like to have them available during the lecture, you should download them (in hard copy form) and bring them with you to class.

Class sessions will be conducted primarily in a lecture-oriented format, with class discussion always encouraged and occasionally solicited. To get the most out of each session, you should plan to (i) read the assigned textbook passages and supplementary articles in advance, and (ii) consider the assigned end-of-chapter problems and case studies. Please note that these daily problem assignments will not be collected or graded; their purpose is to better prepare you for the class sessions themselves. For your convenience, the solution manual to the end-of-chapter problem sets for the entire book has been posted on the course website. Additionally, a supplementary set of problems and solutions has also been posted on the course Blackboard site, for those of you who would benefit from more practice working problems.

(3) **Examination Schedule:**

Midterm: Tuesday, October 16th, 11 AM – 2 PM (GSB 3.104) (covering classes 1 – 13)

Final Exam: as set by the University (covering classes 15 – 28)

It is expected that you will be present at the time and date for each of the examinations. No makeup examinations will be given without the prior consent of the instructors. Such consent will only be given for demonstrable conflicts and with the proper documentation.
Class Attendance: Simply put, **we expect that you will attend and contribute to the course on a daily basis.**

As noted, a considerable amount of the material that will be covered in class (and on which you will be tested) *will not* appear in the textbook, the supplementary readings or even the class lecture notes that will be posted on the course website. Therefore, we consider consistent attendance to be a crucial element in maximizing your potential for learning to be a successful investor. That said, we also recognize that myriad issues can arise during a semester (e.g., missed buses, oversleeping) that lead to absences. **Accordingly, we will excuse a total of two absences during the semester, regardless of the reason.**

After two incidents of absence from class, you will not be eligible to be included in the **curved score distribution at the end of the semester** and your final grade will be determined *solely* by where your raw weighted average score falls in the percentile range matrix described previously. Further, an excessive number of unexcused absences will be interpreted as a sign of neglect and lack of preparation, which could lead to being dropped from the course or having your grade reduced.

We will take attendance at the beginning of each class session. You will only be allowed to sign the attendance sheet if you come to class on time and stay for the entire session. That is, **instances of tardiness or leaving class early without explicit prior permission will be counted as the equivalent of an absence.**
Other Class Policies: The following additional policies will also be in place this semester:

1. Academic Dishonesty:

Academic dishonesty (as defined by the Policy Statement on Scholastic Dishonesty for the McCombs School of Business) will not be tolerated and will be dealt with in the most severe manner possible. We assume that all students in this course will act as if bound by this policy and you can expect the same from me. In particular, we will expect that on every individual assignment or examination the work you submit will be entirely your own and that you will provide a level and quality of input to the group projects commensurate with that of your colleagues. Failure to do so may result in failure on the project or failure in the course.

The McCombs School of Business has no tolerance for acts of scholastic dishonesty. The responsibilities of both students and faculty with regard to scholastic dishonesty are described in detail in the Policy Statement on Scholastic Dishonesty for the McCombs School of Business:

By teaching this course, we have agreed to observe all of the faculty responsibilities described in that document. By enrolling in this class, you have agreed to observe all of the student responsibilities described in that document. If the application of that Policy Statement to this class and its assignments is unclear in any way, it is your responsibility to ask me for clarification. Policy on Scholastic Dishonesty: Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. Since dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. You should refer to the Student Judicial Services website at http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/ or the General Information Catalog to access the official University policies and procedures on scholastic dishonesty as well as further elaboration on what constitutes scholastic dishonesty.

2. Prohibition Against Using Electronic Devices in the Classroom:

Consistent with the policy of the Department of Finance, the use of computers and other electronic devices in class is generally prohibited. On occasion, however, the use of laptop computers may be permitted in class solely for the purposes of note-taking and discussion of the homework problems and when authorized in advance by the instructor.

Please note that accessing the internet, recreational programs, or e-mail and messaging accounts will never be permitted under any circumstances and is strictly forbidden.

3. Students With Disabilities:

The Provost’s Office offers the following statement to help inform students of available resources and to fulfill due diligence for Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA):

The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact the Office of the Dean of Students at 471-6259, 471-4641 TTY.
The following outline lists the topic coverage, reading requirements and problem sets for the semester. The "Assignment" listings refer to the end-of-chapter problems that can be found in the 10th edition of Reilly and Brown's (RB) *Investment Analysis and Portfolio Management* textbook. For the RB assignments, the question and problem numbering system refers to the relevant chapter and question or problem (e.g., Q1.2 refers to the second question in Chapter 1; P2.3 refers to the third problem in Chapter 2). All of the supplemental materials marked by an asterisk (*) can be downloaded from the “Assigned Readings” folder in the course website on Blackboard.

### I. Overview of the Investment Process

**Class #1: Thursday, August 30**

Topic: The Global Investment Setting: Background and Review (SL)
Reading: Leeds Packet Unit 1 (Chap. 1 only)
Assignment: None

**Class #2: Tuesday, September 4**

Topic: The Global Investment Setting: Background and Review (cont.) (SL)
Reading: RB Chapter 1, Appendix 1; Leeds Packet Unit 2 (Chap 1 only); Listen to Unit 2 tape (only Chap 1)
Assignment: RB P1.1 – 1.12 (all 12); P1A.1, P1A.2, P1A.3, P7.1, P7.2, P7.3, P7.8, P25.10(a and b only); Leeds Uncollected HW Unit 2, problems 1 - 11

**Class #3: Thursday, September 6**

Topic: The Asset Allocation Decision (KB)
Reading: RB Chapter 2
Assignment: Q2.1, Q2.6, Q2.9, P2.5

**Class #4: Tuesday, September 11**

Topic: Global Capital Markets & Security Types (SL)
Reading: RB Chapter 3
Assignment: P3.4, P3.5, P3A.1, P3A.2
Class #5: Thursday, September 13

Topic: Market Indicators & Indexed Investing (SL)
Reading: RB Chapter 5 (pp. 123-133), Appendix 5
      Chapter 16 (pp. 551-558); Leeds Packet Unit 5; Listen to Unit 5 tape
Assignment: P5.1, P5.2, P5.4a-b, P5.5, P5.6; Leeds Uncollected HW Unit 5

Class #6: Tuesday, September 18

Topic: Security Markets and Trading (SL)
Reading: RB Chapter 4; Leeds Packet Unit 10; listen to Unit 10 tape
Assignment: P4.1 - P4.7; Leeds Uncollected HW Unit 10

II. Portfolio Theory & Asset Pricing Models

Class #7: Thursday, September 20

Topic: Risk & Diversification: Fundamentals (KB)
Reading: RB Chapter 7 (pp. 181-198)
      K. Brown, “A Brief Review of the Portfolio Formation Process,” Lecture Notes (pp. 1-6),
      January 2012 - *
Assignment: Q7.3, Q7.12, P7.5, P7.6, P7.7

Class #8: Tuesday, September 25

Topic: Risk & Diversification: Efficient Frontier & Capital Market Line (KB)
Reading: RB Chapter 7 (pp. 198-201), Appendix 7
      Chapter 8 (pp. 207-216)
Assignment: Q7.6, Q7.11, Q8.1, P8.3

Class #9: Thursday, September 27

Topic: Risk & Expected Return: Capital Asset Pricing Model (SL)
Reading: RB Chapter 8 (pp. 216-229, 232-234); Leeds Packet Unit 2, Chapters 2 – 3; Listen to Unit 2 tape
      (chapters 2 and 3 only)
Assignment: P8.1 – P8.3, P8.5 – P8.9, P14.3; Leeds Uncollected HW Unit 2, problems 12 – 23
Class #10: Tuesday, October 2
Topic: Risk & Expected Return: Arbitrage Pricing Theory & Multi-Factor Models (KB)
Reading: RB Chapter 9 (pp. 241-247, 250-261)
Assignment: Q9.2, Q9.5, P9.2, P9.4

III. Investment Instruments: Fixed-Income

Class #11: Thursday, October 4
Topic: Fixed-Income Investing: Instruments & Valuation (KB)
Reading: RB Chapter 17 (pp. 591-598, 615-620)
Chapter 18 (pp. 623-632, 640-647)
Assignment: Q17.2, Q17.8, P17.4, P18.2

Class #12: Tuesday, October 9
Topic: Fixed-Income Investing: Valuation (cont.) (KB)
Reading: RB Chapter 18 (pp. 654-674)
Assignment: Q18.7, Q18.8, P18.3, P18.7

Class #13: Thursday, October 11
Topic: Fixed-Income Investing: Strategies (KB)
Reading: RB Chapter 19 (pp. 691-699, 713-722)
Assignment: Q19.1, Q19.8, P19.1, P19.7
Class #14: Tuesday, October 16

Topic: Midterm Examination (SL)

IV. **Investment Instruments: Equity Securities**

Class #15: Thursday, October 18

Topic: Equity Investing: Valuation Process & Dividend Discount Model (SL)
Reading: RB Chapter 11 (pp. 327-347), Appendix 11; Leeds Packet Unit 7, chapters 1 and 2; listen to Unit 7 tape (chapters 1 and 2 only)
Assignment: P11.4 – P11.8, P11.14, P11.15, P14.8 – P14.10; Leeds Uncollected HW Unit 7 problems 1 – 13

Class #16: Tuesday, October 23

Topic: Equity Investing: Discounted Cash Flow Analysis (including FCFE) (cont.) (SL)
Reading: RB Chapter 14 (pp. 467-477); Leeds Packet Unit 7, chapters 3 and 4
Assignment: FCFE homework (assigned in class)

Class #17: Thursday, October 25

Topic: Equity Investing: Relative Valuation & Strategy (SL)
Reading: RB Chapter 11 (pp. 347-352);
Chapter 14 (pp. 494-499)
Chapter 16 (pp. 558-573); Leeds Packet Unit 7, chapter 6
Assignment: P11.9, P11.10, P12.4 – P12.8, P16.5; Leeds Uncollected HW Unit 7 problems 16 - 21

Class #18: Tuesday, October 30

Topic: Equity Investing: Market Efficiency & Behavioral Finance (SL)
Reading: RB Chapter 6 (pp. 149-161, 165-177); Leeds Packet Unit 9
Assignment: P6.1 – P6.3
V. Professional Investment Management

Class #19: Thursday, November 1
Topic: Traditional Asset Management: Private Wealth Management, Private Firms & Mutual Funds (SL)
Reading: RB Chapter 24 (pp. 911-929); Leeds Packet Unit 12 (listen to Unit 12 tape); Leeds PWM handout
Assignment: P24.1 – P24.8

Class #20: Tuesday, November 6
Topic: Alternative Asset Management: Hedge Funds & Private Equity (SL)
Reading: RB Chapter 24 (pp. 929-945); Leeds Hedge Fund handout; Leeds Private Equity handout
Assignment: Leeds Unit 12 Uncollected HW

VI. Investment Performance Measurement

Class #21: Thursday, November 8
Topic: Traditional Evaluation Measures: Peer Comparisons and Basic Risk-Adjusted Measures (KB)
Reading: RB Chapter 25 (pp. 959-972, 997-998)
Assignment: Q25.3, P25.1, P25.2, P25.3

Class #22: Tuesday, November 13
Topic: Traditional Evaluation Measures: Advanced Risk-Adjusted Measures (KB)
Reading: RB Chapter 25 (pp. 972-978, 980-985, 990-993)
Assignment: Q25.4, Q25.5, P25.4, P25.6

Class #23: Thursday, November 15
Topic: Attribution Analysis (KB)
Reading: RB Chapter 25 (pp. 986-990)
Assignment: Q25.7, P25.7, P25.8
VII. Investment Instruments: Derivative Securities

Class #24: Tuesday, November 20
Topic: Forward & Futures Contracts: Fundamentals (KB)
Reading: RB Chapter 20 (pp. 741-747, 754-755, 767-768) 
Chapter 21 (pp. 781-785)
Assignment: Q20.2, P20.1a(1)-b(1), P20.2a(1)-b(1), P20.3a(1)-b(1)

Class #25: Tuesday, November 27
Topic: Forward & Futures Contracts: Valuation & Strategy (KB)
Reading: RB Chapter 21 (pp. 786-796, 800-806)

Class #26: Thursday, November 29
Topic: Option Contracts: Fundamentals (KB)
Reading: RB Chapter 20 (pp. 747-750, 755-760, 768-772) 
Chapter 22 (pp. 821-828)
Assignment: P20.1a(2)-b(2), P20.2a(2)-b(2), P20.3a(2)-b(2), P20.4, P20.5a-b

Class #27: Tuesday, December 4
Topic: Option Contracts: Basic Valuation (KB)
Reading: RB Chapter 20 (pp. 760-765) 
Chapter 22 (pp. 830-839)
Assignment: P20.5c, Q22.5, P22.2, P22.3, P22.4

Class #28: Thursday, December 6
Topic: Option Contracts: Strategy (SL)
Reading: RB Chapter 22 (pp. 839-847, 850-859); Leeds Packet Unit 11 (Chapter 2)
Assignment: P22.11 (parts a and c only), Leeds Uncollected Homework Unit 11 problems 1 - 6

THIS OUTLINE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MATERIAL WE WILL COVER DURING THE SEMESTER; IT IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE UPON PROPER NOTIFICATION.
Biographical Sketch of the Course Instructors

Keith C. Brown
University Distinguished Teaching Professor
& Fayez Sarofim Fellow

Department of Finance
University of Texas at Austin


Keith is the co-founder and Senior Partner of Fulcrum Financial Group, a portfolio management, business valuation, and investment advisory firm located in Austin, Texas and Las Vegas, Nevada. For more than twelve years, he has served as President and Chief Executive Officer of The MBA Investment Fund, LLC, a private capital appreciation fund managed by students at the University of Texas and also was the Director of the Department’s Hicks, Muse, Tate & Furst Center for Private Equity Finance. From May 1987 to August 1988 Keith was based in New York as a Senior Consultant to the Corporate Professional Development Department at Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company. He has also lectured extensively in the global Executive Development programs for companies such as Fidelity Investments, Commonfund Institute, JP Morgan Chase Bank, Merrill Lynch, Lehman Brothers, Chase Securities, Union Bank of Switzerland, Chemical Bank, Chase Bank of Texas, USAA Investment Management, Security Commission of Malaysia, The Beacon Group, Motorola, Halliburton, Association for Investment Management and Research, and spent thirteen months as a senior planner with a San Diego, California-based financial planning firm. In August of 1988, Keith received his charter from the CFA Institute. He currently serves as Advisor to the Board of Trustees of Teacher Retirement System of Texas and the Board of Directors of University of Texas Investment Management Company and as Associate Editor for Journal of Investment Management, Journal of Behavioral Finance and International Journal of Portfolio Analysis & Management. For five years he held the position of Research Director for the Research Foundation of the CFA Institute.
Sanford J. Leeds  
Distinguished Senior Lecturer  
Department of Finance

• MBA, University of Texas Graduate School of Business, 1995  
• JD, University of Virginia School of Law, 1989  
• BS, University of Alabama, 1986

Sandy Leeds is a member of the Finance Department faculty at The University of Texas and President of The MBA Investment Fund, L.L.C. He teaches both graduate and undergraduate level courses, including Corporate Finance, Advanced Corporate Finance, Investments, and Portfolio Management / Security Analysis. He has a J.D. from The University of Virginia School of Law and an MBA from The University of Texas at Austin. He is a member of the Texas State Bar and holds the Chartered Financial Analyst designation.

Prior to joining the faculty, Sandy managed money for a private money management firm. He was one of four portfolio managers responsible for approximately $1.6 billion of assets. He spent the majority of his time analyzing publicly traded companies. He also has extensive experience implementing option strategies.

In addition to money management experience, Sandy also has significant legal experience. He has conducted approximately 100 jury trials and 100 bench trials. He has participated in the regulation of the securities industry, conducting the hearing against most of the principals involved in the Sterling Foster case (a $75 million fraud). He has also advised attorneys on financial related litigation involving options, hedge funds, and other matters.

Sandy Leeds is an experienced executive education teacher. At the McCombs School of Business, he teaches in the Executive MBA program in Dallas, as well as in international general management programs. He has received numerous teaching awards, including the Joe D. Beasley Teaching Award (a school-wide award for teaching in the graduate program) and the “Outstanding MBA Professor Award” (selected by the students in multiple years). He normally gives 20 – 25 presentations and speeches each year to various groups. He also shares his thoughts each week at www.leedsonfinance.com. Within the Austin community, he serves on the Investment Committee for the Austin Community Foundation (managing $100 million) and he serves on the Board of Trustees for The Girls School of Austin.