



# CHRIS ARGYROPLE

Partner  
Triad Alpha Partners, LLC

Mr. Chris Argyrople is a seasoned entrepreneurial investor with 20 years of experience launching and managing successful investment firms, including Acadian Asset Management, PAR Capital Management, Delta Partners, Concentric Investments, and Triad Alpha Partners. In addition, he served as a consultant to State Street Bank to design SSGA's initial International Investment Strategies.

Chris has a demonstrated history of generating exceptional returns for investors (averaging 20 percent over the past 15 years). He has helped grow three of these companies from their startup phase to more than \$2 billion in capital. Chris received his M.S. in management from MIT's Sloan School, and a B.S. in industrial engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. For more than 15 years, he has taught graduate finance courses at Boston College and Suffolk University, where he has consistently received strong teaching evaluations.



# ABHI BISARYA

Director, Global Risk Management  
PayPal

Mr. Abhi Bisarya is the director of Global Risk Management at PayPal, Inc. in San Francisco Bay area. Prior to PayPal, Abhi was the managing director at Cognilytics, Inc., where he developed financial services strategy consulting, predictive analytics solutions, and P&L management and practice development. He has also been a senior business leader and manager at Visa, Inc. and Capital One.

At Visa, Inc., Abhi was the North America product lead for Visa Business Debit, and was responsible for consulting with Visa Debit issuing banks to promote product adoption among businesses. He led the launch of personal loans products in new segments at Capital One by leading cross-functional teams, and optimized marketing and acquisition strategy to grow the portfolio. He earned his MBA in strategy and finance from the Lally School of Management at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 2002, where he was awarded the Dean's scholarship.





# CHARLES BROWN

Partner  
Hugh Johnson Advisors, LLC

Mr. Charlie Brown leads the bottom-up investment process for the firm's core equity portfolio. His work encompasses both quantitative and qualitative equity analysis, with a particular focus on valuation inputs and quantifying market expectations. In addition, he is the originator and portfolio manager for the firm's Athena Dividend Strategy, an all-equity portfolio emphasizing lower portfolio volatility through global dividend paying stocks.

Charlie graduated cum laude from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute with a bachelor's degree in mathematics and an MBA in finance. He is the treasurer of the St. Andrew's Society of the City of Albany, a philanthropic foundation of men of Scottish heritage committed to the Society's motto, "Relieve the Distressed." He is a past vice president of the Schenectady Curling Club and continues to sit on the board of managers. He was recognized by the Capital District Business Review as a member of the Forty Under 40 Class of 2013 and has earned the right to use the Chartered Financial Analyst designation.



**Rensselaer**  
Lally School of Management



# BILL GORDON

Managing Director  
Globalis Partners

Mr. Bill Gordon serves as the current chairman of the Lally Quantitative Finance and Risk Analytics Alumni Board, and is a managing director of Globalis Partners, an alternative investment team involved in the development and distribution of alternative investments to institutions and family offices. Prior to Globalis, Mr. Gordon was the CEO, founder and managing member of Dix Hills Partners (DHP), LLC over its entirety, selling it back to his partner in 2017. DHP was an alternative fixed income hedge fund specializing in the forecasting of interest rates. He led the firm as CEO, growing it from \$1 million to \$1.2 billion in seven years, and selling a partial ownership to a NYSE listed firm. He had been focused on developing investments for institutional and high-net worth investors before founding the companies in July 2003.

Until January of 2001, Mr. Gordon was a managing director of the institutional business unit at Mitchell Hutchins Asset Management, a subsidiary of UBS/PaineWebber. Prior to UBS/PaineWebber, he held positions at Merrill Lynch Capital Markets for more than 15 years, working with Fortune 500 corporations and institutions in pension/cash management, private equity, and traditional asset management. Additionally, he has held positions at Merrill Lynch in institutional marketing, prime brokerage/securities lending, and worked with hedge funds and alternative investment strategies. A significant part of his career has been advising institutions, pension funds, and high-net worth clients regarding investments and portfolio strategies. He has held several management positions overseeing business teams. Mr. Gordon holds a B.S. in chemical engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and an MBA from Harvard Business School, and maintains Series 7, 63, 3, and 24 securities licenses.





# DR. HAIYAN HUANG

Director  
Discover Financial Services

Dr. Haiyan Huang has more than 10 years of experience applying data-driven modeling and optimization techniques to business decision-making focusing on credit modeling, risk management, and marketing strategies. Her core capabilities lie in developing and applying analytics to derive insights enabling effective business decision-making.

Dr. Huang is currently a director of risk management at Discover Financial Services. Prior to her current role, she was leading the consumer credit risk modeling team of HSBC Asia Pacific. Before HSBC, she was a project leader of global telematics at GE Global Research and an analytic science lead at FICO respectively. Dr. Huang obtained her Ph.D. degree in decision sciences and engineering systems from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 2002.



**Rensselaer**  
Lally School of Management

# DR. BOB KOPPRASCH

Managing Director  
The Yield Book (Unit of Citigroup), Retired

Dr. Bob Kopprasch is a managing director at The Yield Book (a unit of Citigroup), responsible for business development. For many years, he was head of customer service and ran the Yield Book's successful broker-dealer business. Bob is also involved in analytics, the Citigroup fixed-income index business, and customer and internal education. Bob spent a total of 13 years on the buy-side (Hyperion, Alliance, and Smith Barney- Citi), managing primarily MBS. Before that he headed fixed-income research at Goldman, and led the Hedge Group at Salomon Brothers' Bond Portfolio Analysis group.

He began his career as an assistant professor at American University, teaching graduate and undergraduate finance and investment courses. Bob has published extensively on a variety of fixed-income topics. His articles have appeared in numerous investment texts, as well as the Financial Analysts' Journal, the Journal of Portfolio Management, the Journal of Performance Measurement, the Journal of Applied Finance, Derivatives Quarterly, and the Journal of Futures Markets. Bob is currently an associate editor of the Journal of Investment Management, and previously served on the editorial board of the Financial Analysts Journal for 15 years. Bob earned a B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degree from the School of Management (now Lally) at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and is a Chartered Financial Analyst.



**Rensselaer**  
Lally School of Management



# SHARAD KUMAR

Head of Risk Strategies, Unsecured Lending  
Citi USA

Sharad is the head of unsecured lending risk strategies for consumer business. In this role, he is responsible for driving strategic risk solutions through acquisitions and existing customer programs. Prior to his current role, Sharad led the model validation and advance analytics group for Branded Card Risk since joining Citi in 2013.

Before joining Citi, Sharad held risk and product analytics roles working for Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS Citizens) and Capital One. In RBS Citizens bank, Sharad was a senior vice president and head of analytics for consumer debt management, mortgage and fraud operations. Prior to joining RBS, Sharad has spent eight years as senior manager with Capital one Financial where he made several strategic improvements across marketing acquisitions portfolios and debt management portfolios in US credit card division.

Sharad has 18 years of experience in leading strategic solutions teams with 14 years in the consumer lending industry. He has a master's degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and a bachelor's degree in engineering from India.





# KEVIN MCPARTLAND

Head of Market Structure and Technology Research  
Greenwich Associates

Kevin McPartland is the head market structure and technology research for Greenwich Associates. He has more than 15 years of capital markets industry experience with deep expertise in market structure, regulation, and technology impacting the fixed income, FX, and equity markets.

Prior to joining the Greenwich Associates, Kevin was with BlackRock, where he was a director in the electronic trading and market structure group. Prior to joining Blackrock, he was a principal at TABB Group, where he founded and led the firm's fixed-income research practice. Kevin also spent time at JPMorgan, UBS, and Deutsche Bank in varying capacities.

Kevin has presented at a wide range of industry conferences and is quoted regularly in the financial media including The Economist, Wall Street Journal, NY Times, Financial Times, Business Week, Bloomberg News, Reuters News, Business Insider, and numerous other industry publications. He has also provided live and taped commentary for Bloomberg TV, CNBC, Bloomberg Radio, and National Public Radio.

Kevin has also provided testimony discussing the Dodd-Frank Act in 2011 to the U.S. Senate's Banking Committee and three times to the U.S. Commodities and Futures Trading Commission (CFTC), mostly recently in 2015. Kevin earned a B.S. in computer science from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y.







# PANKAJ PATEL

Managing Director  
Cirrus Research

Pankaj Patel is a managing director, head of quantitative research and co-manager of investment advisory business at Cirrus Research.

Pankaj has been named to Institutional Investor's All America Research Team in most years since 2003. In addition to being ranked in quantitative research, he has also been ranked in small cap strategy and derivatives. He provides high quality, in-depth research using fundamental, macro-economic and technical signals to help institutional investors in their investment process.

Prior to joining Cirrus Research, Pankaj was global head of quantitative research and small cap research at Evercore ISI and Credit Suisse for more than 15 years. Before joining Credit Suisse he was a portfolio manager at Weiss Peck & Greer, where he helped manage \$1.5 billion using quantitative models. Prior to that role, he worked at General Electric in various positions starting from corporate audit staff.

Pankaj holds the CFA designation and received his MBA from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the Gujarat University, India.



**Rensselaer**  
Lally School of Management



# ERIC PEARL

Senior Technologist  
Consulting

Eric Pearl is a senior technologist who builds and operates real-time risk and portfolio management systems. He led the team that created and operated the world's first SaaS system for risk management of derivatives portfolios. It is based on the award-winning Imagine Trading System.

Eric started his career at Citibank, then was Imagine Software's second hire, and is now consulting at a large hedge fund. His focus is on delivering technology that allows a business to innovate and thrive.

Eric received his B.S in computer science from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, where he co-captained the swimming and diving team, and was a member of the honor society Alpha Psi Omega.



**Rensselaer**  
Lally School of Management



# KRISTIN (STOEHR) PEREIRA

Sr. Operational Risk Officer, North America  
**MarketAxess**

Ms. Kristin Pereira is a seasoned financial services executive with a proven track record of reducing risk while building and optimizing business operations for insurance, consumer banking, asset management, and investments capital markets industries. Kristin is recognized for her thought leadership on design and governance of operational risk management frameworks. She has spent most of her 30+ year career with the General Electric Corporation, beginning on the Edison Engineering Program and progressing to senior leadership positions across GE Industrial and Capital businesses. Kristin was selected to be one of GE's first Six Sigma experts, and pioneered the statistical approach for GE Capital process improvements.

Kristin graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering (1987), and is a third generation RPI alum. She holds a CFA Institute Claritas Investments certification, ISACA CRISC certification, and is Six Sigma Master Black Belt certified. Kristin is also a long time board member of Habitat for Humanity Women Build, committed to providing affordable housing to deserving families in southern Fairfield County CT.



**Rensselaer**  
Lally School of Management

# MIKE RICHTER

Director and Chairman, Audit Committee  
BATS Global Markets, Inc.

Mr. Michael Richter has had a 40+ year career in the financial services industry. Currently, he serves as director and chairman of the Audit Committee of BATS Global Markets, Inc., a major operator of stock exchanges in the U.S. and Europe. He was co-founder, chief financial officer, and chief compliance officer of Lime Brokerage, which provided low latency access for high frequency traders, and served as CFO of Tower Research Capital, a global proprietary trading firm. He also negotiated the sale of Lime to Wedbush in 2011.

Michael has held executive financial and operational roles at Citibank, Lehman Brothers, E.F. Hutton, and American Express. He started his career as a consultant for Arthur Anderson. He earned a master's degree from MIT's Sloan School of Management, and a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He is registered as a CPA in New York State.



**Rensselaer**  
Lally School of Management



# KEVIN RUEBENSTAHL

Head of Global Product Management, Depository Receipts  
BNY Mellon

Mr. Kevin Ruebenstahl is a managing director and head of Global Product Management in the depository receipts business of The Bank of New York Mellon Company, responsible for strategy, product management, and technology with teams in New York, London, and Hong Kong. He started with the company in 1986 in The Bank of New York's management training program and joined the depository receipts startup team upon completion of the program, helping to build the operations functions of the new business and its later integration with Irving Trust's DR business. In 1991, Kevin joined the stock transfer division, managing operations, client service, and product management teams in New York, New Jersey, and Houston.

Kevin moved to ESI Securities, the predecessor to BNY Securities Group, in 1999 to work on strategy and corporate development issues; and ran product management for BNY Securities Group's soft dollar trading and commission recapture businesses until 2005 when BNY Securities was spun out of the Bank as BNY ConvergEx Group. He was a managing director of ConvergEx Group and chief operating officer of its Jaywalk independent research business until 2010 when he returned to his roots in depository receipts. Kevin received a B.S. in management systems in 1986 and an MBA in finance in 1991 from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He also holds FINRA Series 7 and 63 licenses and US Patent # 7769658 for Commission Management Technology.



**Rensselaer**  
Lally School of Management



# PETER STOURNARAS

Former Managing Director  
BlackRock

Peter Stournaras, CFA, is an investor with more than 20 years of experience managing strategies combining quantitative and fundamental research. Most recently, Peter was a Managing Director in the Fundamental Active Equity division of BlackRock's Alpha Strategies Group. He was the lead portfolio manager for the BlackRock Large Cap Series Funds responsible for directing investments for \$17 billion in client assets, and a member of the BlackRock Investment Council.

Prior to joining BlackRock in 2010, Mr. Stournaras was the Director of Quantitative Active Management at Northern Trust Company, where he oversaw and executed portfolio management and research for all quantitative investment strategies and enhanced the process by integrating fundamental concepts. Previously, he was a portfolio manager at Smith Barney, where he partnered with fundamental analysts to lead the firm's mid-cap strategies. Mr. Stournaras began his investment career at Citigroup Asset Management, where he worked across a variety of strategies and was responsible for developing investment processes globally that were grounded in the combination of quantitative and fundamental research.

Mr. Stournaras earned a BS degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 1995 and an MBA degree from Columbia Business School in 2006. He is a member of the Chicago Quantitative Alliance and the New York Society of Security Analysts, and is a CFA charterholder. He is the finance chair of the Board of Trustees of Princeton Academy of the Sacred Heart, and a member of the Board of Trustees of Hellenic College Holy Cross.





# WILLIAM TOMLJANOVIC

Senior Vice President for Corporate Development  
Radian Group, Inc.

As senior vice president of corporate development, Bill Tomljanovic is responsible for the planning and execution of Radian's business strategies, including initiatives targeting new product development, potential joint ventures, and new business opportunities. Mr. Tomljanovic joined Radian in December 2012, bringing with him more than 25 years of experience in the financial sector. Most recently, he was a managing partner at Labrador Consulting LLC, a consulting firm for the financial services sector. Prior to that, Mr. Tomljanovic held executive roles at Cohen and Company, ACA Capital, Capital Re Corporation, and Chase Manhattan Bank. Mr. Tomljanovic holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Duquesne University and a master's degree from Fordham University.





# WALT VESTER

Founder and Chief Executive Officer  
Huygens Capital

Mr. Walter Vester is founder and CEO of Huygens Capital, an NFA-registered Commodity Trading Advisor and manager of systematic equity investment strategies. His background combines years of fundamental equity investing with hands-on experience in system design for stochastic control. He was most recently a managing director in The Blackstone Group's Private Equity division, and was a buy-side equity research analyst at AllianceBernstein before that.

Early in his career Walter designed stochastic algorithms for secure communication systems in Harris Corporation's Advanced Communication Systems Group. He has multiple U.S. and U.K. patents. Walter has a B.S. in computer and systems engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (1991), an M.S. in applied physics and electrical engineering from Case Western Reserve University (1993), and an MBA in finance from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania (2001).







# JING XI

Manager, Firm Risk Management  
Morgan Stanley

Dr. Jing Xi graduated from RPI in 2006 with a Ph.D. in Computer Science and a Master's in Management from the Lally School. After graduation, Dr. Xi joined Bank of America Merrill Lynch and worked there for nine years. Her focus was on risk management in global markets. She spent five years as a risk engine financial analyst who provided trading desks and middle offices risk, profit & loss, and scenario analysis on a broad range of assets and derivative products. She spent another four years in the front office as a global market credit desk portfolio risk manager, where she focused on the desk for official risk, profit & loss management, trading limit management, hedging strategies etc. She was awarded the Platinum Award of Global Recognition in Bank of America Merrill Lynch in 2014. Dr. Xi joined Deutsche Bank in 2015 and Morgan Stanley in 2016, where she has focused on regulation related projects in the risk management department, such as Basel III risk weighted assets (RWA), comprehensive capital analysis and review (CCAR), and fundamental review of the trading book (FRTB).

