

# Investment Team

Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company®

## \*Brent Schutte, CFA®

Chief Investment Strategist

Brent has 22 years of investment industry experience. Brent oversees Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company's investment philosophy and leads the company's strategy for its individual investment clients. As an industry thought leader, he communicates the company's investment viewpoints through regular interviews with national media outlets. Prior to joining Northwestern Mutual, he served as senior investment strategist and portfolio manager at BMO Global Asset Management in Chicago. In this role, Brent provided global tactical asset allocation research and recommended top-down portfolio strategies. He managed the firm's multi-asset income fund, diversified income strategy, strategic fund portfolios and Canadian tactical funds while also serving as a media spokesperson. He holds a bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and an MBA with high honors from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. Brent is a member of Beta Gamma Sigma International Honor Society.



## \*Craig Kasap, CFA®

Senior Portfolio Manager – Fixed Income

Craig has more than 20 years of fixed income experience, primarily managing institutional portfolios. Prior to joining Northwestern Mutual, Craig worked at several firms, including Eaton Vance Management, Keystone Investments, BlackRock and Duration Capital. At BlackRock, he was responsible for managing tax-exempt municipal portfolios totaling \$3 billion in assets and \$1 billion in taxable municipals within the firm's core portfolio. He was also a member of the investment strategy group that developed the firm's overall fixed income strategy. At Duration Capital, Craig worked on a team that was responsible for managing a hedge fund focused on municipal bond arbitrage with assets exceeding \$3 billion. Craig holds a bachelor's degree in business administration with a concentration in finance from Nichols College.



## \*Michael A. Helmuth

Chief Portfolio Manager – Fixed Income

Mike has nearly 20 years of fixed income investment experience. Prior to joining Northwestern Mutual, Mike held roles at Deutsche Bank in Chicago, Stone and Youngberg and Stark Investments. While at Deutsche Bank, Mike was director of proprietary trading, U.S. rates, and was responsible for managing an \$8 billion fixed income arbitrage book. At Stone and Youngberg, Mike was vice president of Institutional Fixed Income. At Stark Investments, Mike was a fixed income portfolio manager, where he was responsible for managing a \$2.5 billion fixed income arbitrage portfolio. Mike holds a bachelor's degree in business from the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point and an MBA from Marquette University.



## \*Garrett D. Aird, CFA®

Senior Director – NMWMC Research

Garrett has 18 years of investment experience and has been with Northwestern Mutual since 2002. Garrett's team is responsible for due diligence and research on investment products, as well as fund and ETF selection within Northwestern Mutual's discretionary portfolios. Prior to joining Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company in 2007, Garrett worked in product development and competitive research for Northwestern Mutual's annuity products. He began his career with Strong Investments working with retail brokerage and fee-based advisory clients. Garrett holds a degree from the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee.



**Daniel J. Adams**

Portfolio Manager – Private Client Services

Dan has 22 years of investment industry experience. Prior to joining Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company in 2005, Dan served as portfolio strategist for Midwest Professional Planners, where he oversaw the asset allocation and investment selection strategies for non-discretionary client assets. He then served as financial planning manager for Robert W. Baird & Co., where he advised the field force on financial planning strategies. Dan holds a bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Wisconsin – La Crosse and an MBA from the University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh.

**David Andrzejewski**

Senior Director – Private Client Services

David has 15 years of investment experience. Prior to joining Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company, he served as an assistant director managing investment compliance at Mason Street Advisors. He was primarily responsible for the oversight of derivative instruments and overall counterparty risk management for sub-advised mutual fund portfolios. David holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee.

**Jeffery S. Nelson, CFA®**

Portfolio Manager – Equities

Jeff has 17 years of investment management experience. Jeff joined Northwestern Mutual in 2006 as an investment analyst for Mason Street Advisors; he was an equity analyst on multiple portfolios, including Northwestern Mutual's General Account. As of 2013, Jeff was a senior equity analyst on the company's General Account. Prior to joining Northwestern Mutual, Jeff was an equity analyst for six years at Northern Capital Management. Jeff holds a bachelor's degree in finance, investment and banking from the University of Wisconsin – Madison. He was also a member of the Applied Securities Analysis Program (ASAP) at the university while earning his master's degree in finance.

**\*Douglas H. Peck, CFA®**

Portfolio Manager – Private Client Services

Doug has more than 20 years of investment experience, including a previous role at Northwestern Mutual as a director in equity research and sector portfolio manager. Prior to joining Northwestern Mutual, Doug held roles at Arcataur Capital Management and the State of Wisconsin Investment Board. As an investment officer at Arcataur Capital Management, Doug's responsibilities included active management of the firm's equity, fixed income and asset allocation process. At the State of Wisconsin Investment Board, Doug was a portfolio manager of a Large Cap equity fund, managing more than \$1 billion in assets. Doug holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh and an MBA from the University of Wisconsin – Madison.

**\*Matthew P. Stucky, CFA®**

Portfolio Manager – Equities

Matt has six years of portfolio management experience. Matt began his investment career with Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company as an investment research analyst and moved into a portfolio management role after a few years. Matt holds a bachelor's degree in finance from Valparaiso University and a master's degree in finance from Vanderbilt University.

**Maclovio Vega, CFA®**

Portfolio Manager – Private Client Services

Maclovio has nearly 20 years of investment experience, including eight years focused on fixed income in both the taxable and tax-exempt sectors. Prior to joining Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company, Maclovio co-managed both taxable and tax-exempt fixed income assets for Campbell Newman Asset Management. He has also been a portfolio manager at Cleary Gull Inc., where he was responsible for the fixed income portion of client separately managed accounts. Maclovio holds a bachelor's degree in finance from Marquette University.

**\*Matthew D. Wilbur**

Senior Director – Advisory Investments

Matt has over 20 years of financial services experience. Prior to joining Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company in 2011, Matt was part of the personal investment markets team within IPS, where he was responsible for product development, training and communications for the investment advisory and brokerage product lines. He began his career at Strong Investments as an investment consultant with a focus on retail brokerage and fee-based investment advisory programs. Matt holds a bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee.



**\*Nicolas J. Brown, CFA®, CAIA**

Senior Research Analyst

Nic has 11 years of investment experience. In his current role, Nic is part of the team responsible for due diligence and research on mutual funds and exchange-traded funds used in client portfolios. Before joining Northwestern Mutual, Nic served as senior vice president – investments at Jacobus Wealth Management, where he focused on investment research and portfolio management. Nic holds a bachelor’s degree in business administration from the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee and is a member of the Beta Gamma Sigma International Honor Society.



**Tony Desrochers**

Research Specialist

Tony has over three years of investment experience. Prior to joining Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company, Tony was a trading representative with Northwestern Mutual Investment Services, where he helped trade and implement model changes for the Signature Portfolio product. Previously, Tony worked at Wells Fargo Asset Management, where he explained mutual fund products to retail clients, and as a research intern at Netols Asset Management. He has passed all three levels of the CFA program and studied at the University of Wisconsin – Whitewater, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in finance and management along with a minor in economics.



**Steven M. Bruce, CMT**

Senior Investment Consultant

Steve has over 15 years of financial services experience, including time spent as a Northwestern Mutual financial representative. Prior to joining the advisory investment team, Steve was a senior trading specialist with Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company and was operationally responsible for all trading and supervision of Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company Signature Portfolio accounts. Steve holds a bachelor’s degree in aeronautical science from the University of Dubuque and an MBA from Northeastern University.



**Michael A. DiCastrì, CMFC, ChFC®**

Senior Research Analyst

Mike has more than 20 years of investment experience. Prior to joining Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company, Mike was an equity and quantitative analyst with Johnson Asset Management. In this role he was responsible for equity sector analysis in the retail, consumer staples, real estate investment trust and building areas. Mike was also a senior trust operations officer with Johnson Trust Company and a mutual fund trader with Marshall & Ilsley Trust Company. Mike holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees in economics from the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee.



**Jerome S. Cesarz, CFA®, CLU®, ChFC®**

Senior Investment Consultant

Jerry has over 20 years of financial services experience. Before joining Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company, Jerry was a trading services consultant with Northwestern Mutual Investment Services, where he oversaw the day-to-day operation of the desk and provided guidance on general securities products. Prior to joining Northwestern Mutual, Jerry was a stockbroker with Scottrade. He began his career as an investment representative with Scudder Kemper Investments. Jerry holds a bachelor’s degree in finance from the University of Wisconsin – Whitewater and an MBA from the Keller Graduate School of Management.



**Keith Dickerson, CFA®**

Research Analyst

Keith has over 10 years of financial services experience. Prior to joining Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company, Keith worked as an associate sales director at BMO Global Asset Management, working with institutional consultants and advisors on pricing and plan design for the BMO 401(k) platform. Keith also spent seven years at Wells Fargo Asset Management, working primarily in intermediary services as an associate regional director, where he called on regional and independent advisory firms to position Wells Fargo mutual fund and separately managed account products. Keith holds a bachelor’s degree in history from Otterbein University in Westerville, Ohio, and an MBA with a finance concentration from Marquette University.



**Stefanie Cheske**

Associate Portfolio Manager – PCS

Stef has five years of financial services experience. She provides portfolio management support and analysis to the Private Client Services portfolio managers and works with the field on front-end PCS case consultations. Prior to her current role, she interned with both Mason Street Advisors in public fixed income and Private Client Services. Upon her completion of the Applied Investment Management (AIM) Program, Stef earned a bachelor’s degree in finance from Marquette University.



**Rebecca Fisher**

Associate Portfolio Manager – Fixed Income

Becky has over 10 years of financial services experience. Currently, she manages the liquidity of internal fixed income assets. She also works with advisors and their clients explaining NMWMC's methodology of tax-exempt and taxable bond management. Prior to joining Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company, Becky worked in Northwestern Mutual Investment Services administration, helping advisors remain compliant with their investment practices. Becky holds a bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee and is pursuing her MBA from Alverno College.

**Richard G. Iwanski, CFA®, CAIA**

Senior Research Analyst

Rick has more than 20 years of investment experience. Rick focuses on a broad range of research areas, including bottom-up manager research, model portfolio attribution, capital market assumptions and advisor communications. Before joining Northwestern Mutual, he led a short-lived consulting firm focused on liquid alternative mutual funds. For the majority of his career, Rick served as the chief investment officer at Capital Market Consultants. Earlier in his career, he served as a senior investment analyst and vice president at Robert W. Baird. Rick is a member of the CFA Society of Milwaukee and the CFA Institute. Rick holds a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Wisconsin – Madison.

**Jack Gorski**

Associate Portfolio Manager – Equities

Jack joined Northwestern Mutual in 2016 as an analyst for the Quantitative Risk Management department while completing his degree at Marquette University. After earning his bachelor's degree in finance, he joined the PCS Large Cap Portfolio team as a research analyst covering the health care sector. Jack was a member of the Applied Investment Management Program at Marquette, where he managed a portion of the university's endowment money under an international equity fund, a domestic small cap fund and a fixed income portfolio. Jack is currently a CFA Level II Candidate.

**Jenna Koenings**

Associate Portfolio Manager – PCS

Jenna has over three years of financial services experience. She assists advisors through front-end case consultation and supports the investment team with portfolio management and analysis. Prior to joining the Private Client Services team, she worked in Northwestern Mutual Investment Services distribution policies and administration area, helping the field remain compliant in investment services. Jenna holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities.

**Brandon Hofmann, CFA®**

Investment Consultant

Brandon has 10 years of financial services experience. Prior to joining the Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company, Brandon was a securities analyst at Netols, Asset Management where he performed a variety of functions covering portfolio management and equity analysis, trading and compliance. Brandon holds a bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Wisconsin – Whitewater.

**John A. Mlekoday, CFP®**

Investment Consultant

John has over 25 years of financial services experience. Prior to joining Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company, John was an investment representative and financial planner for the INVEST Financial Group. John holds a master's degree in finance from the University of Wisconsin. He also holds bachelor's degrees in business and computer science and in management systems from the Milwaukee School of Engineering.

**\*David R. Humphreys, CFA®**

Senior Investment Consultant

David has 11 years of financial services experience. Prior to joining Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company, David was a co-portfolio manager and trader at 1492 Capital Management, LLC. Before joining 1492 Capital, David spent some time at Northwestern Mutual as an Investment operations senior specialist working with execution of fixed income and private placements transactions for Mason Street Advisors and NIMCo. Prior to this, he was at Stark Investments as a pricing manager responsible for pricing Stark's global portfolio and as a derivatives analyst constructing and executing various derivative trading strategies. David holds a bachelor's degree in finance and an MBA from the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee.

**Jim Murray, CFA®**

Senior Research Analyst

Jim has more than 20 years of professional investment experience. Prior to joining Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company, Jim was a senior investments and portfolio risk management analyst with Wells Fargo Asset Management. A key responsibility in this role was synthesizing financial statement analysis and quantitative analysis with investment process, macroeconomic and idiosyncratic developments to accurately and concisely communicate key risks and drivers of portfolio performances to the Wells Fargo Funds Board of Trustees, senior management, Enterprise Risk, and other stakeholders. Jim holds a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Illinois – Urbana-Champaign and earned the right to use the CFA® designation.



**Christopher P. Rykwald, CFP®, ChFC®, CLU®**  
Investment Consultant

Chris has nearly 20 years of financial services experience. He joined Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company in 2006 as a senior trading specialist with the advisory services team. Prior to this, Chris was a corporate and executive stock specialist with Robert W. Baird & Co., focusing on insider and restricted stock transactions. He began his career with Strong Investments, working as a retail brokerage trader and then on the company's institutional cash team. Chris holds a bachelor's degree in finance with an economics emphasis from the University of Wisconsin – Whitewater.



**Aaron Thill**  
Associate Portfolio Manager – PCS

Aaron has seven years of financial and banking services experience. He is responsible for supporting advisors by analyzing existing investment portfolios and supports the portfolio management team with investment analysis and trading. Aaron holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota – Duluth, where he studied economics and finance.



**Peter J. Sauer, CFA®**  
Research Analyst

Peter has over 10 years of investment experience. He previously served as an intern with Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company before beginning his current role on the investment research team. Prior to that, he was an assistant to a Northwestern Mutual financial representative in Milwaukee. Peter holds a bachelor's degree in finance from Saint Louis University.



**Michael Viroglio**  
Associate Portfolio Manager – Fixed Income

Michael began his career at Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company in 2017 while earning his undergraduate degree from Carthage College in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Prior to this, Michael held multiple internships across the health care and financial service industries, gaining a formidable skill set in data modeling and statistical programming. Michael led several teams of students at Carthage to compete in regional data analytics and math modeling competitions, including the Midwestern Undergraduate Data Analytics Competition and the Wisconsin Math Modeling Competition, where his team placed second in the state. Michael holds a bachelor's degree in finance from Carthage College.



**Matt Sobocinski, CFA®**  
Associate Portfolio Manager – PCS

With over eight years of investment experience, Matt is now responsible for portfolio management, analysis and support to client portfolios. Additionally, he works with advisors on PCS case consultations. Prior to joining Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company, Matt held the position of senior research associate at Capital Market Consultants, where he focused on investment research and managing client portfolios. He also spent three years at BMO Global Asset Management as a product management analyst. Matt is a member of the CFA Society of Milwaukee and the CFA Institute. He holds a bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee and was part of UWM's Investment Management Certificate Program (IMCP).



**Karissa Zanoni**  
Associate Portfolio Manager – PCS

Karissa has two years of experience in financial services. Prior to joining PCS, she worked in alternative investments at US Bank. She is responsible for PCS case consultations and supports the investment team with portfolio management and analysis. While completing her degree, Karissa conducted investment analysis of mutual funds at Capital Market Consultants and individual securities at Riverwater Partners LLC. Karissa holds a bachelor's degree in finance and accounting from the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee. She was also part of UWM's Investment Management Certificate Program (IMCP) and is currently a CFA level II candidate.



\*Denotes Investment Strategy Committee Member

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