

### **Public Equity Portfolio Review**

Presentation to the Investment Advisory Committee

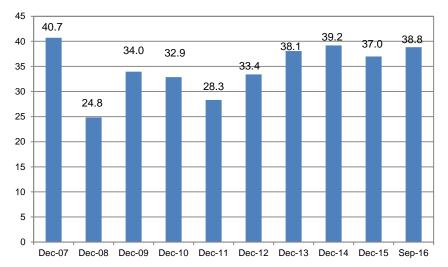
November 16, 2016



North Carolina Department of State Treasurer Investment Management

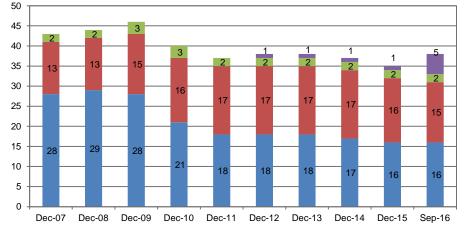
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## Snapshot of Total Equity - Historical Portfolio Structure

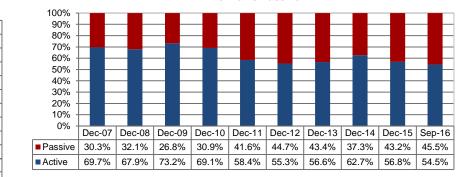


Equity Assets\* (\$B)

Number of Mandates\*



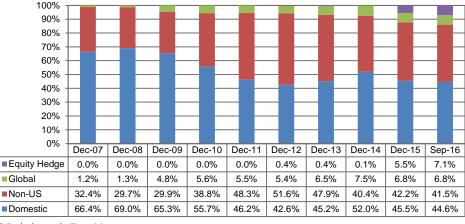
Domestic Non-US Global Equity Hedge



#### Active vs Passive

Excludes Equity Hedge, cash, transition

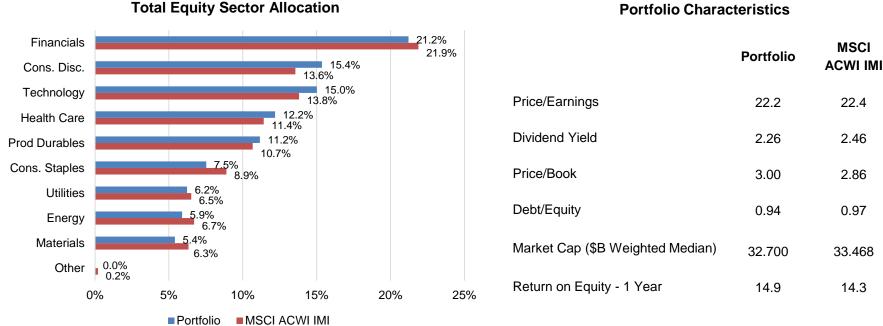




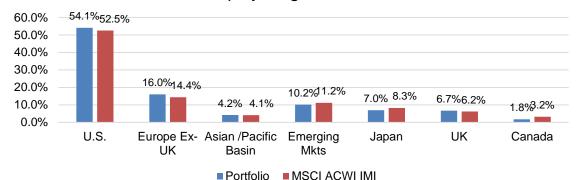
\* Excludes cash, Transition



# Portfolio Positioning – September 30, 2016



#### **Total Equity Regional Allocation**





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#### NCRS Public Equity Net Performance As of September 30, 2016

|                           | Market Value<br>(\$MM) | 3 Month | 1 Year | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|---------------------------|------------------------|---------|--------|---------|---------|----------|
|                           |                        |         |        |         |         |          |
| Public Equity*            | \$38,833               | 5.69    | 11.84  | 5.48    | 11.70   | 4.79     |
| Benchmark                 |                        | 5.33    | 11.70  | 5.17    | 10.81   | 4.20     |
|                           |                        |         |        |         |         |          |
| Domestic Portfolio        | \$16,899               | 4.68    | 13.49  | 9.89    | 16.24   | 7.38     |
| Russell 3000              |                        | 4.40    | 14.96  | 10.44   | 16.36   | 7.37     |
|                           |                        |         |        |         |         |          |
| Non-US Portfolio          | \$15,693               | 7.57    | 11.95  | 1.34    | 7.21    | 2.33     |
| Custom Benchmark          |                        | 7.05    | 9.81   | 0.62    | 6.37    | 1.42     |
|                           |                        |         |        |         |         |          |
| Global Portfolio          | \$2,560                | 4.96    | 8.18   | 7.34    | 14.50   | -        |
| MSCI ACWI                 |                        | 5.30    | 11.96  | 5.17    | 10.63   | 4.34     |
|                           |                        |         |        |         |         |          |
| Equity Hedge              | \$2,704                | 2.29    | 5.12   | -       | -       | -        |
| MSCI ACWI (beta adjusted) |                        | 2.22    | 4.95   | 1.15    | -       | -        |

\*Public Equity segment returns also include transition and cash accounts, in the amount of roughly \$984 million, which do not fall under any specific sub-section.



## **Structure Review**

- Engaged Callan Associates, public equity consultant, to analyze the current and alternate structures for the asset class.
- Callan reviewed current and historical data on the portfolio and benchmarks:
  - o Capitalization
  - o Style
  - o Active and passive management
  - o Number of managers
- Callan is evaluating alternate portfolio structures:
  - o Streamlined represents a simplified version of the existing portfolio
  - Enhanced represents a more "optimal" version of the existing portfolio
  - Low cost represents a portfolio focused on minimizing investment management fees
  - Callan "clean sheet" represents Callan's best thinking if they were building a portfolio with cash today.
- When evaluating optimal use of active and passive management, Callan and IMD are taking into consideration:
  - The median manager's historical ability to outperform their style benchmark net of fees
  - North Carolina and peers' historical ability to outperform their style benchmark net of fees



## Structure Review – Historical Performance

|                        |                                | Ca            | llan Histori | cal               | NCRS          | Historical | 5 year            |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------|---------------|------------|-------------------|
| Callan Indices         | NC composite                   | Net<br>Excess | Fees         | Tracking<br>Error | Net<br>Excess | Fees       | Tracking<br>Error |
| Russell 1000           | Dom Large Cap Active Core      | -0.01%        | 0.30%        | 2.74%             | -4.36%        | 0.98%      | 3.77%             |
| Russell 1000 Growth    | Dom Large Cap Active Growth    | 0.00%         | 0.30%        | 3.90%             | -0.73%        | 0.51%      | 5.45%             |
| Russell 1000 Value     | Dom Large Cap Active Value     | -0.02%        | 0.30%        | 3.42%             | -0.42%        | 0.46%      | 2.17%             |
| Russell Midcap         | Domestic Mid Cap Active        | -0.28%        | 0.40%        | 4.26%             | -0.77%        | 0.66%      | 2.58%             |
| Russell Midcap Growth  | Domestic Mid Cap Active Growth | -0.28%        | 0.40%        | 5.33%             | 0.51%         | 0.78%      | 3.18%             |
| Russell Midcap Value   | N/A                            | -0.27%        | 0.40%        | 4.73%             |               |            |                   |
| Russell 2000           | Domestic Small Cap Active      | 0.63%         | 0.50%        | 4.62%             | 2.05%         | 0.66%      | 3.01%             |
| Russell 2000 Growth    | Dom Small Cap Active Growth    | -0.01%        | 0.50%        | 6.28%             | 1.78%         | 0.66%      | 4.73%             |
| Russell 2000 Value     | Dom Small Cap Active Value     | 1.27%         | 0.50%        | 5.50%             | 2.13%         | 0.68%      | 2.61%             |
| Russell 3000           | Domestic Active                | -0.10%        | 0.35%        | 3.89%             | -1.34%        | 0.63%      | 2.56%             |
| Russell 3000 Growth    | N/A                            | -0.10%        | 0.35%        | 6.39%             |               |            |                   |
| Russell 3000 Value     | N/A                            | -0.10%        | 0.35%        | 5.27%             |               |            |                   |
| EAFE                   | International Active EAFE      | 0.56%         | 0.40%        | 3.25%             | 0.34%         | 0.34%      | 3.14%             |
| World ex USA Small     | N/A                            | 1.37%         | 0.65%        | 5.89%             |               |            |                   |
| Emerging Markets       | Emerging Composite             | 0.24%         | 0.60%        | 3.72%             | 1.43%         | 0.59%      | 3.05%             |
| Emerging Markets Small | N/A                            | 0.30%         | 0.65%        | 6.50%             |               |            |                   |
| Frontier Markets       | N/A                            | -0.75%        | 0.75%        | 0.00%             |               |            |                   |
| ACWI ex USA            | Intl Active ACWI Ex-US         | 0.25%         | 0.45%        | 4.62%             | 1.90%         | 0.35%      | 1.75%             |
| ACWI ex USA Small      | Intl Active Small Cap          | 0.35%         | 0.65%        | 6.04%             | 3.15%         | 0.69%      | 3.27%             |
| ACWI ex USA IMI        | International Active           | 0.25%         | 0.50%        | 4.83%             | 1.10%         | 0.43%      | 1.32%             |
| ACWI                   | Global Equity                  | 0.87%         | 0.45%        | 4.22%             | 4.90%         | 0.49%      | 3.18%             |
| Totals Active          | Total Active Equity            | 0.34%         | 0.45%        |                   | 0.33%         | 0.48%      | 1.32%             |
| Totals                 | TOTAL EQUITY                   | 0.14%         | 0.25%        |                   | 0.89%         | 0.28%      | 0.67%             |

Source: Callan, NCRS



# Structure Review – Strawman Portfolio

### Active Management Allocation Guidelines

|               | Actual 9/30/16 | Transitional | Strategic |
|---------------|----------------|--------------|-----------|
| U.S. Equity   | 37%            | 20% - 30%    | 20%       |
| Non-US Equity | 57%            | 45% to 55%   | 45%       |
| Global Equity | 72%            | 75% to 100%  | 75%       |
| Equity Hedge  | 14%            | 14% to 75%   | 75%       |
| Total         | 47%            | 42%          | 39%       |

| Active Risk          |       |
|----------------------|-------|
| Monitoring Threshold | 0.75% |
| Escalation Threshold | 1.50% |
|                      |       |
| Misfit               |       |
| Monitoring Threshold | 0.15% |



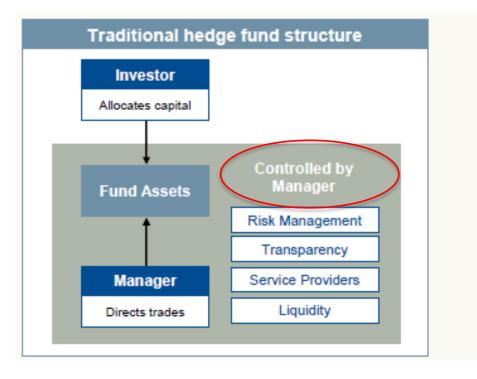
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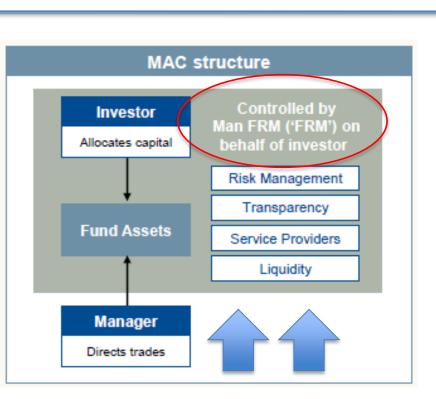
## Structure review – Next Steps

- Callan and IMD will continue evaluating the "Strawman Portfolio" to:
  - Model hedged equity portfolio exposures
  - Model individual investment manager decisions during the transitional phase
  - o Initiate fee and product negotiations with several investment managers
  - Review potential benchmark changes



# What is a Managed Account Platform?



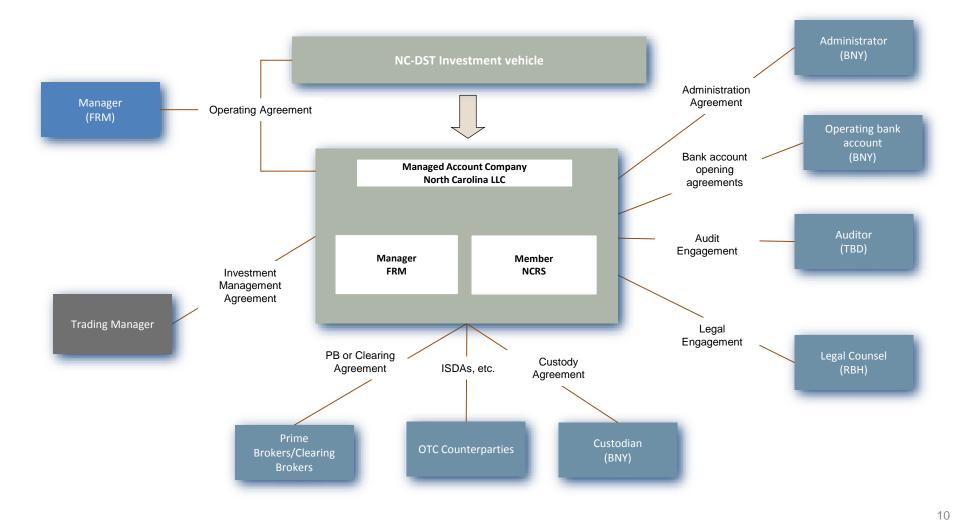


Benefits to a Managed Account Platform:

- Risk Oversight
- Transparency
- Control
- Liquidity



## Account structure





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# Hedged Equity Portfolio

| Funding<br>Date | Manager          | Structure          | Strategy                                 | Investment<br>\$M |
|-----------------|------------------|--------------------|--|-------------------|
| 5/2015          | BlackRock        | Platform<br>1/2016 | Passive                                  | \$2,500           |
| 2/2016          | Effissimo        | Co-Mingled         | Japanese Activist                        | \$125             |
| 7/2016          | Menta Capital    | Platform           | Quantitative<br>Equity Market<br>Neutral | \$200             |
| 9/2016          | Effissimo        | Bespoke            | Japanese Activist                        | \$25              |
| 10/2016         | Marshall<br>Wace | Platform           | Global                                   | \$200             |



# Hedged Equity Portfolio Overview

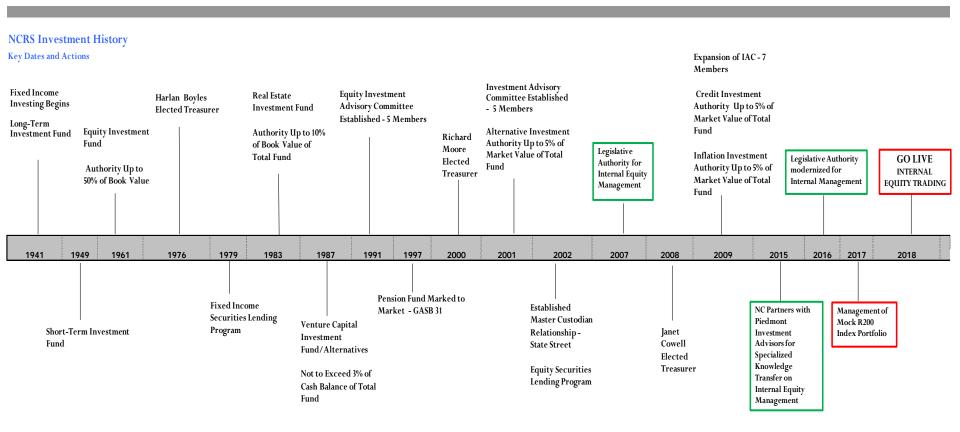
- Notable Activity:
  - Onboarded two active strategies.
  - Projected savings of 35-50 bps over traditional investment vehicle.
  - Risk monitoring of the portfolio has proven to be a value add.
  - o Semi-annual review with Prime Brokers.

## Looking forward:

- o Currently engaged with 2 managers.
- In the process of reassessing the targeted Hedge Fund Portfolio.
- o Continue to monitor our relationships with Prime Brokers.
- Further explore our engagement with Emerging Managers.



## History of NC Internal Management and Legislative Authority



Authority Granted By NC General Statutes 147 - 69.1, 69.2, and 69.3



## **Business Drivers for Internal Equity Management**

- More than 50% of US public pension plans manage at least some equity exposure internally.
  - Internal management survey responses received in 2015 from approximately 24 peer plans revealed :
    - $\,\circ\,$  38% manage both domestic active and passive
    - o 13% manage both international active and passive
    - o 13% manage both global active and passive

### • Benefits:

- o Increased control over assets and trading volumes.
- Provide more access to research
- Enriched dialogue with external investment managers.
- Increase market and operational expertise of internal staff.
- Reduce cost of external management over time.



### **Requirements for Internal Equity Management**



#### Front Office

- Trading Technology
- Portfolio Construction
- Trading and Pre-trade Compliance
- Risk and Analytics



### Middle Office

- Investment Book of Record (IBOR) Technology
- Trade Matching
- Performance Measurement and Attribution
- Reporting and Administration



### Back Office

- Accounting Book of Record (ABOR) Technology
- Investment Accounting and Reconciliation
- Trade Settlement
- Post-trade Compliance and Regulatory Reporting

Note: Where feasible, synergies between Fixed Income and Public Equity Infrastructure will be maximized



### Insource versus Outsource of Middle/Back Office

### **Market Trends**

- Landscape changed dramatically after '08 crisis
- Easier to switch between insourcing and outsourcing and between vendors
- A growing acceptance of viability and attractiveness of middle office outsourcing
- Not mature for all asset classes
  - Public Equity has the most mature outsourcing support (97%)

### Insourcing

- More flexibility and ability to customize
- Convenience for portfolio managers:
  - Faster response speed for issue resolution
  - Less time to process requests for system enhancements
  - Direct communication with front office
- Dedicated staff and IT support

### Outsourcing

- Provides support for what an organization lacks inhouse expertise and/or IT support
- Solves for difficulty in finding and retaining experienced staff
- Alleviates need to maintain and update technology, replace and integrate systems, or bolster process automation

Source: NC DST-IMD Summer Intern, Jill Wang, Wake Forest University



## Piedmont Knowledge Transfer

- July 1, 2015, North Carolina retained Piedmont Investment Advisors to serve as a consultant to the Investment Management team to provide educational and training services related to internal equity index management. Services include but are not limited to:
  - Trade flow and implementation
  - Trade confirmation and reconciliation
  - Trade cost management
  - Index reconstitutions and rebalances
  - Portfolio accounting, measurement and valuations
  - Management of corporate actions, dividends and cash
  - Risk management
- Piedmont currently manages, on an interim basis, the \$3 billion dollar Russell Top 200 index portfolio earmarked for transition to internal management. They provide NC's front, middle and back office staff the unique opportunity to monitor and manage all aspects of the portfolio process alongside Piedmont's team on a weekly basis.



| Implementation  |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| 24 months<br>Implement trading desk, middle and back<br>office operations<br>Develop standard operating procedures for<br>legal, compliance and information<br>technology<br>Transition approximately \$3 billion of<br>Russell Top 200 passive dollars internal. | Piedmont Knowledge Transfer and Training I<br>12-24 months<br>Continue to work with Piedmont Investment<br>Advisors to build, monitor and track a<br>paper portfolio and simulated trading | Engagement<br>Operating Model and Infrastructure Systems<br>6-9 months<br>Work with external consultants to develop a<br>best practices operating model<br>Identify most appropriate systems for<br>implementation |





#### **Thank You!**

Together we can build and maintain a fiscally strong and prosperous North Carolina.

#### www.NCTreasurer.com



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