

## STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### APPLIED FINANCE FUNDS

#### APPLIED FINANCE CORE FUND

Investor Class (AFALX)  
Institutional Class (AFAZX)

#### APPLIED FINANCE EXPLORER FUND

Investor Shares (AFDVX)  
Institutional Shares (AFDZX)

#### APPLIED FINANCE SELECT FUND

Investor Class Shares (AFVLX)  
Institutional Class Shares (AFVZX)

**August 31, 2020**

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This Statement of Additional Information (“SAI”) is meant to be read in conjunction with the prospectus for the Applied Finance Core Fund (the “Core Fund”, formerly the Toreador Core Fund), the Applied Finance Explorer Fund (the “Explorer Fund”, formerly the Toreador Explorer Fund) and the Applied Finance Select Fund (the “Select Fund”, formerly the Toreador Select Fund) (each a “Fund” and collectively the “Funds”), dated the same date as this SAI, and incorporated by reference in its entirety into the prospectus. Because this SAI is not itself a prospectus, no investment in shares of the Funds should be made solely upon the information contained herein. This SAI incorporates by reference the Funds’ Annual Reports for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2020 (“Annual Reports”). Copies of the Funds’ Prospectus, Annual Reports, and/or Semi-Annual Reports may be obtained free of charge, by writing to World Funds Trust, 8730 Stony Point Parkway, Suite 205, Richmond, Virginia 23235 or by calling toll-free (800) 673-0550. Capitalized terms used but not defined herein have the same meanings as in the Prospectus.

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## GENERAL INFORMATION

World Funds Trust (the “Trust”) was organized as a Delaware statutory trust on April 9, 2007. The Trust is an open-end management investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”) and commonly known as a “mutual fund.” The Declaration of Trust permits the Trust to offer separate series (“funds”) of shares of beneficial interest (“shares”). The Trust reserves the right to create and issue shares of additional funds. Each fund is a separate mutual fund, and each share of each fund represents an equal proportionate interest in that fund. All consideration received by the Trust for shares of any fund and all assets of such fund belong solely to that fund and would be subject to liabilities related thereto. Each fund of the Trust pays its (i) operating expenses, including fees of its service providers, expenses of preparing prospectuses, proxy solicitation material and reports to shareholders, costs of custodial services and registering its shares under federal and state securities laws, pricing, insurance expenses, brokerage costs, interest charges, taxes and organization expenses; and (ii) pro rata share of the fund’s other expenses, including audit and legal expenses. Expenses attributable to a specific fund shall be payable solely out of the assets of that fund. Expenses not attributable to a specific fund are allocated across all of the funds on the basis of relative net assets. The other mutual funds of the Trust, other than the Funds, are described in separate prospectuses and statements of additional information.

Pursuant to a reorganization that took place on May 8, 2015, the Core Fund is a successor by merger to a series of Unified Series Trust (the “Predecessor Core Fund”). The Predecessor Core Fund had the same investment objectives and strategies and the same investment policies as the Core Fund. The Core Fund’s investment adviser is Applied Finance Advisors LLC (the “Advisor,” formerly Toreador Research & Trading, LLC).

The Funds are “diversified” funds.

As of the date of this SAI, the Funds are authorized to issue two different classes of shares: Investor Class shares charging a 0.25% 12b-1 fee and Institutional Class shares which do not impose 12b-1 fees or sales charges. Each class of shares is substantially the same as they represent interests in the same portfolio of securities and differ only to the extent that they bear different expenses.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUNDS’ INVESTMENTS

The following information supplements the discussion of the Funds’ investment objectives and policies.

### INVESTMENT TECHNIQUES

The following discussion of investment techniques and instruments supplements, and should be read in conjunction with, the investment information in the Funds’ prospectus. In seeking to meet its investment objectives, the Funds may invest in any type of security whose characteristics are consistent with its investment program described below.

**Common Stock.** Common stock represents an equity or ownership interest in an issuer. In the event an issuer is liquidated or declares bankruptcy, the claims of owners of bonds and preferred stock take precedence over the claims of those who own common stock.

**Preferred Stock.** Preferred stock is a class of capital stock that pays dividends at a specified rate and that has preference over common stock in the payment of dividends and the liquidation of assets. Preferred stock does not ordinarily carry voting rights. Most preferred stock is cumulative; if dividends are passed (not paid for any reason), they accumulate and must be paid before common stock dividends. Passed dividend on non-cumulative preferred stock is generally gone forever. Participating preferred stock entitles its holders to share in profits above and beyond the declared dividend, along with common shareholders, as distinguished from non-participating preferred, which is limited to a stipulated dividend. Adjustable rate preferred stock pays a dividend that is adjustable, usually quarterly, based on changes in the Treasury bill rate or other money market rates. Convertible preferred stock is exchangeable for a given number of common shares and thus tends to be more volatile than non-convertible preferred, which behaves more like a fixed-income bond.

**Convertible Securities.** The Funds may invest in convertible securities. Traditional convertible securities include corporate bonds, notes and preferred stocks that may be converted into or exchanged for common stock or other equity securities, and other securities that also provide an opportunity for equity participation. These securities are convertible

either at a stated price or a stated rate (that is, for a specific number of shares of common stock or other equity securities). As with other fixed income securities, the price of a convertible security generally varies inversely with interest rates. While providing a fixed income stream, a convertible security also affords the investor an opportunity, through its conversion feature, to participate in the capital appreciation of the common stock into which it is convertible. As the market price of the underlying common stock declines, convertible securities tend to trade increasingly on a yield basis and therefore may not experience market value declines to the same extent as the underlying common stock. When the market price of the underlying common stock increases, the price of a convertible security tends to rise as a reflection of higher yield or capital appreciation. In such situations, the price of a convertible security may be greater than the value of the underlying common stock.

**Warrants.** The Funds may invest in warrants. Warrants are options to purchase equity securities at a specific price for a specific period of time. They do not represent ownership of the securities, but only the right to buy them. Hence, warrants have no voting rights, pay no dividends and have no rights with respect to the assets of the corporation issuing them. The value of warrants is derived solely from capital appreciation of the underlying equity securities. Warrants differ from call options in that the underlying corporation issues warrants, whereas call options may be written by anyone.

**Investment Company Securities.** Equity securities in which the Funds may invest include shares of other investment companies, including open-end funds, closed-end funds, exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”) and money market funds. The Funds may invest in inverse ETFs, including leveraged ETFs. Inverse ETFs seek to provide investment results that match a certain percentage of the inverse of the results of a specific index on a daily or monthly basis. The Funds also may invest in ETFs whose portfolios primarily consist of commodities.

When the Funds invest in other investment companies, they indirectly will bear their proportionate share of any fees and expenses payable directly by the underlying funds. Therefore, a Fund will incur higher expenses, many of which may be duplicative. In addition, a Fund may be affected by losses of the underlying funds and the level of risk arising from the investment practices of the underlying funds (such as the use of leverage by the funds). A Fund has no control over the investments and related risks taken by the underlying funds in which it invests. Because the Fund is not required to hold shares of underlying funds for any minimum period, it may be subject to, and may have to pay, short-term redemption fees imposed by the underlying funds.

In addition to risks generally associated with investments in investment company securities, ETFs are subject to the following risks that do not apply to traditional mutual funds: (i) the ETF’s shares may trade at a market price that is above or below its net asset value; (ii) an active trading market for an ETF’s shares may not develop or be maintained; (iii) the ETF may employ an investment strategy that utilizes high leverage ratios; or (iv) trading of an ETF’s shares may be halted if the listing exchange’s officials deem such action appropriate, the shares are de-listed from the exchange, or the activation of market-wide “circuit breakers” (which are tied to large decreases in stock prices) halts stock trading generally.

Inverse and leveraged ETFs are subject to additional risks not generally associated with traditional ETFs. To the extent that a Fund invests in inverse ETFs, the value of the Fund’s investment will decrease when the index underlying the ETF’s benchmark rises, a result that is the opposite from traditional equity or bond funds. The net asset value and market price of leveraged or inverse ETFs are usually more volatile than the value of the tracked index or of other ETFs that do not use leverage. This is because inverse and leveraged ETFs use investment techniques and financial instruments that may be considered aggressive, including the use of derivative transactions and short selling techniques. The use of these techniques may cause the inverse or leveraged ETFs to lose more money in market environments that are adverse to their investment strategies than other funds that do not use such techniques.

To the extent that a Fund invests in ETFs that invest in commodities, it will be subject to additional risks. Commodities are real assets such as oil, agriculture, livestock, industrial metals, and precious metals such as gold or silver. The values of ETFs that invest in commodities are highly dependent on the prices of the related commodities. The demand and supply of these commodities may fluctuate widely based on such factors as interest rates, investors’ expectations with respect to the rate of inflation, currency exchange rates, the production and cost levels of the producing countries and/or forward selling by such producers, global or regional political, economic or financial events, purchases and sales by central banks, and trading activities by hedge funds and other commodity funds. Commodity ETFs may use derivatives, such as futures, options and swaps, which exposes them to further risks, including counterparty risk (i.e., the risk that the institution on the other side of their trade will default).

**Debentures.** Debentures are a general debt obligation backed only by the integrity of the borrower and documented by an agreement called an Indenture. An unsecured bond is a debenture.

**Illiquid Securities.** The Funds may hold up to 15% of their relative net assets in illiquid securities. For this purpose, the term “illiquid securities” means securities that the holder reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the security. Illiquid securities include generally, among other things, certain written over-the-counter options, securities or other liquid assets as cover for such options, repurchase agreements with maturities in excess of seven days, certain loan participation interests and other securities whose disposition is restricted under the federal securities laws.

**Debt Securities.** The Funds may invest in debt securities. They generally will invest in debt securities rated Baa or higher by Moody’s Investor Service, Inc. (“Moody’s”) or BBB or higher by Standard & Poor’s Rating Group (“S&P”) or foreign securities not subject to standard credit ratings, which the Adviser believes are of comparable quality. Debt securities consist of bonds, notes, government and government agency securities, zero coupon securities, convertible bonds, asset-backed and mortgage-backed securities, and other debt securities whose purchase is consistent with the Funds’ investment objectives. The Funds’ investments may include international bonds that are denominated in foreign currencies, including the European Currency Unit or “Euro.” International bonds are defined as bonds issued in countries other than the United States. The Funds’ investments may include debt securities issued or guaranteed by supranational organizations, corporate debt securities, and bank or holding company debt securities.

**Foreign Securities.** The Funds may invest in foreign securities. Investing in securities of foreign companies and countries involves certain considerations and risks that are not typically associated with investing in U.S. government securities and securities of domestic companies. There may be less publicly available information about a foreign issuer than a domestic one, and foreign companies are not generally subject to uniform accounting, auditing and financial standards and requirements comparable to those applicable to U.S. companies. There may also be less government supervision and regulation of foreign securities exchanges, brokers and listed companies than exists in the United States. Interest and dividends paid by foreign issuers may be subject to withholding and other foreign taxes, which may decrease the net return on such investments as compared to dividends and interest paid to the Fund by domestic companies or the U.S. government. There may be the possibility of expropriations, seizure or nationalization of foreign deposits, confiscatory taxation, political, economic or social instability or diplomatic developments that could affect assets of the Fund held in foreign countries. The establishment of exchange controls or other foreign governmental laws or restrictions could adversely affect the payment of obligations. In addition, investing in foreign securities will generally result in higher commissions than investing in similar domestic securities.

Decreases in the value of currencies of the foreign countries in which the Fund will invest relative to the U.S. dollar will result in a corresponding decrease in the U.S. dollar value of the Fund’s assets denominated in those currencies (and possibly a corresponding increase in the amount of securities required to be liquidated to meet distribution requirements). Conversely, increases in the value of currencies of the foreign countries in which the Fund invests relative to the U.S. dollar will result in a corresponding increase in the U.S. dollar value of the Fund’s assets (and possibly a corresponding decrease in the amount of securities to be liquidated).

**Depository Receipts.** Assets of the Funds may be invested on a global basis to take advantage of investment opportunities both within the United States and other countries. The Funds may buy foreign securities directly in their principal markets or indirectly through the use of depository receipts. The Funds may invest in sponsored and unsponsored American Depositary Receipts (“ADRs”), European Depositary Receipts (“EDRs”), and other similar depository receipts. ADRs are issued by an American bank or trust company and represent ownership of underlying securities of a foreign company. EDRs are issued in Europe, usually by foreign banks, and represent ownership of either foreign or domestic underlying securities. The foreign country may withhold taxes on dividends or distributions paid on the securities underlying ADRs and EDRs, thereby reducing the dividend or distribution amount received by shareholders.

Un-sponsored ADRs and EDRs are issued without the participation of the issuer of the underlying securities. As a result, information concerning the issuer may not be as current as for sponsored ADRs and EDRs. Holders of un-sponsored ADRs generally bear all of the costs of the ADR facilities. The depository of an un-sponsored facility frequently is under no obligation to distribute shareholder communications received from the issuer of the deposited securities or to pass through voting rights to the holders of such receipts in respect of the deposited securities.

Therefore, there may not be a correlation between information concerning the issuer of the security and the market value of an unsponsored ADR.

**Borrowing.** As required by the 1940 Act, the Funds must maintain continuous asset coverage (total assets, including assets acquired with borrowed funds, less liabilities exclusive of borrowings) of 300% of all amounts borrowed. If, at any time, the value of a Fund's assets should fail to meet this 300% coverage test, the Fund, within three days (not including Sundays and holidays), will reduce the amount of the Fund's borrowings to the extent necessary to meet this 300% coverage. Maintenance of this percentage limitation may result in the sale of portfolio securities at a time when investment considerations otherwise indicate that it would be disadvantageous to do so. Investment strategies that either obligate a Fund to purchase securities or require a Fund to segregate assets are not considered to be borrowing.

**Repurchase Agreements.** The Funds may enter into repurchase agreements with qualified, creditworthy banks or non-bank dealers ("Seller") as determined by the Adviser. In a repurchase agreement, the Fund buys from the Seller investment-grade securities at one price and the Seller agrees to repurchase these securities at a later date (usually within one to seven days) for a price equal to the original price paid by the Fund plus an agreed interest payment ("Repurchase Price"). The Seller's obligation to repurchase the securities is secured by cash, the securities purchased, and/or certain U.S. government securities or U.S. agency guaranteed securities ("Collateral"). The Collateral is held by the Funds' custodian or a qualified sub-custodian under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act") that is a financial intermediary. The Adviser will monitor, on an ongoing basis, the current market value of the Collateral to ensure it always equals or exceeds the Repurchase Price. Each repurchase agreement must at all times be "fully collateralized" as required by Rule 5b-3 under the 1940 Act. Repurchase agreements involve risks that the Seller cannot pay the Repurchase Price (e.g., in the event of a default or insolvency of the Seller) and risks that the net liquidation value of the Collateral is less than the amount needed to repay the Repurchase Price. In addition, the Funds may invest in foreign repurchase agreements. Foreign repurchase agreements may include agreements to purchase and sell foreign securities in exchange for fixed U.S. dollar amounts, or in exchange for specified amounts of foreign currency. In the event of default by the counterparty, the Fund may suffer a loss if the value of the security purchased, i.e., the collateral, in U.S. dollars, is less than the agreed upon repurchase price, or if the Fund is unable to successfully assert a claim to the collateral under foreign laws. As a result, foreign repurchase agreements may involve greater credit risk than repurchase agreements in U.S. markets, as well as risks associated with currency fluctuations. Repurchase agreements with foreign counterparties may have more risk than with U.S. counterparties, since less financial information may be available about the foreign counterparties and they may be less creditworthy.

The Funds may engage in repurchase agreement transactions to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law.

**Loans of Portfolio Securities.** The Funds may make short- and long-term loans of its portfolio securities. To the extent that a lending policy is authorized by the Board of Trustees (the "Board") and implemented by the Adviser, the Funds may make loans of its portfolio securities in response to requests of broker-dealers or institutional investors which the Adviser deems qualified. In all such cases, the borrower must agree to maintain collateral, in the form of cash or U.S. government obligations, with the Fund on a daily mark-to-market basis in an amount at least equal to 100% of the value of the loaned securities. The Funds will continue to receive dividends or interest on the loaned securities and may terminate such loans at any time or reacquire such securities in time to vote on any matter which the Board determines to be serious. With respect to loans of securities, there is the risk that the borrower may fail to return the loaned securities or that the borrower may not be able to provide additional collateral. No loan of securities will be made if, as a result, the aggregate amount of such loans would exceed 5% of the value of a Fund's net assets.

**Strategic Transactions.** The Funds may utilize a variety of investment strategies to hedge various market risks (such as interest rates, currency exchange rates, and broad specific equity or fixed-income market movements). Such strategies are generally accepted as modern portfolio management and are regularly utilized by many mutual funds and institutional investors. Techniques and instruments may change over time as new instruments and strategies develop and regulatory changes occur.

In the course of pursuing these investment strategies, the Funds may purchase and sell exchange-listed and over-the-counter put and call options on securities, fixed-income indices and other financial instruments, purchase and sell financial futures contracts and options thereon, enter into various interest rate transactions such as swaps, caps, floors or collars, and enter into various currency transactions such as currency forward contracts, currency futures contracts,

currency swaps or options on currencies or currency futures (collectively, all the above are called “Strategic Transactions”).

When conducted outside of the United States, Strategic Transactions may not be regulated as rigorously as they are in the United States, may not involve a clearing mechanism and related guarantees, and are subject to the risk of governmental actions affecting trading in, or the prices of, foreign securities, currencies, and other instruments. The value of such positions could also be adversely affected by: (1) other complex foreign political, legal and economic factors, (2) lesser availability than in the United States of data on which to make trading decisions, (3) delays in a Fund’s ability to act upon economic events occurring in foreign markets during non-business hours in the United States, (4) the imposition of different exercise and settlement terms and procedures and margin requirements than in the United States, and (5) lower trading volume and liquidity.

**Options.** The Funds may purchase and sell options as described herein.

**Put and Call Options.** A put option gives the purchaser of the option, upon payment of a premium, the right to sell, and the writer the obligation to buy, the underlying security, commodity, index, currency or other instrument at the exercise price. A Fund may purchase a put option on a security to protect its holdings in the underlying instrument (or, in some cases, a similar instrument) against a substantial decline in market value by giving the Fund the right to sell such instrument at the option exercise price. Such protection is, of course, only provided during the life of the put option when the Fund can sell the underlying security at the put exercise price regardless of any decline in the underlying security’s market price. By using put options in this manner, the Fund will reduce any profit it might otherwise have realized in its underlying security by the premium paid for the put option and by transaction costs.

A call option, upon payment of a premium, gives the purchaser of the option the right to buy, and the seller the obligation to sell, the underlying instrument at the exercise price. A Fund’s purchase of a call option on a security, financial future, index, currency, or other instrument might be intended to protect the Fund against an increase in the price of the underlying instrument. When writing a covered call option, the Fund, in return for the premium, gives up the opportunity to profit from a market increase in the underlying security above the exercise price, but conversely retains the risk of loss should the price of the security decline. If a call option which the Fund has written expires, it will realize a gain in the amount of the premium; however, such gain may be offset by a decline in the market value of the underlying security during the option period. If the call option is exercised, the Fund will realize a gain or loss from the sale of the underlying security.

The premium received is the market value of an option. The premium a Fund will receive from writing a call option, or, which it will pay when purchasing a put option, will reflect, among other things, the current market price of the underlying security, the relationship of the exercise price to such market price, the historical price volatility of the underlying security, the length of the option period, the general supply and demand for credit conditions, and the general interest rate environment. The premium received by the Fund for writing covered call options will be recorded as a liability in its statement of assets and liabilities. This liability will be adjusted daily to the option’s current market value, which will be the latest sale price at the time at which the Fund’s net asset value (“NAV”) per share is computed (currently, the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (“NYSE”)), or, in the absence of such sale, the latest asked price. The liability will be extinguished upon expiration of the option, the purchase of an identical option in a closing transaction, or delivery of the underlying security upon the exercise of the option.

The premium paid by a Fund when purchasing a put option will be recorded as an asset in its statement of assets and liabilities. This asset will be adjusted daily to the option’s current market value, which will be the latest sale price at the time at which the Fund’s NAV per share is computed, or, in the absence of such sale, the latest bid price. The asset will be extinguished upon expiration of the option, the selling (writing) of an identical option in a closing transaction, or the delivery of the underlying security upon the exercise of the option.

The purchase of a put option will constitute a short sale for federal tax purposes. The purchase of a put at a time when the substantially identical security held long has not exceeded the long-term capital gain holding period could have adverse tax consequences. The holding period of the long position will be cut off so that even if the security held long is delivered to close the put, short term gain will be recognized. If substantially identical securities are purchased to close the put, the holding period of the securities purchased will not begin until the closing date. The holding period of the substantially identical securities not delivered to close the short sale will commence on the closing of the short sale.

A Fund will purchase a call option only to close out a covered call option it has written. It will write a put option only to close out a put option it has purchased. Such closing transactions will be effected in order to realize a profit on an outstanding call or put option, to prevent an underlying security from being called or put, or, to permit the sale of the underlying security.

Furthermore, effecting a closing transaction will permit the Fund to write another call option, or purchase another put option, on the underlying security with either a different exercise price or expiration date or both. If the Fund desires to sell a particular security from its portfolio on which it has written a call option, or purchased a put option, it will seek to effect a closing transaction prior to, or concurrently with, the sale of the security. There is, of course, no assurance that the Fund will be able to effect such closing transactions at a favorable price. If it cannot enter into such a transaction, it may be required to hold a security that it might otherwise have sold, in which case it would continue to be at market risk on the security. This could result in higher transaction costs, including brokerage commissions. The Fund will pay brokerage commissions in connection with the writing or purchase of options to close out previously written options. Such brokerage commissions are normally higher than those applicable to purchases and sales of portfolio securities.

Options written by a Fund will normally have expiration dates between three and nine months from the date written. The exercise price of the options may be below, equal to, or above the current market values of the underlying securities at the time the options are written. From time to time, the Fund may purchase an underlying security for delivery in accordance with an exercise notice of a call option assigned to it, rather than delivering such security from its portfolio. In such cases, additional brokerage commissions will be incurred.

The Fund will realize a profit or loss from a closing purchase transaction if the cost of the transaction is less or more than the premium received from the writing of the option; however, any loss so incurred in a closing purchase transaction may be partially or entirely offset by the premium received from a simultaneous or subsequent sale of a different call or put option. Also, because increases in the market price of a call option will generally reflect increases in the market price of the underlying security, any loss resulting from the repurchase of a call option is likely to be offset in whole or in part by appreciation of the underlying security owned by the Fund.

An American style put or call option may be exercised at any time during the option period while a European style put or call option may be exercised only upon expiration or during a fixed period prior thereto. A Fund is authorized to purchase and sell exchange-listed options and over-the-counter options ("OTC options"). Exchange-listed options are issued by a regulated intermediary such as the Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC"), which guarantees the performance of the obligations of the parties to such options. The discussion below uses the OCC as an example, but is also applicable to other financial intermediaries.

With certain exceptions, OCC issued and exchange listed options generally settle by physical delivery of the underlying security or currency, although cash settlement may become available in the future. Index options and Eurocurrency instruments are cash settled for the net amount, if any, by which the option is "in-the-money" (i.e., where the value of the underlying instrument exceeds, in the case of a call option, or is less than, in the case of a put option, the exercise price of the option) at the time the option is exercised. Frequently, rather than taking or making delivery of the underlying instrument through the process of exercising the option, listed options are closed by entering into offsetting purchase or sales transactions that do not result in ownership of the new option.

A Fund's ability to close out its position as a purchaser or seller of an OCC or exchange-listed put or call option is dependent, in part, upon liquidity of the option market. Among the possible reasons for the absence of a liquid option market on an exchange are: (1) insufficient trading interest in certain options; (2) restrictions on transactions imposed by an exchange; (3) trading halts, suspensions or other restrictions imposed with respect to particular classes or series of options or underlying securities including reaching daily price limits; (4) interruption of the normal operations of the OCC or an exchange; (5) inadequacy of the facilities of an exchange or OCC to handle current trading volume; or (6) a decision by one or more exchanges to discontinue the trading of options (or a particular class or series of options), in which event the relevant market for that option on that exchange would cease to exist, although outstanding options on that exchange would generally continue to be exercisable in accordance with their terms.



The hours of trading for listed options may not coincide with the hours during which the underlying financial instruments are traded. To the extent that the option markets close before the markets for the underlying financial instruments, significant price and rate movements can take place in the underlying markets that cannot be reflected in the option markets.

OTC options are purchased from or sold to securities dealers, financial institutions, or other parties (“Counterparties”) through a direct bilateral agreement with the Counterparty. In contrast to exchange-listed options, which generally have standardized terms and performance mechanics, all of the terms of an OTC option, including such terms as method of settlement, term, exercise price, premium, guarantees and security, are set by negotiation of the parties. A Fund will only sell OTC options (other than OTC currency options) that are subject to a buy-back provision permitting the Fund to require the Counterparty to sell the option back to the Fund at a formula price within seven days.

Although not required to do so, a Fund generally expects to enter into OTC options that have cash settlement provisions. Unless the parties provide otherwise, there is no central clearing or guaranty function in an OTC option.

As a result, if the Counterparty fails to make or take delivery of the security, currency or other instrument underlying an OTC option it has entered into with the Fund or fails to make a cash settlement payment due in accordance with the terms of that option, the Fund will lose any premium it paid for the option as well as any anticipated benefit of the transaction. Accordingly, the Fund’s Adviser must assess the creditworthiness of each such Counterparty or any guarantor or credit enhancement of the Counterparty’s credit to determine the likelihood that the terms of the OTC option will be satisfied. The Fund will engage in OTC option transactions only with United States government securities dealers recognized by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York as “primary dealers,” or broker dealers, domestic or foreign banks or other financial institutions which have received (or the guarantors of the obligation of which have received) a short-term credit rating of A-1 from S&P or P-1 from Moody’s or an equivalent rating from any other nationally recognized statistical rating organization (a “NRSRO”). The staff of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) currently takes the position that OTC options purchased by the Fund and portfolio securities “covering” the amount of the Fund’s obligation pursuant to an OTC option sold by it (the cost of the sell-back plus the in-the-money amount, if any) are illiquid, and are subject to the Fund’s limitation on investing no more than 15% of its assets in illiquid securities.

If a Fund sells a call option, the premium that it receives may serve as a partial hedge against a decrease in the value of the underlying securities or instruments in its portfolio. The premium may also increase the Fund’s income. The sale of put options can also provide income.

The Funds may purchase and sell call options on securities, including U.S. Treasury and agency securities, mortgage-backed securities, corporate debt securities, and Eurocurrency instruments (see “Eurocurrency Instruments” below for a description of such instruments) that are traded in U.S. and foreign securities exchanges and in the over-the-counter markets, and futures contracts. The Funds may purchase and sell call options on currencies. All calls sold by the Funds must be “covered” (i.e., the Funds must own the securities or futures contract subject to the call) or must meet the asset segregation requirements described below as long as the call is outstanding. Even though the Funds will receive the option premium to help protect them against loss, a call sold by the Funds exposes the Funds during the term of the option to possible loss of opportunity to realize appreciation in the market price of the underlying security or instrument and may require the Funds to hold a security or instrument which they might otherwise have sold.

The Funds may purchase and sell put options on securities including U.S. Treasury and agency securities, mortgage-backed securities, foreign sovereign debt, corporate debt securities, convertible securities, and Eurocurrency instruments (whether or not a Fund holds the above securities in its portfolio), and futures contracts. The Funds may not purchase or sell futures contracts on individual corporate debt securities. The Funds may purchase and sell put options on currencies. The Funds will not sell put options if, as a result, more than 50% of the respective Fund’s assets would be required to be segregated to cover its potential obligations under such put options other than those with respect to futures and options thereon. In selling put options, there is a risk that the Funds may be required to buy the underlying security at a disadvantageous price above the market price. For tax purposes, the purchase of a put is treated as a short sale, which may cut off the holding period for the security. Consequently, the purchase of a put is treated as generating gain on securities held less than three months or short-term capital gain (instead of long term) as the case may be.

**Options on Securities Indices and Other Financial Indices.** The Funds may also purchase and sell call and put options on securities indices and other financial indices. By doing so, the Funds can achieve many of the same objectives that they would achieve through the sale or purchase of options on individual securities or other instruments. Options on securities indices and other financial indices are similar to options on a security or other instrument except that, rather than settling by physical delivery of the underlying instrument, they settle by cash settlement. For example, an option on an index gives the holder the right to receive, upon exercise of the option, an amount of cash if the closing level of the index upon which the option is based exceeds, in the case of a call, or is less than, in the case of a put, the exercise price of the option. This amount of cash is equal to the excess of the closing price of the index over the exercise price of the option, which also may be multiplied by a formula value.

The seller of the option is obligated, in return for the premium received, to make delivery of this amount. The gain or loss on an option on an index depends on price movements in the instruments making up the market, market segment, industry or any other composite on which the underlying index is based, rather than price movements in individual securities, as is the case with respect to options on securities.

**Futures.** The Funds may enter into financial futures contracts or purchase or sell put and call options on such futures as a hedge against anticipated interest rate or currency market changes and for risk management purposes. The use of futures for hedging is intended to protect a Fund from (1) the risk that the value of its portfolio of investments in a foreign market may decline before it can liquidate its interest, or (2) the risk that a foreign market in which it proposes to invest may have significant increases in value before it invests in that market. In the first instance, a Fund will sell a future based upon a broad market index which it is believed will move in a manner comparable to the overall value of securities in that market. In the second instance, a Fund will purchase the appropriate index as an “anticipatory” hedge until it can otherwise acquire suitable direct investments in that market. As with the hedging of foreign currencies, the precise matching of financial futures on foreign indices and the value of the cash or portfolio securities being hedged may not have a perfect correlation. The projection of future market movement and the movement of appropriate indices is difficult, and the successful execution of this short-term hedging strategy is uncertain.

Regulatory policies governing the use of such hedging techniques require a Fund to provide for the deposit of initial margin and the segregation of suitable assets to meet its obligations under futures contracts. Futures are generally bought and sold on the commodities exchanges where they are listed with payment of initial and variation margin as described below. The sale of a futures contract creates a firm obligation by the Fund, as seller, to deliver to the buyer the specific type of financial instrument called for in the contract at a specific future time for a specified price (or, with respect to index futures and Eurocurrency instruments, the net cash amount). Options on futures contracts are similar to options on securities except that an option on a futures contract gives the purchaser the right in return for the premium paid to assume a position in a futures contract and obligates the seller to deliver such position.

The Funds’ use of financial futures and options thereon will in all cases be consistent with applicable regulatory requirements, particularly the rules and regulations of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. The Funds will use such techniques only for bona fide hedging, risk management (including duration management) or other portfolio management purposes. Typically, maintaining a futures contract or selling an option thereon requires a Fund to deposit an amount of cash or other specified assets (initial margin), which initially is typically 1% to 10% of the face amount of the contract (but may be higher in some circumstances) with a financial intermediary as security for its obligations. Additional cash or assets (variation margin) may be required to be deposited thereafter daily as the mark-to-market value of the contract fluctuates. The purchase of an option on financial futures involves payment of a premium for the option without any further obligation on the part of the Fund. If the Fund exercises an option on a futures contract, it will be obligated to post initial margin (and potential subsequent variation margin) for the resulting futures position. Futures contracts and options thereon are generally settled by entering into an offsetting transaction, but there can be no assurance that the position can be offset prior to settlement at an advantage price or that delivery will occur.

The Funds will not enter into a futures contract or related option (except for closing transactions) if immediately thereafter, the sum of the amount of its initial margin and premiums on open futures contracts and options thereon would exceed 5% of the respective Fund’s total assets (taken at current value); however, in the case of an option that is in-the-money at the time of the purchase, the in-the-money amount may be excluded in calculating the 5% limitation. The segregation requirements with respect to futures contracts and options thereon are described below.

**Currency Transactions.** The Funds may engage in currency transactions with counterparties to hedge the value of portfolio holdings denominated in particular currencies against fluctuations in relative value. Currency transactions include forward currency contracts, exchange-listed currency futures, exchange-listed and OTC options on currencies, and currency swaps. A forward currency contract involves a privately negotiated obligation to purchase or sell (with delivery generally required) a specific currency at a future date, which may be any fixed number of days from the date of the contract between the parties, at a specified price. These contracts are traded in the interbank market and conducted directly between currency traders (usually large, commercial banks) and their customers. A forward foreign currency contract generally has no deposit requirement or commissions charges. A currency swap is an agreement to exchange cash flows based on the notional difference among two or more currencies. Currency swaps operate similarly to an interest rate swap (described below). A Fund may enter into currency transactions with counterparties which have received (or the guarantors of the obligations of which have received) a credit rating of A-1 or P-1 by S&P or Moody's, respectively, or that have an equivalent rating from a NRSRO, or (except for OTC currency options) are determined to be of equivalent credit quality by the Fund's Adviser.

Currency hedging involves some of the same risks and considerations as other transactions with similar instruments. Currency transactions can result in losses to a Fund if the currency being hedged fluctuates in value to a degree or in a direction that is not anticipated. Furthermore, there is the risk that the perceived linkage between various currencies may not be present or may not be present during the particular time a Fund is engaging in proxy hedging (see "Proxy Hedging," below). If a Fund enters into a currency hedging transaction, it will comply with the asset segregation requirements described below. Cross currency hedges may not be considered "directly related" to a Fund's principal business of investing in stock or securities (or options and futures thereon), resulting in gains there from not qualifying under the "less than 30% of gross income" test of Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code").

Currency transactions are also subject to risks different from those of other portfolio transactions. Because currency control is of great importance to the issuing governments and influences economic planning and policy, purchases and sales of currency and related instruments can be negatively affected by government exchange controls, blockages, and manipulations or exchange restrictions imposed by governments. These can result in losses to a Fund if it is unable to deliver or receive currency or funds in settlement of obligations and could also cause hedges a Fund has entered into to be rendered useless, resulting in full currency exposure and transaction costs. Buyers and sellers of currency futures are subject to the same risks that apply to the use of futures generally. Furthermore, settlement of a currency futures contract for the purchase of most currencies must occur at a bank based in the issuing nation. Trading options on currency futures is relatively new, and the ability to establish and close out positions on such options is subject to the maintenance of a liquid market which may not always be available. Currency exchange rates may fluctuate based on factors extrinsic to that country's economy. Although forward foreign currency contracts and currency futures tend to minimize the risk of loss due to a decline in the value of the hedged currency, they tend to limit any potential gain which might result should the value of such currency increase.

The Funds' dealings in forward currency contracts and other currency transactions such as futures, options on futures, options on currencies and swaps will be limited to hedging involving either specific transactions ("Transaction Hedging") or portfolio positions ("Position Hedging").

**Transaction Hedging.** Transaction Hedging occurs when a Fund enters into a currency transaction with respect to specific assets or liabilities. These specific assets or liabilities generally arise in connection with the purchase or sale of a Fund's portfolio securities or the receipt of income there from.

The Funds may use transaction hedging to preserve the United States dollar price of a security when they enter into a contract for the purchase or sale of a security denominated in a foreign currency. The Funds will be able to protect against possible losses resulting from changes in the relationship between the U.S. dollar and foreign currencies during the period between the date the security is purchased or sold and the date on which payment is made or received by entering into a forward contract for the purchase or sale, for a fixed amount of dollars, of the amount of the foreign currency involved in the underlying security transactions.

**Position Hedging.** Position hedging is entering into a currency transaction with respect to portfolio security positions denominated or generally quoted in that currency. The Funds may use position hedging when the Funds' Adviser believes that the currency of a particular foreign country may suffer a substantial decline against the U.S. dollar. A Fund may enter into a forward foreign currency contract to sell, for a fixed amount of dollars, the amount of foreign

currency approximating the value of some or all of its portfolio securities denominated in such foreign currency. The precise matching of the forward foreign currency contract amount and the value of the portfolio securities involved may not have a perfect correlation since the future value of the securities hedged will change as a consequence of market movements between the date the forward contract is entered into and the date it matures. The projection of short-term currency market movement is difficult, and the successful execution of this short-term hedging strategy is uncertain.

The Funds will not enter into a transaction to hedge currency exposure to an extent greater, after netting all transactions intended wholly or partially to offset other transactions, than the aggregate market value (at the time of entering into the transaction) of the securities held in their portfolio that are denominated or generally quoted in or currently convertible into such currency, other than with respect to proxy hedging as described below.

**Cross Hedging.** The Funds may also cross-hedge currencies by entering into transactions to purchase or sell one or more currencies that are expected to decline in value relative to other currencies to which a Fund has or expects to have portfolio exposure.

**Proxy Hedging.** To reduce the effect of currency fluctuations on the value of existing or anticipated holdings of portfolio securities, the Funds may also engage in proxy hedging. Proxy hedging is often used when the currency to which a Fund's portfolio is exposed is difficult to hedge or to hedge against the U.S. dollar. Proxy hedging entails entering into a forward contract to sell a currency whose changes in value are generally considered to be linked to a currency or currencies in which some or all of the Fund's portfolio securities are or are expected to be denominated, and buying U.S. dollars. The amount of the contract would not exceed the value of the Fund's securities denominated in linked currencies. For example, if the Adviser considers that the Swedish krona is linked to the euro, the Fund holds securities denominated in Swedish krona and the Adviser believes that the value of Swedish krona will decline against the U.S. dollar, the Adviser may enter into a contract to sell euros and buy U.S. dollars.

**Combined Transactions.** The Funds may enter into multiple transactions, including multiple options transactions, multiple futures transactions, multiple currency transactions (including forward foreign currency contracts) and multiple interest rate transactions and any combination of futures, options, currency and interest rate transactions ("component transactions"), instead of a single Strategic Transaction or when the Adviser believes that it is in a Fund's best interest to do so. A combined transaction will usually contain elements of risk that are present in each of its component transactions. Although combined transactions are normally entered into based on the Adviser's judgment that the combined strategies will reduce risk or otherwise more effectively achieve the desired portfolio management goal, it is possible that the combination will instead increase such risks or hinder achievement of the portfolio management objective.

**Eurocurrency Instruments.** The Funds may make investments in Eurocurrency instruments. Eurocurrency instruments are futures contracts or options thereon which are linked to the London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR") or to the interbank rates offered in other financial centers. Eurocurrency futures contracts enable purchasers to obtain a fixed rate for the lending of funds and sellers to obtain a fixed rate for borrowings. A Fund might use Eurocurrency futures contracts and options thereon to hedge against changes in LIBOR and other interbank rates, to which many interest rate swaps and fixed income instruments are linked.

**Segregated and Other Special Accounts.** In addition to other requirements, many transactions require the Funds to segregate liquid high-grade assets with their custodian to the extent Fund obligations are not otherwise "covered" through the ownership of the underlying security, financial instruments or currency. In general, either the full amount of any obligation by a Fund to pay or deliver securities or assets must be covered at all times by the securities, instruments or currency required to be delivered, or, subject to any regulatory restrictions, an amount of cash or liquid high-grade securities at least equal to the current amount of the obligation must be segregated with the custodian. The segregated assets cannot be sold or transferred unless equivalent assets are substituted in their place or it is no longer necessary to segregate them. For example, a call option written by a Fund will require the Fund to hold the securities subject to the call (or securities convertible into the needed securities without additional consideration) or to segregate liquid high-grade securities sufficient to purchase and deliver the securities if the call is exercised. A call option sold by a Fund on an index will require the Fund to own portfolio securities which correlate with the index or segregate liquid high grade assets equal to the excess of the index value over the exercise price industry or other on a current basis. A put option written by a Fund requires the Fund to segregate liquid, high grade assets equal to the exercise price. A currency contract which obligates a Fund to buy or sell currency will generally require the Fund to hold an

amount of that currency or liquid securities denominated in that currency equal to the Fund's obligations or to segregate liquid high-grade assets equal to the amount of the Fund's obligation.

OTC options entered into by a Fund, including those on securities, currency, financial instruments or indices and OCC issued and exchange-listed index options, will generally provide for cash settlement. As a result, when the Fund sells these instruments it will only segregate an amount of assets equal to its accrued net obligations, as there is no requirement for payment or delivery of amounts in excess of the net amount. These amounts will equal 100% of the exercise price in the case of a non-cash-settled put, the same as an OCC guaranteed listed option sold by the Fund, or in-the-money amount plus any sell-back formula amount in the case of a cash-settled put or call. In addition, when the Fund sells a call option on an index at a time when the in-the-money amount exceeds the exercise price, the Fund will segregate, until the option expires or is closed out, cash or cash equivalents equal in value to such excess. OCC issued and exchange-listed options sold by a Fund generally settle with physical delivery, and the Fund will segregate an amount of liquid assets equal to the full value of the option. OTC options settling with physical delivery, or with an election of either physical delivery or cash settlement will be treated the same as other options settling with physical delivery.

In the case of a futures contract or an option thereon, a Fund must deposit initial margin and possible daily variation margin in addition to segregating sufficient liquid assets. Such assets may consist of cash, cash equivalents, liquid debt securities or other liquid assets.

With respect to swaps, a Fund will accrue the net amount of the excess, if any, of its obligations over its entitlements with respect to each swap on a daily basis and will segregate an amount of cash or liquid high grade securities having a value equal to the accrued excess. Caps, floors and collars require segregation of assets with a value equal to the Fund's net obligation, if any.

Strategic Transactions may be covered by other means when consistent with applicable regulatory policies. A Fund may also enter into offsetting transactions so that its combined position, coupled with any segregated assets, equals its net outstanding obligation in related options and Strategic Transactions. For example, the Fund could purchase a put option if the strike price of that option is the same or higher than the strike price of a put option sold by the Fund. Moreover, instead of segregating assets, if the Fund holds a futures or forward contract, it could purchase a put option on the same futures or forward contract with a strike price as high or higher than the price of the contract held. Other Strategic Transactions may also be offered in combinations.

If the offsetting transaction terminates at the time of or after the primary transaction, no segregation is required, but if it terminates prior to such time, liquid assets equal to any remaining obligation would need to be segregated.

The Funds' activities involving Strategic Transactions may be limited by the requirements of Subchapter M of the Code for qualification as a regulated investment company.

In addition to the foregoing, the Funds are authorized to borrow money as a temporary measure for extraordinary or emergency purposes in amounts not in excess of 5% of the value of the respective Fund's total assets. This borrowing is not subject to the foregoing 300% asset coverage requirement.

Borrowing may subject the Funds to interest costs, which may exceed the interest received on the securities purchased with the borrowed funds. The Funds may borrow at times to meet redemption requests rather than sell portfolio securities to raise the necessary cash. Borrowing can involve leveraging when securities are purchased with the borrowed money.

**Temporary Investments.** The Funds may take temporary defensive measures that are inconsistent with the Funds' normal fundamental or non-fundamental investment policies and strategies in response to adverse market, economic, political, or other conditions as determined by the Adviser. Such measures could include, but are not limited to, investments in (1) highly liquid short-term fixed income securities issued by or on behalf of municipal or corporate issuers, obligations of the U.S. Government and its agencies, commercial paper, and bank certificates of deposit; (2) repurchase agreements involving any such securities; and (3) other money market instruments. The Funds may also invest in shares of money market mutual funds to the extent permitted under applicable law. Money market mutual funds are investment companies, and the investments in those companies by the Funds are in some cases subject to certain fundamental investment restrictions. As a shareholder in a mutual fund, the Funds will bear their ratable share

of their expenses, including management fees, and will remain subject to payment of the fees to the Adviser, with respect to assets so invested. The Funds may not achieve their respective investment objectives during temporary defensive periods.

## OTHER INVESTMENTS

**Initial Public Offerings.** The Funds may participate in the initial public offering (“IPO”) market, and a portion of a Fund’s returns may be attributed to IPO investments; the impact on a Fund’s performance of IPO investments will be magnified if the Fund has a small asset base. Although the IPO market in recent years has been strong, there is no guarantee that it will continue to be so or that suitable IPOs will be available and, as the Fund’s assets grow, there is no guarantee that the impact of IPO investing will produce positive performance.

**European Currency.** Many European countries have adopted a single European currency, the Euro. On January 1, 1999, the Euro became legal tender for all countries participating in the Economic and Monetary Union (“EMU”). A new European Central Bank has been created to manage the monetary policy of the new unified region. On the same date, the exchange rates were irrevocably fixed between the EMU member countries.

Due to this change and its impact on the European capital markets in which a Fund may invest, the Funds may face additional risks. These risks, which include, but are not limited to, volatility of currency exchange rates as a result of the conversion, uncertainty as to capital market reaction, conversion costs that may affect issuer profitability and creditworthiness, and lack of participation by some European countries, may increase the volatility of the Funds’ net asset value per share.

**Miscellaneous.** The Board may, in the future, authorize the Funds to invest in securities other than those listed in this SAI and in the prospectus, provided that such investments would be consistent with the respective Fund’s investment objective and that such investments would not violate the respective Fund’s fundamental investment policies or restrictions.

## INVESTMENT RESTRICTIONS

**Fundamental.** The investment limitations described below have been adopted by the Trust with respect to the Funds and are fundamental (“Fundamental”), which means they may not be changed without the affirmative vote of a majority of the outstanding shares of the applicable Fund. As used in the Prospectus and the SAI, the term “majority” of the outstanding shares of a Fund means the lesser of: (1) 67% or more of the outstanding shares of the Fund present at a meeting, if the holders of more than 50% of the outstanding shares of the Fund are present or represented at such meeting; or (2) more than 50% of the outstanding shares of the Fund. Other investment practices which may be changed by the Board without the approval of shareholders to the extent permitted by applicable law, regulation or regulatory policy are considered non-fundamental (“Non-Fundamental”).

As a matter of fundamental policy, each Fund:

1. May not borrow money except as permitted under the 1940 Act, and as interpreted or modified by regulatory authority having jurisdiction, from time to time.
2. May not issue senior securities to others, except as permitted under the 1940 Act, and as interpreted or modified by regulatory authority having jurisdiction, from time to time.
3. May not underwrite securities issued by others except to the extent a Fund may be deemed to be an underwriter under the federal securities laws, in connection with the disposition of portfolio securities.
4. May not purchase or sell real estate except as permitted under the 1940 Act, and as interpreted or modified by regulatory authority having jurisdiction, from time to time.
5. May invest in commodities only as permitted by the 1940 Act or other governing statute, by the Rules thereunder or by the SEC or other regulatory agency with authority over the Funds.
6. May not make loans to others, except as permitted under the 1940 Act, and as interpreted or modified by regulatory authority having jurisdiction, from time to time.
7. May not invest more than 25% of the value of its net assets in any one industry or group of industries (except that securities of the U.S. government, its agencies and instrumentalities are not subject to these limitations).

Further, as a matter of fundamental policy, each Fund:

shall be a “diversified company” as that term is defined in the 1940 Act, as interpreted or modified by regulatory authorities from time to time.

The investment techniques, restrictions and operating policies of the Funds that are not fundamental policies can be changed by the Board without shareholder approval or prior notice.

With respect to the percentages adopted by the Trust as maximum limitations on its investment policies and limitations, an excess above the fixed percentage will not be a violation of the policy or limitation unless the excess results immediately and directly from the acquisition of any security or the action taken. This paragraph does not apply to the borrowing policy set forth in paragraph 1 above as the coverage ratio described in paragraph 1 must be met at all times.

Notwithstanding any of the foregoing limitations, any investment company, whether organized as a trust, association or corporation, or a personal holding company, may be merged or consolidated with or acquired by the Trust, provided that if such merger, consolidation or acquisition results in an investment in the securities of any issuer prohibited by said paragraphs, the Trust shall, within ninety days after the consummation of such merger, consolidation or acquisition, dispose of all of the securities of such issuer so acquired or such portion thereof as shall bring the total investment therein within the limitations imposed by said paragraphs above as of the date of consummation.

Except with respect to borrowing and circumstances where the Funds are required to “cover” their respective positions, if a percentage or rating restriction on investment or use of assets set forth herein or in the Prospectus is adhered to at the time a transaction is effected, later changes in percentage resulting from any cause other than actions by the Funds will not be considered a violation. Currently, subject to modification to conform to the 1940 Act as interpreted or modified from time to time, a Fund is permitted, consistent with the 1940 Act, to borrow, and pledge, its shares to secure such borrowing, provided, that immediately thereafter there is asset coverage of at least 300% for all borrowings by the Fund from a bank. If borrowings exceed this 300% asset coverage requirement by reason of a decline in net assets of a Fund, the Fund will reduce its borrowings within three days (not including Sundays and holidays) to the extent necessary to comply with the 300% asset coverage requirement. The 1940 Act also permits a Fund to borrow for temporary purposes only in an amount not exceeding 5% of the value of its total assets at the time when the loan is made. A loan shall be presumed to be for temporary purposes if it is repaid within 60 days and is not extended or renewed. To the extent outstanding borrowings of a Fund exceed 5% of the value of the total assets of the Fund, the Fund will not make additional purchases of securities – the foregoing shall not be construed to prevent the Fund from settling portfolio transactions or satisfying shareholder redemptions orders. The SEC has indicated, however, that certain types of transactions, which could be deemed “borrowings” (such as firm commitment agreements and reverse repurchase agreements), are permissible if a Fund “covers” the agreements by establishing and maintaining segregated accounts.

Currently, with respect to senior securities, the 1940 Act and regulatory interpretations of relevant provisions of the 1940 Act establish the following general limits, subject to modification to conform to the 1940 Act as interpreted or modified from time to time: Open-end registered investment companies such as the Funds are not permitted to issue any class of senior security or to sell any senior security of which they are the issuers. The Trust is, however, permitted to issue separate series of shares (the Funds are a series of the Trust) and to divide those series into separate classes. Individual class and institutional class are separate classes. The Funds have no intention of issuing senior securities, except that the Trust has issued its shares in separate series and may divide those series into classes of shares. Collateral arrangements with respect to forward contracts, futures contracts or options, including deposits of initial and variation margin, are not considered to be the issuance of a senior security for purposes of this restriction.

## DISCLOSURE OF PORTFOLIO SECURITIES HOLDINGS

This Disclosure of Portfolio Securities Holdings Policy (the “Policy”) shall govern the disclosure of the portfolio securities holdings of the Funds of the Trust. The Trust maintains this Policy to ensure that disclosure of information about portfolio securities is in the best interests of the Funds and the Funds’ shareholders. The Board reviews these policies and procedures as necessary and at least annually in connection with a report from the Trust’s Chief Compliance Officer. In addition, the Board has reviewed and approved the provision of portfolio holdings information to entities described below that may be prior to and more frequently than the public disclosure of such information (i.e., “non-standard disclosure”). The Board has also delegated authority to the officers of the Trust and the Adviser to provide such information in certain circumstances (see below).

The SEC requires the Trust to publicly file its complete portfolio holdings schedule with the SEC on a quarterly basis. This schedule is filed with the Trust’s annual and semi-annual reports on Form N-CSR for the second and fourth fiscal quarters and on Form N-PORT for the first and third fiscal quarters. Certain portfolio information is also included on form N-PORT that is filed for the second and fourth fiscal quarters. The portfolio holdings information provided in these reports is as of the end of the respective quarter. Form N-CSR must be filed with the SEC no later than ten (10) calendar days after the Trust transmits its annual or semi-annual report to its shareholders. Form N-PORT must be filed with the SEC and will be made publicly available no later than 60 calendar days after the end of the applicable quarter.

Additionally, the Trust’s service providers which have contracted to provide services to the Trust and its funds, including, for example, the custodian, fund accountants, and other service providers assisting with materials utilized in the Board’s 15c processes, that require portfolio holdings information to perform those services, may receive non-standard disclosure. Non-standard disclosure of portfolio holdings information may also be provided to a third-party when the Trust has a legitimate business purpose for doing so. The Trust has the following ongoing arrangements with certain third parties to provide the Funds’ portfolio holdings information:

1. to the Trust’s auditors within 60 days after the applicable fiscal period or other periods as necessary for use in providing audit opinions and other advice related to financial, regulatory, or tax reporting;
2. to financial printers within 60 days after the applicable fiscal period for the purpose of preparing Trust regulatory filings; and
3. to the Trust’s administrator, custodian, transfer agent and accounting services provider daily in connection with their providing services to the Funds.

The Trust’s service providers may also disclose non-public portfolio holdings information if such disclosure is required by applicable laws, rules, or regulations, or by regulatory authorities. Additionally, the Adviser may establish ongoing arrangements with certain third parties to provide the Funds’ portfolio holdings information that the Adviser determines that the Funds have a legitimate business purpose for doing so and the recipient is subject to a duty of confidentiality. These third parties may include:

1. financial data processing companies that provide automated data scanning and monitoring services for the Funds;
2. research companies that allow the Adviser to perform attribution analysis for the Funds; and
3. the Adviser’s proxy voting agent to assess and vote proxies on behalf of the Funds.

From time to time, employees of the Adviser may express their views orally or in writing on the Funds’ portfolio securities or may state that the Funds have recently purchased or sold, or continues to own, one or more securities. The securities subject to these views and statements may be ones that were purchased or sold since the Funds’ most recent quarter-end and therefore may not be reflected on the list of the Funds’ most recent quarter-end portfolio holdings. These views and statements may be made to various persons, including members of the press, brokers and other financial intermediaries that sell shares of the Funds, shareholders in the Funds, persons considering investing in the Funds or representatives of such shareholders or potential shareholders, such as fiduciaries of a 401(k) plan or a trust and their advisers, and other entities for which the Adviser may determine. The nature and content of the views and statements provided to each of these persons may differ. From time to time, employees of the Adviser also may provide oral or written information (“portfolio commentary”) about the Funds, including, but not limited to, how the Funds’ investments are divided among various sectors, industries, countries, investment styles and capitalization sizes, and among stocks, bonds, currencies and cash, security types, bond maturities, bond coupons and bond credit quality



ratings. This portfolio commentary may also include information on how these various weightings and factors contributed to Fund performance. The Adviser may also provide oral or written information (“statistical information”) about various financial characteristics of the Funds or their underlying portfolio securities including, but not limited to, alpha, beta, R-squared, coefficient of determination, duration, maturity, information ratio, Sharpe ratio, earnings growth, payout ratio, price/book value, projected earnings growth, return on equity, standard deviation, tracking error, weighted average quality, market capitalization, percent of debt to equity, price to cash flow, dividend yield or growth, default rate, portfolio turnover, and risk and style characteristics. This portfolio commentary and statistical information about the Funds may be based on the Funds’ portfolios as of the most recent quarter-end or the end of some other interim period, such as month-end. The portfolio commentary and statistical information may be provided to various persons, including those described in the preceding paragraph. The nature and content of the information provided to each of these persons may differ.

Additionally, employees of the Adviser may disclose one or more of the portfolio securities of the Funds when purchasing and selling securities through broker-dealers, requesting bids on securities, obtaining price quotations on securities, or in connection with litigation involving the Funds’ portfolio securities. The Adviser does not enter into formal non-disclosure or confidentiality agreements in connection with these situations; however, the Funds would not continue to conduct business with a person who the Adviser believed was misusing the disclosed information.

The Adviser or its affiliates may manage products sponsored by companies other than itself, including investment companies, offshore funds, and separate accounts and affiliates of the Adviser may provide investment related services, including research services, to other companies, including other investment companies, offshore funds, institutional investors and other entities. In each of these instances, the sponsors of these other companies and the affiliates of the Adviser may receive compensation for their services. In many cases, these other products may be managed in a similar fashion to the Funds and thus have similar portfolio holdings, and the other investment related services provided by affiliates of the Adviser may involve disclosure of information that is also utilized by the Adviser in managing the Funds. The sponsors of these other products may disclose the portfolio holdings of their products at different times than the Adviser discloses portfolio holdings for the Funds, and affiliates of the Adviser may provide investment related services to its clients at times that are different from the times disclosed to the Funds.

The Trust and Adviser currently have no other arrangements for the provision of non-standard disclosure to any party or shareholder. Other than the non-standard disclosure discussed above, if a third-party requests specific, current information regarding the Funds’ portfolio holdings, the Trust will refer the third-party to the latest regulatory filing.

All of the arrangements above are subject to the policies and procedures adopted by the Board to ensure such disclosure is for a legitimate business purpose and is in the best interests of the Trust and its shareholders. The Trust’s Chief Compliance Officer is responsible for monitoring the use and disclosure of information relating to portfolio securities. Although no material conflicts of interest are believed to exist that could disadvantage the Funds and their shareholders, various safeguards have been implemented to protect the Funds and their shareholders from conflicts of interest, including: the adoption of Codes of Ethics pursuant to Rule 17j-1 under the 1940 Act designed to prevent fraudulent, deceptive or manipulative acts by officers and employees of the Trust, Adviser and the Distributor in connection with their personal securities transactions; the adoption by the Adviser and Distributor of insider trading policies and procedures designed to prevent their employees’ misuse of material non-public information; and the adoption by the Trust of a Code of Ethics for Officers that requires the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer of the Trust to report to the Board any affiliations or other relationships that could potentially create a conflict of interest with the Funds. There may be instances where the interests of the Trust’s shareholders respecting the disclosure of information about portfolio holdings may conflict or appear to conflict with the interests of the Adviser, any principal underwriter for the Trust or an affiliated person of the Trust. In such situations, the conflict must be disclosed to the Board and the Board will attempt to resolve the situation in a manner that it deems in the best interests of the Funds.

Affiliated persons of the Trust who receive non-standard disclosure are subject to restrictions and limitations on the use and handling of such information, including requirements to maintain the confidentiality of such information, pre-clear securities trades, and report securities transactions activity, as applicable. Except as provided above, affiliated persons of the Trust and third-party service providers of the Trust receiving such non-standard disclosure will be instructed that such information must be kept confidential and that no trading on such information should be allowed.

Neither the Trust, the Funds, or the Adviser receives compensation or other consideration in connection with the non-standard disclosure of information about portfolio securities.

## TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS OF THE TRUST

The Trust is governed by the Board, which is responsible for protecting the interests of shareholders. The trustees are experienced businesspersons who meet throughout the year to oversee the Trust's activities, review contractual arrangements with companies that provide services to the Funds and review performance. The names, addresses and ages of the trustees and officers of the Trust, together with information as to their principal occupations during the past five years, are listed below.

Each Trustee was nominated to serve on the Board based on their particular skill set. The Board believes each Trustee is competent to serve because of their individual overall merits including: (i) experience, (ii) qualifications, (iii) attributes and (iv) skills. Mr. David J. Urban has been a Professor of Education since 1989. His strategic planning, organizational and leadership skills help the Board set long-term goals. Ms. Mary Lou H. Ivey has business experience as a practicing tax accountant since 1996 and, as such, brings tax, budgeting, and financial reporting skills to the Board. Mr. Theo H. Pitt has experience as an investor, including his role as a trustee of several other investment companies and business experience as Senior Partner of a financial consulting company, as a partner of a real estate partnership and as an Account Administrator for a money management firm. The Trust does not believe any one factor is determinative in assessing a Trustee's qualifications, but that the collective experience of each Trustee makes them each highly qualified.

The Chairman of the Board is Ms. Ivey, who is not an "interested person" of the Trust, within the meaning of the 1940 Act. The Trust also has an independent Audit Committee that allows the Board to access the expertise necessary to oversee the Trust, identify risks, recognize shareholder concerns and needs and highlight opportunities. The Audit Committee can focus Board time and attention to matters of interest to shareholders and, through its private sessions with the Trust's auditor, Chief Compliance Officer and legal counsel, stay fully informed regarding management decisions.

Mutual funds face a number of risks, including investment risk, compliance risk and valuation risk. The Board oversees management of the Funds' risks directly and through its officers. While day-to-day risk management responsibilities rest with the each Fund's Chief Compliance Officer, investment advisers and other service providers, the Board monitors and tracks risk by: (1) receiving and reviewing quarterly reports related to the performance and operations of the Funds; (2) reviewing and approving, as applicable, the compliance policies and procedures of the Trust, including the Trust's valuation policies and transaction procedures; (3) periodically meeting with the portfolio manager to review investment strategies, techniques and related risks; (4) meeting with representatives of key service providers, including the Funds' investment advisers, administrator, distributor, transfer agent and the independent registered public accounting firm, to discuss the activities of the Funds; (5) engaging the services of the Chief Compliance Officer of each Fund to monitor and test the compliance procedures of the Trust and its service providers; (6) receiving and reviewing reports from the Trust's independent registered public accounting firm regarding the Funds' financial condition and the Trust's internal controls; and (7) receiving and reviewing an annual written report prepared by the Chief Compliance Officer reviewing the adequacy of the Trust's compliance policies and procedures and the effectiveness of their implementation. The Board has concluded that its general oversight of the investment advisers and other service providers as implemented through the reporting and monitoring process outlined above allows the Board to effectively administer its risk oversight function.

Each Trustee was nominated to serve on the Board based on their particular experiences, qualifications, attributes and skills. The characteristics that have led the Board to conclude that each of the Trustees should continue to serve as a Trustee of the Trust are discussed within this section.

Following is a list of the Trustees and executive officers of the Trust and their principal occupation over at least the last five years. The mailing address of each Trustee and officer is 8730 Stony Point Parkway, Suite 205, Richmond Virginia, 23235, unless otherwise indicated.

**NON-INTERESTED TRUSTEES**

<b>NAME, AGE AND POSITION(S) WITH THE TRUST</b>	<b>TERM OF OFFICE AND LENGTH OF TIME SERVED</b>	<b>PRINCIPAL OCCUPATION(S) DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS</b>	<b>NUMBER OF FUNDS IN FUND COMPLEX OVERSEEN BY TRUSTEE</b>	<b>OTHER DIRECTORSHIPS HELD BY TRUSTEE</b>
David J. Urban (65) Trustee	Indefinite, Since June 2010	Dean, Jones College of Business, Middle Tennessee State University since July 2013.	28	Independent Trustee for the two series of the ETF Opportunities Trust (registered investment company)
Mary Lou H. Ivey (62) Trustee	Indefinite, Since June 2010	Accountant, Harris, Hardy & Johnstone, P.C., (accounting firm), since 2008.	28	Independent Trustee for the two series of the ETF Opportunities Trust (registered investment company)
Theo H. Pitt, Jr. (84) Trustee	Indefinite; Since August 2013	Senior Partner, Community Financial Institutions Consulting (bank consulting) 1997 to present.	28	Independent Trustee of Chesapeake Investment Trust for the one series of that trust; Leeward Investment Trust for the one series of that trust; Hillman Capital Management Investment Trust for the one series of that trust; and Starboard Investment Trust for the 14 series of that trust; and ETF Opportunities Trust for the two series of that trust (all registered investment companies).

**OFFICERS WHO ARE NOT TRUSTEES**

<b>NAME, AGE AND POSITION(S) WITH THE TRUST</b>	<b>TERM OF OFFICE AND LENGTH OF TIME SERVED</b>	<b>PRINCIPAL OCCUPATION(S) DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS</b>	<b>NUMBER OF FUNDS IN FUND COMPLEX OVERSEEN BY TRUSTEE</b>	<b>OTHER DIRECTORSHIPS HELD BY TRUSTEE</b>
David A. Bogaert (56) President	Indefinite, Since August 2017	Managing Director of Business Development, Commonwealth Fund Services, Inc. (fund administration and transfer agency).	N/A	N/A
Karen M. Shupe (56) Treasurer and Principal Executive Officer	Indefinite, Since June 2008	Managing Director of Fund Operations, Commonwealth Fund Services, Inc., 2003 - present.	N/A	N/A
Ann T. MacDonald (65) Assistant Treasurer and Principal Financial Officer	Indefinite, Since November 2015	Managing Director of Fund Administration and Fund Accounting, Commonwealth Fund Services, Inc., 2003 – present.	N/A	N/A
John H. Lively (51) Secretary	Indefinite, Since November 2013	Attorney, Practus, LLP (law firm), May 2018 to present; Attorney, The Law Offices of John H. Lively & Associates, Inc. (law firm), from March 2010 to May 2018.	N/A	N/A
Holly B. Giangulio (58) Assistant Secretary	Indefinite, Since May 2015	Managing Director of Corporate Operations, Commonwealth Fund Services, Inc., January 2015 to present.	N/A	N/A
Julian G. Winters (51) Chief Compliance Officer	Indefinite, Since August 2013	Managing Member of Watermark Solutions, LLC (investment compliance and consulting), March 2007 to present.	N/A	N/A

NAME, AGE AND POSITION(S) WITH THE TRUST	TERM OF OFFICE AND LENGTH OF TIME SERVED	PRINCIPAL OCCUPATION(S) DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS	NUMBER OF FUNDS IN FUND COMPLEX OVERSEEN BY TRUSTEE	OTHER DIRECTORSHIPS HELD BY TRUSTEE
Tina H. Bloom (52) Assistant Secretary	Indefinite, Since November 2018	Attorney, Practus, LLP, May 2018 to present; Attorney, The Law Offices of John H. Lively & Associates, Inc., November 2017 to May 2018; Director of Fund Administration of Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC (fund administration and transfer agency) from 2011-2017.	N/A	N/A
Bo James Howell (39) Assistant Secretary	Indefinite, Since November 2018	Attorney, Practus, LLP, May 2018 to present; Founder, Joot (investment management compliance and consulting), June 2018 to present; Director of Fund Administration of Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC from 2012-2018.	N/A	N/A

**Board of Trustees.** The Board oversees the Trust and certain aspects of the services provided by the Adviser and the Funds' other service providers. Each trustee will hold office until their successors have been duly elected and qualified or until their earlier resignation or removal. Each officer of the Trust serves at the pleasure of the Board and for a term of one year or until their successors have been duly elected and qualified.

**Trustee Committees.** The Audit Committee of the Board is comprised of Mr. Urban, Ms. Ivey and Mr. Pitt. The functions of the Audit Committee are to meet with the Trust's independent auditors to review the scope and findings of the annual audit, discuss the Trust's accounting policies, discuss any recommendations of the independent auditors with respect to the Trust's management practices, review the impact of changes in accounting standards on the Trust's financial statements, recommend to the Board the selection of independent registered public accounting firm, and perform such other duties as may be assigned to the Audit Committee by the Board. For the Funds' most recent fiscal year ended, April 30, 2020, the Audit Committee met seven times.

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee is comprised of Mr. Urban, Ms. Ivey and Mr. Pitt. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee's purposes, duties and powers are set forth in its written charter, which is described in Exhibit C – the charter also describes the process by which shareholders of the Trust may make nominations. For the Funds' most recent fiscal year ended April 30, 2020, the Committee met twice.

The Valuation Committee is comprised of Mr. Urban, Ms. Ivey and Mr. Pitt. The Valuation Committee meets as needed if the Funds hold any securities that are subject to valuation and it reviews the fair valuation of such securities on an as needed basis. For the Funds' most recent fiscal year ended April 30, 2020, the Committee did not meet.

The Qualified Legal Compliance Committee is comprised of Mr. Urban, Ms. Ivey and Mr. Pitt. The Qualified Legal Compliance Committee receives, investigates, and makes recommendations as to the appropriate remedial action in connection with any report of evidence of a material violation of the securities laws or breach of fiduciary duty or similar violation by the Trust, its officers, Trustees, or agents. For the fiscal year ended April 30, 2020, the Committee did not meet.

**Trustee Compensation.** Each Trustee who is not an “interested person” of the Trust may receive compensation for their services to the Trust. All Trustees are reimbursed for any out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with attendance at meetings. Each Trustee receives an annual retainer of \$60,000, paid quarterly. Additionally, each Trustee receives a fee of \$2,500 per special in person meeting and \$1,250 per special telephonic meeting. Compensation received from the Trust for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2020, is as follows:

<b>Name of Person / Position</b>	<b>Aggregate Compensation From Each Fund</b>	<b>Pension or Retirement Benefits Accrued As Part of Funds Expenses</b>	<b>Estimated Annual Benefits upon Retirement</b>	<b>Total Compensation From Trust/Fund Complex Paid To Trustees<sup>(*)</sup>(1)</b>
David J. Urban, Trustee	Core Fund: \$2,177 Explorer Fund: \$1,095 Select Fund: \$3,551	\$0	\$0	\$6,823
Mary Lou H. Ivey, Trustee	Core Fund: \$2,177 Explorer Fund: \$1,095 Select Fund: \$3,551	\$0	\$0	\$6,823
Theo H. Pitt, Jr., Trustee	Core Fund: \$2,177 Explorer Fund: \$1,095 Select Fund: \$3,551	\$0	\$0	\$6,823

**Trustee Ownership of Fund Shares.** The table below shows for each Trustee, the amount of Fund equity securities beneficially owned by each Trustee, and the aggregate value of all investments in equity securities of the Funds of the Trust, as of December 31, 2019, and stated as one of the following ranges: A = None; B = \$1-\$10,000; C = \$10,001-\$50,000; D = \$50,001-\$100,000; and E = over \$100,000.

<b>Name of Trustee</b>	<b>Dollar Range of Equity Securities in the Funds</b>	<b>Aggregate Dollar Range of Equity Securities in all Registered Investment Companies Overseen by the Trustees in Family of Investment Companies</b>
<u>Non-Interested Trustees</u>		
David J. Urban	A	A
Mary Lou H. Ivey	A	A
Theo H. Pitt, Jr.	A	A

**Code of Ethics.** The Funds, the Adviser, and the principal underwriter have each adopted a Code of Ethics, pursuant to Rule 17j-1 under the 1940 Act that permit investment personnel, subject to their particular code of ethics, to invest in securities, including securities that may be purchased or held by a Fund, for their own accounts. The Codes of Ethics are available on the EDGAR Database on the SEC’s Internet website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

**Proxy Voting Policies.** The Trust is required to disclose information concerning the Funds' proxy voting policies and procedures to shareholders. The Board has delegated to the Adviser responsibility for decisions regarding proxy voting for securities held by the Funds. The Adviser will vote such proxies in accordance with its proxy policies and procedures, which have been reviewed by the Board. The Trust's Proxy Voting Policy is attached as Exhibit A and the Adviser's Proxy Voting Policy is attached as Exhibit B. Any material changes to the proxy policies and procedures will be submitted to the Board for approval. Information regarding how the Funds voted proxies relating to portfolio securities for the most recent 12-month period ending June 30 is available (1) without charge, upon request by calling toll-free 800-673-0550 and (2) on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

### **CONTROL PERSONS AND PRINCIPAL SECURITIES HOLDERS**

A principal shareholder is any person who owns (either of record or beneficially) 5% or more of the outstanding shares of the respective Fund. A control person is one who owns, either directly or indirectly, more than 25% of the voting securities of a Fund or acknowledges the existence of such control. As a controlling shareholder, each of these persons could control the outcome of any proposal submitted to the shareholders for approval, including changes to a Fund's fundamental policies or the terms of the investment advisory agreement.

As of July 31, 2020, the following persons were record owners (or to the knowledge of the Trust, beneficial owners) of 5% or more of the shares of the respective Fund.

Names and Addresses	Percent of Class	Type of Ownership
<b><i>Applied Finance Core Fund Institutional Class</i></b>		
Charles Schwab & Co Inc. 101 Montgomery St. San Francisco, CA 94104	21.79%	Record
LPL Financial 4707 Executive Dr. San Diego, CA 92121	40.45%	Record
<b><i>Applied Finance Core Fund Investor Class</i></b>		
Charles Schwab & Co Inc. 101 Montgomery St. San Francisco, CA 94104	58.45%	Record
Pershing LLC 1 Pershing Plaza Jersey City, NJ 07399	8.21%	Record
<b><i>Applied Finance Explorer Fund Institutional Class</i></b>		
Charles Schwab & Co Inc. 101 Montgomery St. San Francisco, CA 94104	39.49%	Record
LPL Financial 4707 Executive Dr. San Diego, CA 92121	13.41%	Record
National Financial Services LLC 499 Washington Blvd. Jersey City, NJ 07310	7.73%	Record

<b>Applied Finance Explorer Fund Investor Class</b>		
Charles Schwab & Co Inc. 101 Montgomery St. San Francisco, CA 94104	73.23%	Record
<b>Applied Finance Select Fund Institutional Class</b>		
The Fulton Company C/O Fulton Financial Advisors PO Box 3215 Lancaster, PA 17604	17.37%	Record
Charles Schwab & Co Inc. 101 Montgomery St. San Francisco, CA 94104	8.10%	Record
TD Ameritrade Inc. PO Box 2226 Omaha, NE 68103	21.97%	Record
Reliance Trust Co PO Box 78446 Atlanta, GA 30357	18.31%	Record
<b>Applied Finance Select Fund Investor Class</b>		
Charles Schwab & Co Inc. 101 Montgomery St. San Francisco, CA 94104	45.28%	Record
TD Ameritrade Inc. PO Box 2226 Omaha, NE 68103	16.58%	Record

As of the date of this SAI, the Trustees and officers of the Trust beneficially own less than 1% of the shares of the Funds.

#### **ADVISER AND ADVISORY AGREEMENT**

**Adviser.** Applied Finance Advisors LLC (formerly Toreador Research & Trading, LLC), located at 17806 IH 10, Suite 300, San Antonio, Texas 78257 (the “Adviser”) manages the investments of the Funds. The Adviser is registered as an adviser under the Advisers Act of 1940, as amended. The Adviser is a privately held, limited liability company. The Adviser is controlled by Paul Blinn and The Applied Finance Group, Ltd. The Applied Finance Group, Ltd. is controlled by Rafael Resendes and Daniel Obrycki.

Pursuant to an investment advisory agreement (the “Agreement”), the Adviser, subject to the supervision of the Trustees, provides a continuous investment program for the Funds, including investment research and management with respect to securities, investments and cash equivalents, in accordance with the Funds’ investment objectives, policies, and restrictions as set forth in the prospectus and this SAI. The Adviser is responsible for effecting all security transactions on behalf of the Funds, including the allocation of principal business and portfolio brokerage and the negotiation of commissions. The Adviser also maintains books and records with respect to the securities transactions of the Funds and furnishes to the trustees such periodic or other reports as the trustees may request.

Under the terms of the Agreement, the Adviser manages Funds’ investments subject to approval of the Board. As compensation for its management services, the respective Funds are obligated to pay the Adviser a fee equal to 0.90% of the Core Fund’s and Select Fund’s average daily net assets and 1.14% of the Explorer Fund’s average daily net



assets. The Adviser also has entered into a written expense limitation agreement until August 31, 2021 under which it has agreed to limit the total expenses of the Funds (exclusive of interest, expenses incurred under a plan of distribution adopted pursuant to the Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act, taxes, acquired fund fees and expenses, brokerage commissions, dividend expenses on short sales, and other extraordinary expenses not incurred in the ordinary course of business) to an annual rate of 0.95%, 0.83% and 0.75% of the average daily net assets of the Core Fund, Explorer Fund and Select Fund, respectively. Each waiver or reimbursement of an expense by the Adviser is subject to repayment by the respective Fund within three years following the date such waiver and/or reimbursement was made, provided that the respective Fund can make the repayment without exceeding the expense limitation in place at the time of the waiver or reimbursement and at the time the waiver or reimbursement is recouped.

The following table sets forth the advisory fees paid to the Adviser by each of the Funds for the fiscal years indicated:

Applied Finance Core Fund:

Fiscal Year Ended	Advisory Fees Accrued	Total Fees (Waived) or Recovered and/or (Expenses Reimbursed)	Net Advisory Fees Paid
April 30, 2018	\$1,432,698	(\$523,289)	\$909,409
April 30, 2019	\$1,116,648	(\$452,898)	\$663,750
April 30, 2020	\$552,823	(308,634)	\$244,189

Applied Finance Explorer Fund:

Fiscal Year Ended	Advisory Fees Accrued	Total Fees (Waived) or Recovered and/or (Expenses Reimbursed)	Net Advisory Fees Paid
April 30, 2018	\$165,182	(\$153,184)	\$11,998
April 30, 2019	\$211,091	(\$187,498)	\$23,593
April 30, 2020	\$217,307	(\$208,540)	\$8,767

Applied Finance Select Fund:

Fiscal Year Ended	Advisory Fees Accrued	Total Fees (Waived) or Recovered and/or (Expenses Reimbursed)	Net Advisory Fees Paid
April 30, 2018	\$75,422	(\$87,695)	\$0
April 30, 2019	\$536,624	(\$345,316)	\$191,308
April 30, 2020	\$1,030,791	(\$607,307)	\$423,484

**Portfolio Managers.** Mr. Paul Blinn, portfolio manager, is jointly responsible for the day-to-day management of the Funds' portfolios, including stock selection, investment monitoring and trading. Mr. Blinn is a founding member of the Adviser. Mr. Blinn has over 25 years of capital market experience. Mr. Blinn was an Executive Director at UBS, a global financial firm, and its predecessor entities from 1985 to 2000. Subsequent to UBS, Mr. Blinn was a Vice President of a leading option market maker and then a Senior Equity derivatives trader for a hedge fund from 2000 to 2005. Mr. Blinn graduated with honors from The University of Texas at Austin with a BBA in Finance. Mr. Blinn is

also the founder and sole shareholder of Beacon Pin, Inc. (“BPI”). BPI is a holding company which contracts with the Adviser to provide Mr. Blinn’s services as a portfolio manager to the Funds. BPI has no other business operations.

Mr. Resendes, portfolio manager, is jointly responsible for the day-to-day management of the Funds’ portfolios, including stock selection and investment monitoring. Mr. Resendes is a founding member of the Adviser. Mr. Resendes is also a co-founder of The Applied Finance Group, Ltd. (“AFG”) in 1995 and Applied Finance Capital Management, LLC (formerly, “The Applied Finance Group International, LLC”) (“AFCM”) in 2014. Mr. Resendes has over 25 years of capital market experience and has spent the majority of those years in the areas of equity research and valuation. Mr. Resendes was an adjunct professor of finance at DePaul University in Chicago from 1998 to 1999. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa from The University of California, Berkeley with a BS in Finance and received his MBA from the University of Chicago.

The Adviser makes payments to BPI and AFCM for services rendered to the Adviser by BPI and AFCM. Each Portfolio Manager is compensated by BPI or AFCM, as applicable, out of the fees received from the Adviser. Further, Mr. Blinn and Mr. Resendes receive a share of the net profits of the Adviser, if any, based on each person’s percentage ownership interest in the Adviser.

As stated above, Portfolio Manager Rafael Resendes is a co-founder and executive of AFG and AFCM. AFG is an investment consulting firm that provides financial analyses, equity research, and valuation services to financial institutions. AFG provides research and operational support services to the Adviser, and the Adviser pays AFG for these services. In order to avoid conflicts of interest or potential misuse of information, the Adviser has implemented policies and procedures to restrict access to certain types of information until generally published, and requires outside compliance involvement to oversee and pre-approve certain types of transactions where conflicts may arise. Further, the Adviser has engaged an outside compliance firm to oversee this program and implement and monitor the adopted policies and procedures.

AFCM is a Puerto Rican limited liability company that provides marketing and portfolio management services to the Adviser.

Each Portfolio Manager may carry on investment activities for his own account(s) and/or the accounts of immediate family members; as a result, each Portfolio Manager may engage in activities other than on behalf of the Funds. Conflicts may arise as a result of the Portfolio Manager’s differing economic interests in respect of such activities, such as with respect to allocating investment opportunities. Pursuant to the Code of Ethics adopted by each of the Trust and the Adviser, the Portfolio Managers are prohibited from effecting certain types of transactions for their personal accounts unless such transactions receive the prior written consent of the Adviser’s Chief Compliance Officer, who is independent of the Adviser.

**Other Funds and Accounts Managed by the Portfolio Managers.**

As of April 30, 2020, information on other accounts managed by Messrs. Blinn and Resendes is as follows:

<b>Portfolio Manager</b>	<b>Other Registered Investment Company Accounts</b>	<b>Assets Managed (\$ millions)</b>	<b>Other Pooled Investment Vehicle Accounts</b>	<b>Assets Managed (\$ millions)</b>	<b>Other Accounts</b>	<b>Assets Managed (\$ millions)</b>	<b>Total Assets Managed (\$ millions)</b>
Paul Blinn	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0
Rafael Resendes	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0

**Ownership of Fund Shares.** The table below shows the amount of Funds' equity securities beneficially owned by each portfolio manager as of April 30, 2020 and stated as one of the following ranges: A = None; B = \$1-\$10,000; C = \$10,001-\$50,000; D = \$50,001-\$100,000; E = \$100,001-\$500,000; F = \$500,001-\$1,000,000; and G = over \$1,000,000.

<b>Portfolio Manager</b>	<b>Dollar Range of Fund Shares in the Applied Finance Core Fund/Explorer Fund/Select Fund</b>
Paul Blinn	E/D/A
Rafael Resendes	C/C/C

### MANAGEMENT-RELATED SERVICES

**Administrator, Fund Accountant, and Transfer Agent.** Pursuant to a Fund Services Agreement, Commonwealth Fund Services, Inc. ("CFS"), 8730 Stony Point Parkway, Suite 205, Richmond, Virginia 23235, serves as the Funds' accounting agent.

In its capacity as administrator, CFS supervises all aspects of the operations of the Funds except those performed by the Adviser. CFS will provide certain administrative services and facilities for the Funds, including preparing and maintaining certain books, records, and monitoring compliance with state and federal regulatory requirements. CFS, as administrative agent for the Funds, will provide shareholder, recordkeeping, administrative and blue-sky filing services.

As transfer agent, CFS provides certain shareholder and other services to the Funds, including furnishing account and transaction information and maintaining shareholder account records. CFS will be responsible for processing orders and payments for share purchases. CFS will mail proxy materials (and receive and tabulate proxies), shareholder reports, confirmation forms for purchases and redemptions and prospectuses to shareholders. CFS will disburse income dividends and capital distributions and prepare and file appropriate tax-related information concerning dividends and distributions to shareholders.

CFS also provides accounting services to the Funds. CFS is responsible for accounting relating to the Funds and their investment transactions; maintaining certain books and records of the Funds; determining daily the net asset value per share of the Funds; and preparing security position, transaction and cash position reports. CFS also monitors periodic distributions of gains or losses on portfolio sales and maintains a daily listing of portfolio holdings. CFS is responsible for providing expenses accrued and payment reporting services, tax-related financial information to the Trust, and for monitoring compliance with the regulatory requirements relating to maintaining accounting records.

CFS receives, for administrative services, an asset-based fee based computed daily and paid monthly on the average daily net assets of the Funds, subject to a minimum fee plus out-of-pocket expenses. CFS receives, for transfer agency services, per account fees computed daily and paid monthly, subject to a minimum fee plus out-of-pocket expenses. CFS receives, for fund accounting services, an asset-based fee, computed daily and paid monthly on the average daily net assets of the Funds, subject to a minimum fee plus out-of-pocket expenses.

The Core Fund paid the following fees for transfer agency, fund accounting and administrative services during the periods indicated.

Core Fund:

<b>Fiscal Year Ended</b>	<b>Fees Paid for Transfer Agent Services</b>	<b>Fees Paid for Fund Accounting Services</b>	<b>Fees Paid for Administrative Services</b>
April 30, 2018	\$44,100	\$65,820	\$85,959
April 30, 2019	\$35,112	\$46,932	\$67,855
April 30, 2020	\$28,334	\$24,226	\$39,692

The Explorer Fund paid the following fees for transfer agency, fund accounting and administrative services during the periods indicated.

Explorer Fund:

<b>Fiscal Year Ended</b>	<b>Fees Paid for Transfer Agent Services</b>	<b>Fees Paid for Fund Accounting Services</b>	<b>Fees Paid for Administrative Services</b>
April 30, 2018	\$8,525	\$6,020	\$7,853
April 30, 2019	\$8,882	\$7,170	\$10,017
April 30, 2020	\$9,104	\$7,459	\$15,478

The Select Fund paid the following fees for transfer agency, fund accounting and administrative services during the periods indicated.

Select Fund:

<b>Fiscal Year Ended</b>	<b>Fees Paid for Transfer Agent Services</b>	<b>Fees Paid for Fund Accounting Services</b>	<b>Fees Paid for Administrative Services</b>
April 30, 2018	\$7,004	\$3,144	\$4,327
April 30, 2019	\$16,888	\$23,638	\$32,262
April 30, 2020	\$25,923	\$43,830	\$69,230

**Custodian.** Fifth Third Bank (the “Custodian”), 38 Fountain Square Plaza, Cincinnati, Ohio 45263, serves as the custodian of the Funds’ assets.

**Distributor and Principal Underwriter.** First Dominion Capital Corp. (“FDCC” or the “Distributor”), located at 8730 Stony Point Parkway, Suite 205, Richmond, Virginia 23235, serves as the principal underwriter and national distributor for the shares of the Funds pursuant to a Distribution Agreement (the “Distribution Agreement”). Under the Distribution Agreement, the distributor serves as the Funds’ principal underwriter and acts as exclusive agent for the Funds in selling their shares to the public on a “best efforts” basis and then only in respect to orders placed – that is, the Distributor is under no obligations to sell any specific number of shares. The continuance of the Distribution Agreement must be specifically approved at least annually (i) by the vote of the Trustees or by a vote of the shareholders of the Funds and (ii) by the vote of a majority of the Trustees who are not “interested persons” of the Trust and have no direct or indirect financial interest in the operations of the Distribution Agreement or any related agreement, cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such approval.

FDCC is registered as a broker-dealer and is a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority. The offering of the Funds’ shares is continuous. The Distributor is entitled to a portion of the front-end sales charge on the sale of shares as described in the prospectus and this SAI. The Distributor is also entitled to the payment of deferred sales charges upon the redemption of Fund shares as described in the applicable prospectus and this SAI. In addition, the Distributor may receive Distribution 12b-1 and Service Fees from the Funds, as described in the prospectus and this SAI.

FDCC received the following fees for the periods indicated.

<b>Fiscal Year Ended</b>	<b>Commissions and Underwriting Fees from the Sale of Fund Shares</b>	<b>CDSCs</b>
April 30, 2018	\$0	\$523
April 30, 2019	\$0	\$574
April 30, 2020	\$0	\$0

**Legal Counsel.** Practus, LLP, 11300 Tomahawk Creek Parkway, Suite 310, Leawood, KS 66211, serves as legal counsel to the Trust and the Funds.

**Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.** The Funds' independent registered public accounting firm, Tait, Weller & Baker LLP, audits the Trust's annual financial statements, assists in the preparation of certain reports to the SEC, and prepares the Trust's tax returns. Tait, Weller & Baker LLP is located at 50 South 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 2900, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102.

## PORTFOLIO TRANSACTIONS

It is the policy of the Adviser, in placing orders for the purchase and sale of each Fund's securities, to seek to obtain the best price and execution for securities transactions, taking into account such factors as price, commission, where applicable, (which is negotiable in the case of U.S. national securities exchange transactions but which is generally fixed in the case of foreign exchange transactions), size of order, difficulty of execution and the skill required of the executing broker/dealer. After a purchase or sale decision is made by the Adviser, the Adviser arranges for execution of the transaction in a manner deemed to provide the best price and execution for the Funds.

Exchange-listed securities are generally traded on their principal exchange, unless another market offers a better result. Securities traded only in the over-the-counter market may be executed on a principal basis with primary market makers in such securities, except for fixed price offerings and except where the Funds may obtain better prices or executions on a commission basis or by dealing with other than a primary market maker.

The Adviser, when placing transactions, may allocate a portion of each Fund's brokerage to persons or firms providing the Adviser with investment recommendations, statistical, research or similar services useful to the Adviser's investment decision-making process. The term "investment recommendations or statistical, research or similar services" means: (1) advice as to the value of securities, the advisability of investing in, purchasing or selling securities, and the availability of securities or purchasers or sellers of securities; and (2) furnishing analysis and reports concerning issuers, industries, securities, economic factors and trends, and portfolio strategy.

Such services are one of the many ways the Adviser can keep abreast of the information generally circulated among institutional investors by broker-dealers. While this information is useful in varying degrees, its value is indeterminable. Such services received on the basis of transactions for each Fund may be used by the Adviser for the benefit of other clients, and the Funds may benefit from such transactions effected for the benefit of other clients.

For the fiscal year ended April 30, 2020, the Funds did not pay any commissions on brokerage transactions directed to brokers pursuant to an agreement or understanding whereby the broker provides research or other brokerage services to the Adviser.

The Adviser may be authorized, when placing portfolio transactions for the Funds, to pay a brokerage commission in excess of that which another broker might have charged for executing the same transaction solely on account of the receipt of research, market or statistical information.

Except for implementing the policy stated above, there is no intention to place portfolio transactions with particular brokers or dealers or groups thereof.

The Trustees of the Trust have adopted policies and procedures governing the allocation of brokerage to affiliated brokers. The Adviser has been instructed not to place transactions with an affiliated broker-dealer, unless that broker-dealer can demonstrate to the Trust that the Funds will receive: (1) a price and execution no less favorable than that available from unaffiliated persons; and (2) a price and execution equivalent to that which that broker-dealer would offer to unaffiliated persons in a similar transaction. The trustees review all transactions which have been placed pursuant to those policies and procedures at its meetings.

When two or more clients managed by the Adviser are simultaneously engaged in the purchase or sale of the same security, the transactions are allocated in a manner deemed equitable to each client. In some cases, this procedure could have a detrimental effect on the price or volume of the security as far as a Fund is concerned. In other cases, however, the ability to participate in volume transactions will be beneficial to a Fund. The Board believes that these

advantages, when combined with the other benefits available because of the Adviser’s organization, outweigh the disadvantages that may exist from this treatment of transactions.

The Funds paid the following brokerage commissions for the periods indicated.

<b>Fiscal Year Ended</b>	<b>Core Fund</b>	<b>Explorer Fund</b>	<b>Select Fund</b>
April 30, 2018	\$50,935	\$9,441	\$6,656
April 30, 2019	\$56,183	\$14,057	\$10,386
April 30, 2020	\$13,725*	\$28,035**	\$13,143

\*The decrease in brokerage commissions was due to a decrease in assets and related trading volume.

\*\* The increase in brokerage commissions was due to increased turnover in the Fund during the year in response to extraordinary market conditions.

The Funds may execute brokerage or other agency transactions through registered broker-dealer affiliates of each Fund, the Adviser, or the Distributor for a commission in conformity with the 1940 Act, the 1934 Act and rules promulgated by the SEC. Under the 1940 Act and the 1934 Act, affiliated broker-dealers are permitted to receive and retain compensation for effecting portfolio transactions for the Funds on an exchange if a written contract is in effect between the affiliate and the Funds expressly permitting the affiliate to receive and retain such compensation. These rules further require that commissions paid to the affiliate by the Funds for exchange transactions not exceed “usual and customary” brokerage commissions. The rules define “usual and customary” commissions to include amounts which are “reasonable and fair compared to the commission, fee or other remuneration received or to be received by other brokers in connection with comparable transactions involving similar securities being purchased or sold on a securities exchange during a comparable period of time.” The Board, including those who are not “interested persons,” has adopted procedures for evaluating the reasonableness of commissions paid to affiliates and review these procedures periodically.

For the fiscal years ended April 30, 2018, 2019 and 2020, the Funds paid no brokerage commissions on portfolio transactions effected by affiliated brokers.

**Securities of “Regular Broker-Dealers”.** Each Fund is required to identify any securities of its “regular brokers and dealers” (as such term is defined in the 1940 Act) which a Fund may hold at the close of its most recent fiscal year. As of April 30, 2020, the Funds did not hold any securities of “regular broker-dealers.”

**Portfolio Turnover.** Average annual portfolio turnover rate is the ratio of the lesser of sales or purchases to the monthly average value of the portfolio securities owned during the year, excluding from both the numerator and the denominator all securities with maturities at the time of acquisition of one year or less. A higher portfolio turnover rate involves greater transaction expenses to a fund and may result in the realization of net capital gains, which would be taxable to shareholders when distributed. The Adviser makes purchases and sales for the Funds’ portfolios whenever necessary, in the Adviser’s opinion, to meet the Funds’ objectives.

The Funds’ portfolio rates for the periods indicated are:

<b>Fiscal Year Ended</b>	<b>Core Fund</b>	<b>Explorer Fund</b>	<b>Select Fund</b>
April 30, 2018	75.46%	82.63%	211.64%
April 30, 2019	50.69%	107.77%	42.05%
April 30, 2020	29.91%	228.89%	9.66%

The Explorer Fund’s portfolio turnover rate for fiscal year ended April 30, 2020 was significantly higher than the prior fiscal year due to increased trading in the Fund in response to extraordinary market conditions during the year.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE TRUST

The Trust was organized as a Delaware statutory trust on April 9, 2007. The Trust's Agreement and Declaration of Trust authorizes the Board to issue an unlimited number of full and fractional shares of beneficial interest in the Trust and to classify or reclassify any unissued shares into one or more series of shares. The Agreement and Declaration of Trust further authorizes the trustees to classify or reclassify any series of shares into one or more classes. The Trust's shares of beneficial interest have no par value.

Shares have no preemptive rights and only such conversion or exchange rights as the Board may grant in its discretion. When issued for payment as described in the applicable prospectus, shares will be fully paid and non-assessable. In the event of a liquidation or dissolution of the Trust or an individual fund, shareholders of a fund are entitled to receive the assets available for distribution belonging to the particular fund, and a proportionate distribution, based upon the relative asset values of the respective fund, of any general assets of the Trust not belonging to any particular fund which are available for distribution.

Shareholders are entitled to one vote for each full share held, and a proportionate fractional vote for each fractional share held and will vote in the aggregate and not by class, except as otherwise expressly required by law or when the Board determines that the matter to be voted on affects only the interests of shareholders of a particular class. Voting rights are not cumulative and, accordingly, the holders of more than 50% of the aggregate of the Trust's outstanding shares may elect all of the trustees, irrespective of the votes of other shareholders.

Rule 18f-2 under the 1940 Act provides that any matter required to be submitted to the holders of the outstanding voting securities of an investment company such as the Trust shall not be deemed to have been effectively acted upon unless approved by the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of each fund affected by the matter. A particular fund is deemed to be affected by a matter unless it is clear that the interests of each fund in the matter are substantially identical or that the matter does not affect any interest of the fund. Under the Rule, the approval of an investment management agreement or any change in an investment objective, if fundamental, or in a fundamental investment policy would be effectively acted upon with respect to a fund only if approved by a majority of the outstanding shares of such fund. However, the Rule also provides that the ratification of the appointment of independent public accountants, the approval of principal underwriting contracts and the election of trustees may be effectively acted upon by shareholders of the Trust voting without regard to series or class.

The Trust does not presently intend to hold annual meetings of shareholders except as required by the 1940 Act or other applicable law. Upon the written request of shareholders owning at least 25% of the Trust's shares, the Trust will call for a meeting of shareholders to consider the removal of one or more trustees and other certain matters. To the extent required by law, the Trust will assist in shareholder communication in such matters.

Each fund is a separate mutual fund, and each share of each fund represents an equal proportionate interest in that fund. All consideration received by the Trust for shares of any fund and all assets of such fund belong solely to that fund and would be subject to liabilities related thereto. Each fund of the Trust pays its (i) operating expenses, including fees of its service providers, expenses of preparing prospectuses, proxy solicitation material and reports to shareholders, costs of custodial services and registering its shares under federal and state securities laws, pricing, insurance expenses, brokerage costs, interest charges, taxes and organization expenses; and (ii) pro rata share of the fund's other expenses, including audit and legal expenses. Expenses attributable to a specific fund shall be payable solely out of the assets of that fund. Expenses not attributable to a specific fund are allocated across all of the funds on the basis of relative net assets. The other mutual funds within the Trust, other than the Funds, are described in separate prospectuses and statements of additional information.

The Board has full power and authority, in its sole discretion, and without obtaining shareholder approval, to divide or combine the shares of any class or series thereof into a greater or lesser number, to classify or reclassify any issued shares or any class or series thereof into one or more classes or series of shares, and to take such other action with respect to the Trust's shares as the Board may deem desirable. The Agreement and Declaration of Trust authorizes the trustees, without shareholder approval, to cause the Trust to merge or to consolidate with any corporation, association, trust or other organization in order to change the form of organization and/or domicile of the Trust or to sell or exchange all or substantially all of the assets of the Trust, or any series or class thereof, in dissolution of the Trust, or any series or class thereof. The Agreement and Declaration of Trust permits the termination of the Trust or of any

series or class of the Trust by the trustees without shareholder approval. However, the exercise of such authority by the Board without shareholder approval may be subject to certain restrictions or limitations under the 1940 Act.

**Rule 18f-3 Plan.** The Board has adopted a Rule 18f-3 Multiple Class Plan on behalf of the Trust for the benefit of each of its series. The key features of the Rule 18f-3 Plan are as follows: (i) shares of each class of a Fund represent an equal pro rata interest in the Fund and generally have identical voting, dividend, liquidation, and other rights, preferences, powers, restrictions, limitations qualifications, terms and conditions, except that each class bears certain specific expenses and has separate voting rights on certain matters that relate solely to that class or in which the interests of shareholders of one class differ from the interests of shareholders of another class; (ii) subject to certain limitations described in the prospectus, shares of a particular class of a Fund may be exchanged for shares of the same class of another Fund. Currently, the Funds offer Investor Class shares charging a 0.25% 12b-1 fee and Institutional shares imposing no 12b-1 fees.

### PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

Each of the Funds has adopted a Distribution and Service Plan (the “Plan”) for their Investor Class shares under which they may finance certain activities primarily intended to sell such class of shares. The Trust has adopted the Plan in accordance with the provisions of Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act, which regulates circumstances under which an investment company may directly or indirectly bear expenses relating to the distribution of its shares. The Trust intends to operate the Plans in accordance with their terms and with the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority rules concerning sales charges.

The Plan provides that the Funds will pay a fee at an annual rate of 0.25% of the average daily net assets attributable to the Funds’ outstanding Investor Class shares in consideration for distribution and other services, which are described more fully below. The fee is generally paid to the Distributor as compensation for distribution-related activities although the Funds may pay the fee directly to other financial intermediaries.

As noted above, payments for distribution expenses under the Plan are subject to Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act. Rule 12b-1 defines distribution expenses to include the cost of “any activity which is primarily intended to result in the sale of shares issued by the Trust.” Rule 12b-1 provides, among other things, that an investment company may bear such expenses only pursuant to a plan adopted in accordance with Rule 12b-1. In accordance with Rule 12b-1, the Plan provides that a report of the amounts expended under the Plan, and the purposes for which such expenditures were incurred, will be made to the Board for its review at least quarterly. The Plan provides that it may not be amended to increase materially the costs which shares of the Funds may bear for distribution pursuant to the Plan without shareholder approval, and that any other type of material amendment must be approved by a majority of the Board, and by a majority of the Trustees who are neither “interested persons” (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the Trust nor have any direct or indirect financial interest in the operation of the Plan or in any related agreement (the “12b-1 Trustees”), by vote cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of considering such amendments.

The Trust understands that certain financial intermediaries may charge fees to their customers who are the beneficial owners of Fund shares, in connection with their accounts with such financial intermediaries. Any such fees would be in addition to any amounts which may be received by an institution under the Plan.

The Board has concluded that there is a reasonable likelihood that the Plan will benefit the Funds. It is anticipated that the Plan will benefit shareholders because an effective sales program typically is necessary for the Funds to reach and maintain a sufficient size to achieve efficiently its investment objectives and to realize economies of scale. The Plan is subject to annual re-approval by a majority of the 12b-1 Trustees and each is terminable at any time with respect to a Fund by a vote of a majority of the 12b-1 Trustees or by vote of the holders of a majority of the applicable classes’ outstanding shares of the Fund. Any agreement entered into pursuant to the Plan with a financial intermediary is terminable with respect to the Funds without penalty, at any time, by vote of a majority of the 12b-1 Trustees, by vote of the holders of a majority of the applicable classes’ outstanding shares of the respective Fund, by FDCC or by the financial intermediary. An agreement will also terminate automatically in the event of its assignment.

As long as the Plan is in effect, the nomination of the trustees who are not interested persons of the Trust (as defined in the 1940 Act) must be committed to the discretion of the 12b-1 Trustees.



The Plan provides that expenditures may include, without limitation: (a) payments to the Distributor and to securities dealers and others in respect of the sale of shares of the Funds; (b) payment of compensation to and expenses of personnel (including personnel of organizations with which the Trust has entered into agreements related to the Plan) who engage in or support distribution of shares of a Fund or who render shareholder support services not otherwise provided by the Trust's transfer agent, administrator, or custodian, including but not limited to, answering inquiries regarding the Trust, processing shareholder transactions, providing personal services and/or the maintenance of shareholder accounts, providing other shareholder liaison services, responding to shareholder inquiries, providing information on shareholder investments in the shares of the Funds, and providing such other shareholder services as the Trust may reasonably request, arranging for bank wires, assisting shareholders in changing dividend options, account designations and addresses, providing information periodically to shareholders showing their positions in the Funds, forwarding communications from the Funds such as proxies, shareholder reports, annual reports, and dividend distribution and tax notices to shareholders, processing purchase, exchange, and redemption requests from shareholders and placing orders with the Funds or their service providers; (c) formulation and implementation of marketing and promotional activities, including, but not limited to, direct mail promotions and television, radio, newspaper, magazine and other mass media advertising; (d) preparation, printing and distribution of sales literature; (e) preparation, printing and distribution of prospectuses and statements of additional information and reports of the Trust for recipients other than existing shareholders of the Trust; (f) obtaining information and providing explanations to wholesale and retail distributors of contracts regarding Funds' investment objectives and policies and other information about the Funds, including the performance of the Funds; (g) obtaining such information, analyses and reports with respect to marketing and promotional activities as the Trust may, from time to time, deem advisable.

The table below shows the amount of Rule 12b-1 fees incurred by the Funds and the allocation of such fees by the respective Fund for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2020:

	<b>Other – Platform Expense</b>	<b>Compensation to Broker/Dealers</b>	<b>Total Rule 12b-1 Fees Incurred</b>
Core Fund	\$33,217	\$ 0	\$33,217
Explorer Fund	\$7,182	\$ 0	\$7,182
Select Fund	\$20,696	\$ 0	\$20,696

#### **SHAREHOLDER SERVICES PLAN**

The Funds have adopted a shareholder services plan on behalf of their Institutional Class and Investor Class shares. Under the shareholder services plan, the Funds may pay an authorized firm up to 0.25% on an annualized basis of average daily net assets attributable to its customers who are shareholders. For this fee, the authorized firms may provide a variety of services, including, but not limited to: (i) arranging for bank wires; (ii) responding to inquiries from shareholders concerning their investment in the Funds; (iii) assisting shareholders in changing dividend options, account designations and addresses; (iv) providing information periodically to shareholders showing their position in Fund shares; (v) forwarding shareholder communications from the Funds, such as proxies, shareholder reports, annual reports, and dividend distribution and tax notices, to shareholders; (vi) processing purchase, exchange and redemption requests from shareholders and placing orders with the Funds or their service providers; (vii) providing sub-accounting with respect to shares beneficially owned by shareholders; and (viii) processing dividend payments from the Funds on behalf of shareholders.

Because the Funds have adopted the shareholder services plan to compensate authorized firms for providing the types of services described above, the Funds believe the shareholder services plan is not covered by Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act, which relates to payment of distribution fees. The Funds, however, follow the procedural requirements of Rule 12b-1 in connection with the implementation and administration of each shareholder services plan.

An authorized firm generally represents in a service agreement used in connection with the shareholder services plan that all compensation payable to the authorized firm from its customers in connection with the investment of their assets in the Funds will be disclosed by the authorized firm to its customers. It also generally provides that all such compensation will be authorized by the authorized firm's customers.

The Funds do not monitor the actual services being performed by an authorized firm under the plan and related service agreement. The Funds also do not monitor the reasonableness of the total compensation that an authorized firm may receive, including any service fee that an authorized firm may receive from the Funds and any compensation the authorized firm may receive directly from its clients.

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT PURCHASES AND SALES**

**Purchasing Shares.** You may purchase shares of each Fund directly from FDCC. You may also buy shares through accounts with brokers or dealers and other institutions ("authorized institutions") that are authorized to place trades in Fund shares for their customers. If you invest through an authorized institution, you will have to follow its procedures. You will also generally have to address your correspondence or questions regarding the Funds to your authorized institution.

The offering price per share for each of the Funds' share classes is equal to the NAV next determined after the respective Fund or authorized institution receives your purchase order, plus any applicable sales charge.

Authorized institutions may charge their customers a processing or service fee in connection with the purchase or redemption of Fund shares. The amount and applicability of such a fee is determined and disclosed to its customers by each individual authorized institution. Processing or service fees typically are fixed, nominal dollar amounts and are in addition to the sales and other charges described in the prospectuses and statements of additional information. Your authorized institution will provide you with specific information about any processing or service fees you will be charged.

Your authorized institution is responsible for transmitting all subscription and redemption requests, investment information, documentation and money to the Fund on time. Certain authorized institutions have agreements with the Funds that allow them to enter confirmed purchase or redemption orders on behalf of clients and customers. Under this arrangement, the authorized institution must send your order to the Fund by the time they price their shares on the following day. If your authorized institution fails to do so, it may be responsible for any resulting fees or losses.

The Funds reserve the right to reject any purchase order and to suspend the offering of shares of the Funds. Under certain circumstances the Trust or the Adviser may waive the minimum initial investment for purchases by officers, trustees, and employees of the Trust and its affiliated entities and for certain related advisory accounts and retirement accounts (such as IRAs). The Funds may also change or waive policies concerning minimum investment amounts at any time.

**Exchange Privilege.** To the extent that the Adviser manages other funds in the Trust, shareholders may exchange all or a portion of your shares in a Fund for shares of the same class of certain other funds of the Trust managed by the Adviser having different investment objectives, provided that the shares of the fund you are exchanging into are registered for sale in your state of residence. As of the date of this prospectus, the Adviser manages four funds in the Trust.

A written request must have been completed and be on file with the Transfer Agent. Also, to make an exchange, an exchange order must comply with the requirements for a redemption or repurchase order and must specify the value or the number of shares to be exchanged. An exchange will take effect as of the next determination of a Fund's NAV per share (usually at the close of business on the same day). The Trust reserves the right to limit the number of exchanges or to otherwise prohibit or restrict shareholders from making exchanges at any time, without notice, should the Trust determine that it would be in the best interest of its shareholders to do so. For tax purposes, an exchange constitutes the sale of the shares of the fund from which you are exchanging and the purchase of shares of the fund into which you are exchanging. Consequently, the sale may involve either a capital gain or loss to the shareholder for federal income tax purposes. The exchange privilege is available only in states where it is legally permissible to do so.

If you request the exchange of the total value of your account from one fund to another, we will reinvest any declared but unpaid income dividends and capital gain distributions in the new fund at its net asset value. Backup withholding and information reporting may apply. Information regarding the possible tax consequences of an exchange appears in the tax section in this SAI.

If a substantial number of shareholders sell their shares of a Fund under the exchange privilege, within a short period, the Fund may have to sell portfolio securities that it would otherwise have held, thus incurring additional transactional costs. Increased use of the exchange privilege may also result in periodic large inflows of money. If this occurs, it is the Funds' general policy to initially invest in short-term, interest-bearing money market instruments.

However, if the Adviser believes that attractive investment opportunities (consistent with a Fund's investment objective and policies) exist immediately, then it will invest such money in portfolio securities in an orderly manner as is possible.

The proceeds from the sale of shares of a Fund may not be available until the third business day following the sale. The fund you are seeking to exchange into may also delay issuing shares until that third business day. The sale of Fund shares to complete an exchange will be effected at net asset value of the Fund next computed after your request for exchange is received in proper form.

**Eligible Benefit Plans.** An eligible benefit plan is an arrangement available to the employees of an employer (or two or more affiliated employers) having not less than ten employees at the plan's inception, or such an employer on behalf of employees of a trust or plan for such employees, their spouses and their children under the age of 21 or a trust or plan for such employees, which provides for purchases through periodic payroll deductions or otherwise. There must be at least five initial participants with accounts investing or invested in shares of one or more of the Funds and/or certain other funds.

The initial purchase by the eligible benefit plan and prior purchases by or for the benefit of the initial participants of the plan must aggregate not less than \$5,000 and subsequent purchases must be at least \$50 per account and must aggregate at least \$250. Purchases by the eligible benefit plan must be made pursuant to a single order paid for by a single check or federal funds wire and may not be made more often than monthly. A separate account will be established for each employee, spouse or child for which purchases are made. The requirements for initiating or continuing purchases pursuant to an eligible benefit plan may be modified and the offering to such plans may be terminated at any time without prior notice.

You may redeem shares of the Funds at any time and in any amount by mail or telephone. The Funds will use reasonable procedures to confirm that instructions communicated by telephone are genuine and, if the procedures are followed, will not be liable for any losses due to unauthorized or fraudulent telephone transactions.

The Funds' procedure is to redeem shares at the NAV next determined after the Funds, Transfer Agent or Authorized Institution receives the redemption request in proper order. Payment will be made promptly, but no later than the seventh day following the receipt of the redemption request in proper order. The Board may suspend the right of redemption or postpone the date of payment during any period when (a) trading on the New York Stock Exchange is restricted as determined by the SEC or such exchange is closed for other than weekends or holidays, (b) the SEC has by order permitted such suspension, or (c) an emergency, as defined by rules of the SEC, exists during which time the sale of Fund shares or valuation of securities held by the Fund are not reasonably practicable.

### **SPECIAL SHAREHOLDER SERVICES**

As described briefly in the prospectus, each Fund offers the following shareholder services:

**Regular Account.** A regular account allows a shareholder to make voluntary investments and/or withdrawals at any time. Regular accounts are available to individuals, custodians, corporations, trusts, estates, corporate retirement plans and others. You may use the account application provided with the prospectus to open a regular account.

**Telephone Transactions.** You may redeem shares or transfer into another fund by telephone if you request this service on your initial account application. If you do not elect this service at that time, you may do so at a later date by sending a written request and signature guarantee to the Transfer Agent.

The Trust employs reasonable procedures designed to confirm the authenticity of your telephone instructions and, if it does not, it may be liable for any losses caused by unauthorized or fraudulent transactions. As a result of this policy, a shareholder that authorizes telephone redemption bears the risk of losses, which may result from unauthorized or fraudulent transactions which the Trust believes to be genuine. When you request a telephone redemption or transfer, you will be asked to respond to certain questions. The Trust has designed these questions to confirm your identity as a shareholder of record.

Your cooperation with these procedures will protect your account and the Funds from unauthorized transactions.

**Automatic Investment Plan.** The Automatic Investment Plan allows shareholders to make automatic monthly investments into their account. Upon request, the Transfer Agent will withdraw a fixed amount each month from a shareholder's checking account and apply that amount to additional shares. This feature does not require you to make a commitment for a fixed period of time. You may change the monthly investment, skip a month or discontinue your Automatic Investment Plan as desired by notifying the Transfer Agent. To receive more information, please call the offices of the Trust toll-free at (800) 673-0550 or the Transfer Agent toll-free at (800) 628-4077. Any shareholder may utilize this feature.

**Retirement Plans.** Shares of the Funds are available for purchase in connection with the following tax-deferred prototype retirement plans:

1. **Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs).** IRAs are available for use by individuals with compensation for services rendered who wish to use shares of the Fund as a funding medium for individual retirement savings. IRAs include traditional IRAs, Roth IRAs and Rollover IRAs.
2. **Simplified Employee Pension Plans (SEPs).** SEPs are a form of retirement plan for sole proprietors, partnerships and corporations.

For information about eligibility requirements and other matters concerning these plans and to obtain the necessary forms to participate in these plans, please call the Trust toll-free at (800) 673-0550. Each plan's custodian charges nominal fees in connection with plan establishment and maintenance. These fees are detailed in the plan documents. You may wish to consult with your attorney or other tax adviser for specific advice concerning your tax status and plans.

## TAX STATUS

The following discussion is a summary of certain U.S. federal income tax considerations affecting the Funds and their shareholders. The discussion reflects applicable federal income tax laws of the U.S. as of the date of this SAI, which tax laws may be changed or subject to new interpretations by the courts or the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS"), possibly with retroactive effect. No attempt is made to present a detailed explanation of all U.S. income, estate or gift tax, or foreign, state or local tax concerns affecting a Fund and its shareholders (including shareholders owning large positions in a Fund). The discussion set forth herein does not constitute tax advice. Investors are urged to consult their own tax advisers to determine the tax consequences to them of investing in a Fund.

In addition, no attempt is made to address tax concerns applicable to an investor with a special tax status such as a financial institution, real estate investment trust, insurance company, regulated investment company ("RIC"), individual retirement account, other tax-exempt entity, dealer in securities or non-U.S. investor. Furthermore, this discussion does not reflect possible application of the alternative minimum tax ("AMT"). Unless otherwise noted, this discussion assumes shares of a Fund are held by U.S. shareholders and that such shares are held as capital assets.

A U.S. shareholder is a beneficial owner of shares of a Fund that is for U.S. federal income tax purposes:

- a citizen or individual resident of the United States (including certain former citizens and former long-term residents);
- a corporation or other entity treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, created or organized in or under the laws of the United States or any state thereof or the District of Columbia;
- an estate, the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source; or

- a trust with respect to which a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over its administration and one or more U.S. shareholders have the authority to control all of its substantial decisions or the trust has made a valid election in effect under applicable Treasury regulations to be treated as a U.S. person.

A “non-U.S. shareholder” is a beneficial owner of shares of a Fund that is an individual, corporation, trust or estate and is not a U.S. shareholder. If a partnership (including any entity treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes) holds shares of a Fund, the tax treatment of a partner in the partnership generally depends upon the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. A prospective shareholder who is a partner of a partnership holding the Fund shares should consult its tax advisers with respect to the purchase, ownership and disposition of its Fund shares.

**Taxation as a RIC.** Each Fund intends to qualify and remain qualified as a RIC under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Internal Revenue Code”). A Fund will qualify as a RIC if, among other things, it meets the source-of-income and the asset-diversification requirements. With respect to the source-of-income requirement, a Fund must derive in each taxable year at least 90% of its gross income (including tax-exempt interest) from (i) dividends, interest, payments with respect to certain securities loans, gains from the sale or other disposition of stock, securities or foreign currencies, or other income (including but not limited to gains from options, futures and forward contracts) derived with respect to its business of investing in such shares, securities or currencies and (ii) net income derived from an interest in a “qualified publicly traded partnership.” A “qualified publicly traded partnership” is generally defined as a publicly traded partnership under Internal Revenue Code section 7704. However, for these purposes, a qualified publicly traded partnership does not include a publicly traded partnership if 90% or more of its income is described in (i) above. Income derived from a partnership (other than a qualified publicly traded partnership) or trust is qualifying income to the extent such income is attributable to items of income of the partnership or trust which would be qualifying income if realized by a Fund in the same manner as realized by the partnership or trust.

If a RIC fails this 90% income test it is no longer subject to a 21% penalty as long as such failure is inadvertent. Instead, such RIC is only required to pay a tax based upon the amount of shortfall that would have satisfied the 90% income test.

With respect to the asset-diversification requirement, each Fund must diversify its holdings so that, at the end of each quarter of each taxable year (i) at least 50% of the value of the Fund’s total assets is represented by cash and cash items, U.S. government securities, the securities of other RICs and other securities, if such other securities of any one issuer do not represent more than 5% of the value of the Fund’s total assets or more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of such issuer, and (ii) not more than 25% of the value of the Fund’s total assets is invested in the securities other than U.S. government securities or the securities of other RICs of (a) one issuer, (b) two or more issuers that are controlled by the Fund and that are engaged in the same, similar or related trades or businesses, or (c) one or more qualified publicly traded partnerships.

If a RIC fails this asset-diversification test, such RIC, in addition to other cure provisions previously permitted, has a 6-month period to correct any failure without incurring a penalty if such failure is “de minimis.”

Similarly, if a RIC fails this asset-diversification test and the failure is not de minimis, a RIC can cure failure if: (a) the RIC files with the Treasury Department a description of each asset that causes the RIC to fail the diversification tests; (b) the failure is due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect; and (c) the failure is cured within six months (or such other period specified by the Treasury). In such cases, a tax is imposed on the RIC equal to the greater of: (a) \$50,000 or (b) an amount determined by multiplying the highest rate of tax (currently 21%) by the amount of net income generated during the period of diversification test failure by the assets that caused the RIC to fail the diversification test.

If a Fund qualifies as a RIC and distributes to its shareholders, for each taxable year, at least 90% of the sum of (i) its “investment company taxable income” as that term is defined in the Internal Revenue Code (which includes, among other things, dividends, taxable interest, the excess of any net short-term capital gains over net long-term capital losses and certain net foreign exchange gains as reduced by certain deductible expenses) without regard to the deduction for dividends paid, and (ii) the excess of its gross tax-exempt interest, if any, over certain deductions attributable to such interest that are otherwise disallowed, the Fund will be relieved of U.S. federal income tax on any income of the Fund, including long-term capital gains, distributed to shareholders. However, any ordinary income or capital gain retained

by the Fund will be subject to U.S. federal income tax at regular corporate federal income tax rates (currently at a maximum rate of 21%). Each Fund intends to distribute at least annually substantially all of its investment company taxable income, net tax-exempt interest, and net capital gain.

Each Fund will generally be subject to a nondeductible 4% federal excise tax on the portion of its undistributed ordinary income with respect to each calendar year and undistributed capital gains if it fails to meet certain distribution requirements with respect to the one-year period ending on October 31 in that calendar year. To avoid the 4% federal excise tax, the required minimum distribution is generally equal to the sum of (i) 98% of the Fund's ordinary income (computed on a calendar year basis), (ii) 98.2% of the Fund's capital gain net income (generally computed for the one-year period ending on October 31) and (iii) any income realized, but not distributed, and on which we paid no federal income tax in preceding years. The Funds generally intend to make distributions in a timely manner in an amount at least equal to the required minimum distribution and therefore, under normal market conditions, do not expect to be subject to this excise tax.

The Funds may be required to recognize taxable income in circumstances in which they do not receive cash. For example, if a Fund holds debt obligations that are treated under applicable tax rules as having original issue discount (such as debt instruments with payment in kind interest or, in certain cases, with increasing interest rates or that are issued with warrants), the Fund must include in income each year a portion of the original issue discount that accrues over the life of the obligation regardless of whether cash representing such income is received by the Fund in the same taxable year. Because any original issue discount accrued will be included in the Fund's "investment company taxable income" (discussed below) for the year of accrual, the Fund may be required to make a distribution to its shareholders to satisfy the distribution requirement, even though it will not have received an amount of cash that corresponds with the income earned.

A RIC is permitted to carry forward net capital losses indefinitely and may allow losses to retain their original character (as short or as long-term). For net capital losses recognized prior to 2011, such losses are permitted to be carried forward up to 8 years and are characterized as short-term. These capital loss carryforwards may be utilized in future years to offset net realized capital gains of the Fund, if any, prior to distributing such gains to shareholders. As of April 30, 2019, the International Fund has a capital loss carryforward of \$2,311,602 that may be carried forward indefinitely of which \$1,655,329 is considered short term and \$656,273 is considered long term.

Gain or loss realized by the Funds from the sale or exchange of warrants acquired by a Fund as well as any loss attributable to the lapse of such warrants generally will be treated as capital gain or loss. Such gain or loss generally will be long-term or short-term, depending on how long the Fund held a particular warrant. Upon the exercise of a warrant acquired by a Fund, the Fund's tax basis in the stock purchased under the warrant will equal the sum of the amount paid for the warrant plus the strike price paid on the exercise of the warrant.

Except as set forth in "Failure to Qualify as a RIC," the remainder of this discussion assumes that each Fund will qualify as a RIC for each taxable year.

**Failure to Qualify as a RIC.** If a Fund is unable to satisfy the 90% distribution requirement or otherwise fails to qualify as a RIC in any year, it will be subject to corporate level income tax on all of its income and gain, regardless of whether or not such income was distributed. Distributions to the Fund's shareholders of such income and gain will not be deductible by the Fund in computing its taxable income. In such event, the Fund's distributions, to the extent derived from the Fund's current or accumulated earnings and profits, would constitute ordinary dividends, which would generally be eligible for the dividends received deduction available to corporate shareholders, and non-corporate shareholders would generally be able to treat such distributions as "qualified dividend income" eligible for reduced rates of U.S. federal income taxation, provided in each case that certain holding period and other requirements are satisfied.

Distributions in excess of a Fund's current and accumulated earnings and profits would be treated first as a return of capital to the extent of the shareholders' tax basis in their Fund shares, and any remaining distributions would be treated as a capital gain. To qualify as a RIC in a subsequent taxable year, the Fund would be required to satisfy the source-of-income, the asset diversification, and the annual distribution requirements for that year and dispose of any earnings and profits from any year in which the Fund failed to qualify for tax treatment as a RIC. Subject to a limited exception applicable to RICs that qualified as such under the Internal Revenue Code for at least one year prior to disqualification and that requalify as a RIC no later than the second year following the nonqualifying year, the Fund

would be subject to tax on any unrealized built-in gains in the assets held by it during the period in which the Fund failed to qualify for tax treatment as a RIC that are recognized within the subsequent 10 years, unless the Fund made a special election to pay corporate-level tax on such built-in gain at the time of its requalification as a RIC.

The Board reserves the right not to maintain the qualifications of the Funds as a RIC if it determines such course of action to be beneficial to shareholders.

**Taxation for U.S. Shareholders.** Distributions paid to U.S. shareholders by a Fund from its investment company taxable income (which is, generally, a Fund's ordinary income plus net realized short-term capital gains in excess of net realized long-term capital losses) are generally taxable to U.S. shareholders as ordinary income to the extent of the Fund's earnings and profits, whether paid in cash or reinvested in additional shares. Such distributions (if designated by the Fund) may qualify (i) for the dividends received deduction in the case of corporate shareholders under Section 243 of the Internal Revenue Code to the extent that the Fund's income consists of dividend income from U.S. corporations, excluding distributions from tax-exempt organizations, exempt farmers' cooperatives or real estate investment trusts or (ii) in the case of individual shareholders, as qualified dividend income eligible to be taxed at reduced rates under Section 1(h)(11) of the Internal Revenue Code (which provides for a maximum 20% rate) to the extent that the Fund receives qualified dividend income, and provided in each case certain holding period and other requirements are met. Qualified dividend income is, in general, dividend income from taxable domestic corporations and qualified foreign corporations (e.g., generally, foreign corporations incorporated in a possession of the United States or in certain countries with a qualified comprehensive income tax treaty with the United States, or the stock with respect to which such dividend is paid is readily tradable on an established securities market in the United States). A qualified foreign corporation generally excludes any foreign corporation, which for the taxable year of the corporation in which the dividend was paid, or the preceding taxable year, is a passive foreign investment company. Dividends received by the Funds from an exchange traded fund ("ETF") or other investment company taxable as a RIC may be treated as qualified dividend income only to the extent the dividend distributions are attributable to qualified dividend income received by such ETF. If you lend your Fund shares pursuant to a securities lending or similar arrangement, you may lose the ability to treat dividends (paid while the Fund shares are held by the borrower) as qualified dividend income. Distributions made to a U.S. shareholder from an excess of net long-term capital gains over net short-term capital losses ("capital gain dividends"), including capital gain dividends credited to such shareholder but retained by the Fund, are taxable to such shareholder as long-term capital gain if they have been properly designated by the Fund, regardless of the length of time such shareholder owned the shares of the Fund. The maximum tax rate on capital gain dividends received by individuals is generally 20%. Distributions in excess of a Fund's earnings and profits will be treated by the U.S. shareholder, first, as a tax-free return of capital, which is applied against and will reduce the adjusted tax basis of the U.S. shareholder's shares and, after such adjusted tax basis is reduced to zero, will constitute capital gain to the U.S. shareholder (assuming the shares are held as a capital asset). The Funds are not required to provide written notice designating the amount of any qualified dividend income or capital gain dividends and other distributions.

As RICs, the Funds will be subject to the AMT, but any items that are treated differently for AMT purposes must be apportioned between a Fund and the shareholders and this may affect the shareholders' AMT liabilities. The Funds intend in general to apportion these items in the same proportion that dividends paid to each shareholder bear to the Fund's taxable income (determined without regard to the dividends paid deduction).

For purpose of determining (i) whether the annual distribution requirement is satisfied for any year and (ii) the amount of capital gain dividends paid for that year, the Funds may, under certain circumstances, elect to treat a dividend that is paid during the following taxable year as if it had been paid during the taxable year in question. If a Fund makes such an election, the U.S. shareholder will still be treated as receiving the dividend in the taxable year in which the distribution is made. However, any dividend declared by a Fund in October, November or December of any calendar year, payable to shareholders of record on a specified date in such a month and actually paid during January of the following year, will be treated as if it had been received by the U.S. shareholders on December 31 of the year in which the dividend was declared.

Each Fund intends to distribute all realized capital gains, if any, at least annually. If, however, a Fund were to retain any net capital gain, the Fund may designate the retained amount as undistributed capital gains in a notice to shareholders who, if subject to U.S. federal income tax on long-term capital gains, (i) will be required to include in income as long-term capital gain, its proportionate shares of such undistributed amount, and (ii) will be entitled to credit its proportionate shares of the federal income tax paid by the Fund on the undistributed amount against its U.S.

federal income tax liabilities, if any, and to claim refunds to the extent the credit exceeds such liabilities. If such an event occurs, the tax basis of shares owned by a shareholder of the Fund will, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, generally be increased by the difference between the amount of undistributed net capital gain included in the shareholder's gross income and the tax deemed paid by the shareholders.

Sales and other dispositions of the shares, such as exchanges, of a Fund generally are taxable events. U.S. shareholders should consult their own tax adviser with reference to their individual circumstances to determine whether any particular transaction in the shares of a Fund is properly treated as a sale or exchange for federal income tax purposes, as the following discussion assumes, and the tax treatment of any gains or losses recognized in such transactions. The sale or other disposition of shares of the Funds will generally result in capital gain or loss to the shareholder equal to the difference between the amount realized and the adjusted tax basis in the shares sold or exchanged, and will be long-term capital gain or loss if the shares have been held for more than one year at the time of sale. Any loss upon the sale or exchange of shares held for six months or less will be treated as long-term capital loss to the extent of any capital gain dividends received (including amounts credited as an undistributed capital gain dividend) by such shareholder with respect to such shares. A loss realized on a sale or exchange of shares of the Funds generally will be disallowed if other substantially identical shares are acquired within a 61-day period beginning 30 days before and ending 30 days after the date that the shares are disposed. In such case, the basis of the shares acquired will be adjusted to reflect the disallowed loss. Present law taxes both long-term and short-term capital gains of corporations at the rates applicable to ordinary income of corporations. For non-corporate taxpayers, short-term capital gains will currently be taxed at the rate applicable to ordinary income, currently a maximum of 37%, while long-term capital gains generally will be taxed at a maximum rate of 20%. Capital losses are subject to certain limitations.

Federal law requires that mutual fund companies report their shareholders' cost basis, gain/loss, and holding period to the Internal Revenue Service on the Funds' shareholders' Consolidated Form 1099s when "covered" securities are sold. Covered securities are any regulated investment company and/or dividend reinvestment plan shares acquired on or after January 1, 2012.

The Funds have chosen average cost as their standing (default) tax lot identification method for all shareholders. A tax lot identification method is the way a Fund will determine which specific shares are deemed to be sold when there are multiple purchases on different dates at differing net asset values, and the entire position is not sold at one time. A Fund's standing tax lot identification method is the method covered shares will be reported on your Consolidated Form 1099 if you do not select a specific tax lot identification method. You may choose a method different than the Fund's standing method and will be able to do so at the time of your purchase or upon the sale of covered shares. Please refer to the appropriate Internal Revenue Service regulations or consult your tax adviser with regard to your personal circumstances.

For those securities defined as "covered" under current Internal Revenue Service cost basis tax reporting regulations, the Fund is responsible for maintaining accurate cost basis and tax lot information for tax reporting purposes. The Funds are not responsible for the reliability or accuracy of the information for those securities that are not "covered." The Funds and their service providers do not provide tax advice. You should consult independent sources, which may include a tax professional, with respect to any decisions you may make with respect to choosing a tax lot identification method.

For taxable years beginning after December 31, 2012, certain U.S. shareholders, including individuals and estates and trusts, will be subject to an additional 3.8% Medicare tax on all or a portion of their "net investment income," which should include dividends from the Funds and net gains from the disposition of shares of the Funds. U.S. shareholders are urged to consult their own tax advisers regarding the implications of the additional Medicare tax resulting from an investment in the Funds.

A Fund is required in certain circumstances to backup withhold at a current rate of 24% on taxable distributions and certain other payments paid to non-corporate holders of the Fund's shares who do not furnish the Fund with their correct taxpayer identification number (in the case of individuals, their social security number) and certain certifications, or who are otherwise subject to backup withholding. Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld from payments made to you may be refunded or credited against your U.S. federal income tax liability, if any, provided that the required information is furnished to the IRS.



**Tax Shelter Reporting Regulations.** Under U.S. Treasury regulations, if a shareholder recognizes a loss with respect to a Fund's shares of \$2 million or more for an individual shareholder or \$10 million or more for a corporate shareholder, the shareholder must file with the IRS a disclosure statement on Form 8886. Direct shareholders of portfolio securities are in many cases excepted from this reporting requirement, but under current guidance, shareholders of a regulated investment company are not excepted. Future guidance may extend the current exception from this reporting requirement to shareholders of most or all regulated investment companies. The fact that a loss is reportable under these regulations does not affect the legal determination of whether the taxpayer's treatment of the loss is proper. Shareholders should consult their tax advisers to determine the applicability of these regulations in light of their individual circumstances.

**Shareholder Reporting Obligations with Respect to Foreign Financial Assets.** Certain individuals (and, if provided in future guidance, certain domestic entities) must disclose annually their interests in "specified foreign financial assets" on IRS Form 8938, which must be attached to their U.S. federal income tax returns for taxable years beginning after March 18, 2010. The IRS has not yet released a copy of the Form 8938 and has suspended the requirement to attach Form 8938 for any taxable year for which an income tax return is filed before the release of Form 8938. Following Form 8938's release, individuals will be required to attach to their next income tax return required to be filed with the IRS a Form 8938 for each taxable year for which the filing of Form 8938 was suspended. Until the IRS provides more details regarding this reporting requirement, including in Form 8938 itself and related Treasury regulations, it remains unclear under what circumstances, if any, a shareholder's (indirect) interest in the Fund's "specified foreign financial assets," if any, will be required to be reported on this Form 8938.

**Other Reporting and Withholding Requirements.** Rules enacted in March 2010 require the reporting to the IRS of direct and indirect ownership of foreign financial accounts and foreign entities by U.S. persons. Failure to provide this required information can result in a 30% withholding tax on certain payments ("withholdable payments") made after December 31, 2012. Specifically, withholdable payments subject to this 30% withholding tax include payments of U.S.-source dividends and interest made on or after January 1, 2014, and payments of gross proceeds from the sale or other disposal of property that can produce U.S.-source dividends or interest made on or after January 1, 2015.

The IRS has issued only very preliminary guidance with respect to these new rules; their scope remains unclear and potentially subject to material change. Very generally, it is possible that distributions made by a Fund after the dates noted above (or such later dates as may be provided in future guidance) to a shareholder, including a distribution in redemption of shares and a distribution of income or gains otherwise exempt from withholding under the rules applicable to non-U.S. shareholders described above (e.g., Capital Gain Dividends, Short-Term Capital Gain Dividends and interest-related dividends, as described above) will be subject to the new 30% withholding requirement. Payments to a foreign shareholder that is a "foreign financial institution" will generally be subject to withholding, unless such shareholder enters into a timely agreement with the IRS. Payments to shareholders that are U.S. persons or foreign individuals will generally not be subject to withholding, so long as such shareholders provide the Fund with such certifications or other documentation, including, to the extent required, with regard to such shareholders' direct and indirect owners, as the Fund requires to comply with the new rules. Persons investing in the Fund through an intermediary should contact their intermediary regarding the application of the new reporting and withholding regime to their investments in the Fund.

Shareholders are urged to consult a tax adviser regarding this new reporting and withholding regime, in light of their particular circumstances.

**Shares Purchased Through Tax-Qualified Plans.** Special tax rules apply to investments through defined contribution plans and other tax-qualified plans. Shareholders should consult their tax advisers to determine the suitability of shares of a Fund as an investment through such plans, and the precise effect of an investment on their particular tax situation.

**U.S. Government Obligations.** Many states grant tax-free status to dividends paid to shareholders from interest earned on direct obligations of the U.S. government, subject in some states to minimum investment requirements that must be met by the Funds. This preferential treatment may not be available to the extent the Fund receives such interest indirectly through an investment in an ETF. Investments in Government National Mortgage Association or Federal National Mortgage Association securities, bankers' acceptances, commercial paper and repurchase agreements collateralized by U.S. Government securities do not generally qualify for tax-free treatment. The rules on exclusion of this income are different for corporations.

**Original Issue Discount, Pay-in-Kind Securities, Market Discount and Commodity-Linked Notes.** Some debt obligations with a fixed maturity date of more than one year from the date of issuance (and zero-coupon debt obligations with a fixed maturity date of more than one year from the date of issuance) that may be acquired by a Fund may be treated as debt obligations that are issued originally at a discount. Generally, the amount of the original issue discount (“OID”) is treated as interest income and is included in the Fund’s taxable income (and required to be distributed by the Fund) over the term of the debt obligation, even though payment of that amount is not received until a later time, upon partial or full repayment or disposition of the debt security.

Some debt obligations (with a fixed maturity date of more than one year from the date of issuance) that may be acquired by a Fund in the secondary market may be treated as having “market discount.” Very generally, market discount is the excess of the stated redemption price of a debt obligation (or in the case of an obligations issued with OID, its “revised issue price”) over the purchase price of such obligation. Generally, any gain recognized on the disposition of, and any partial payment of principal on, a debt obligation having market discount is treated as ordinary income to the extent the gain, or principal payment, does not exceed the “accrued market discount” on such debt obligation. Alternatively, a Fund may elect to accrue market discount currently, in which case the Fund will be required to include the accrued market discount in the Fund’s income (as ordinary income) and thus distribute it over the term of the debt security, even though payment of that amount is not received until a later time, upon partial or full repayment or disposition of the debt security. The rate at which the market discount accrues, and thus is included in the Fund’s income, will depend upon which of the permitted accrual methods the Fund elects. In the case of higher-risk securities, the amount of market discount may be unclear. See “Higher-Risk Securities.”

Some debt obligations (with a fixed maturity date of one year or less from the date of issuance) that may be acquired by the Funds may be treated as having “acquisition discount” (very generally, the excess of the stated redemption price over the purchase price), or OID in the case of certain types of debt obligations. The Funds will be required to include the acquisition discount, or OID, in income (as ordinary income) over the term of the debt obligation, even though payment of that amount is not received until a later time, upon partial or full repayment or disposition of the debt security. The Funds may make one or more of the elections applicable to debt obligations having acquisition discount, or OID, which could affect the character and timing of recognition of income.

In addition, payment-in-kind securities will, and commodity-linked notes may, give rise to income that is required to be distributed and is taxable even though the Fund holding the security receives no interest payment in cash on the security during the year.

If a Fund holds the foregoing kinds of securities, it may be required to pay out as an income distribution each year an amount that is greater than the total amount of cash interest the Fund actually received. Such distributions may be made from the cash assets of the Fund or by liquidation of portfolio securities, if necessary (including when it is not advantageous to do so). The Fund may realize gains or losses from such liquidations. In the event the Fund realizes net capital gains from such transactions, its shareholders may receive a larger capital gain distribution than they would in the absence of such transactions.

**Higher-Risk Securities.** To the extent such investments are permissible for the Funds, a Fund may invest in debt obligations that are in the lowest rating categories or are unrated, including debt obligations of issuers not currently paying interest or who are in default. Investments in debt obligations that are at risk of or in default present special tax issues for the Funds. Tax rules are not entirely clear about issues such as when the Fund may cease to accrue interest, OID or market discount, when and to what extent deductions may be taken for bad debts or worthless securities and how payments received on obligations in default should be allocated between principal and income. In limited circumstances, it may also not be clear whether the Fund should recognize market discount on a debt obligation, and if so, what amount of market discount the Fund should recognize. These and other related issues will be addressed by the Fund when, as and if it invests in such securities, to seek to ensure that it distributes sufficient income to preserve its status as a regulated investment company and does not become subject to U.S. federal income or excise tax.

**Issuer Deductibility of Interest.** A portion of the interest paid or accrued on certain high yield discount obligations owned by a Fund may not be deductible to (and thus, may affect the cash flow of) the issuer. If a portion of the interest paid or accrued on certain high yield discount obligations is not deductible, that portion will be treated as a dividend for purposes of the corporate dividends-received deduction. In such cases, if the issuer of the high yield discount

obligations is a domestic corporation, dividend payments by the Fund may be eligible for the dividends-received deduction to the extent of the deemed dividend portion of such accrued interest.

Interest paid on debt obligations owned by a Fund, if any, that are considered for U.S. tax purposes to be payable in the equity of the issuer or a related party will not be deductible to the issuer, possibly affecting the cash flow of the issuer.

**Section 1256 Contracts.** Certain listed options, regulated futures contracts, and forward foreign currency contracts are considered “section 1256 contracts” for federal income tax purposes. Section 1256 contracts held by a Fund at the end of each taxable year will be “marked-to-market” and treated for federal income tax purposes as though sold for fair market value on the last business day of such taxable year. Gain or loss realized by a Fund on section 1256 contracts (other than certain foreign currency contracts) generally will be considered 60% long-term and 40% short-term capital gain or loss.

**Tax-Exempt Shareholders.** A tax-exempt shareholder could recognize unrelated business taxable income (“UBTI”) by virtue of its investment in the Funds if shares in a Fund constitute debt-financed property in the hands of the tax-exempt shareholder within the meaning of Internal Revenue Code Section 514(b). Furthermore, a tax-exempt shareholder may recognize UBTI if a Fund recognizes “excess inclusion income” derived from direct or indirect investments in residual interests in real estate mortgage investment conduits (“REMICs”) or equity interests in taxable mortgage pools (“TMPs”) if the amount of such income recognized by the Fund exceeds the Fund’s investment company taxable income (after taking into account deductions for dividends paid by the Fund).

In addition, special tax consequences apply to charitable remainder trusts (“CRTs”) that invest in regulated investment companies that invest directly or indirectly in residual interests in REMICs or equity interests in TMPs. Under legislation enacted in December 2006, a CRT (as defined in section 664 of the Internal Revenue Code) that realizes any UBTI for a taxable year, must pay an excise tax annually of an amount equal to such UBTI. Under IRS guidance issued in October 2006, a CRT will not recognize UBTI solely as a result of investing in the Fund that recognizes “excess inclusion income.” Rather, if at any time during any taxable year a CRT (or one of certain other tax-exempt shareholders, such as the United States, a state or political subdivision, or an agency or instrumentality thereof, and certain energy cooperatives) is a record holder of a share in a Fund that recognizes “excess inclusion income,” then the regulated investment company will be subject to a tax on that portion of its “excess inclusion income” for the taxable year that is allocable to such shareholders, at the highest federal corporate income tax rate. The extent to which this IRS guidance remains applicable in light of the December 2006 legislation is unclear. To the extent permitted under the 1940 Act, the Fund may elect to specially allocate any such tax to the applicable CRT, or other shareholder, and thus reduce such shareholder’s distributions for the year by the amount of the tax that relates to such shareholder’s interest in the Fund. The Funds have not yet determined whether such an election will be made. CRTs and other tax-exempt investors are urged to consult their tax advisers concerning the consequences of investing in the Fund.

**Passive Foreign Investment Companies.** A passive foreign investment company (“PFIC”) is any foreign corporation: (i) 75% or more of the gross income of which for the taxable year is passive income, or (ii) the average percentage of the assets of which (generally by value, but by adjusted tax basis in certain cases) that produce or are held for the production of passive income is at least 50%. Generally, passive income for this purpose means dividends, interest (including income equivalent to interest), royalties, rents, annuities, the excess of gains over losses from certain property transactions and commodities transactions, and foreign currency gains. Passive income for this purpose does not include rents and royalties received by the foreign corporation from active business and certain income received from related persons.

Equity investments by the Funds in certain PFICs could potentially subject a Fund to a U.S. federal income tax or other charge (including interest charges) on the distributions received from the PFIC or on proceeds received from the disposition of shares in the PFIC. This tax cannot be eliminated by making distributions to Fund shareholders. However, the Funds may elect to avoid the imposition of that tax. For example, if a Fund is in a position to and elects to treat a PFIC as a “qualified electing fund” (i.e., make a “QEF election”), the Fund will be required to include its share of the PFICs income and net capital gains annually, regardless of whether it receives any distribution from the PFIC. Alternatively, the Fund may make an election to mark the gains (and to a limited extent losses) in its PFIC holdings “to the market” as though it had sold and repurchased its holdings in those PFICs on the last day of the Fund’s taxable year. Such gains and losses are treated as ordinary income and loss. The QEF and mark-to-market elections may accelerate the recognition of income (without the receipt of cash) and increase the amount required to be

distributed by the Fund to avoid taxation. Making either of these elections therefore may require a Fund to liquidate other investments (including when it is not advantageous to do so) to meet its distribution requirement, which also may accelerate the recognition of gain and affect the Fund's total return. Dividends paid by PFICs will not be eligible to be treated as "qualified dividend income."

Because it is not always possible to identify a foreign corporation as a PFIC, a Fund may incur the tax and interest charges described above in some instances.

**Foreign Currency Transactions.** The Funds' transactions in foreign currencies, foreign currency-denominated debt obligations and certain foreign currency options, futures contracts and forward contracts (and similar instruments) may give rise to ordinary income or loss to the extent such income or loss results from fluctuations in the value of the foreign currency concerned. Any such net gains could require a larger dividend toward the end of the calendar year. Any such net losses will generally reduce and potentially require the recharacterization of prior ordinary income distributions. Such ordinary income treatment may accelerate Fund distributions to shareholders and increase the distributions taxed to shareholders as ordinary income. Any net ordinary losses so created cannot be carried forward by the Fund to offset income or gains earned in subsequent taxable years.

**Foreign Taxation.** Income received by the Funds from sources within foreign countries may be subject to withholding and other taxes imposed by such countries. Tax conventions between certain countries and the U.S. may reduce or eliminate such taxes. A Fund does not expect to be eligible to pass through to shareholders a credit or deduction for such taxes.

The ETFs and other investment companies in which a Fund invests may invest in foreign securities. Dividends and interest received by an ETF's or investment company's holding of foreign securities may give rise to withholding and other taxes imposed by foreign countries. As noted above, tax conventions between certain countries and the United States may reduce or eliminate such taxes. If the ETF or investment company in which the Fund invests is taxable as a RIC and meets certain other requirements, which include a requirement that more than 50% of the value of such ETF's or investment company's total assets at the close of its respective taxable year consists of stocks or securities of foreign corporations, then the ETF or investment company should be eligible to file an election with the IRS that may enable its shareholders, including the Fund in effect, to receive either the benefit of a foreign tax credit, or a tax deduction, with respect to any foreign and U.S. possessions income taxes paid by the Fund, subject to certain limitations. The Fund, however, is not expected to be able to pass these benefits along to its shareholders.

**Foreign Shareholders.** Capital Gain Dividends are generally not subject to withholding of U.S. federal income tax. Absent a specific statutory exemption, dividends other than Capital Gain Dividends paid by the Funds to a shareholder that is not a "U.S. person" within the meaning of the Internal Revenue Code (such shareholder, a "foreign shareholder") are subject to withholding of U.S. federal income tax at a rate of 30% (or lower applicable treaty rate) even if they are funded by income or gains (such as portfolio interest, short-term capital gains, or foreign-source dividend and interest income) that, if paid to a foreign person directly, would not be subject to withholding.

In general, a regulated investment company is not required to withhold any amounts (i) with respect to distributions (other than distributions to a foreign person (a) that does not provide a satisfactory statement that the beneficial owner is not a U.S. person, (b) to the extent that the dividend is attributable to certain interest on an obligation if the foreign person is the issuer or is a 10% shareholder of the issuer, (c) that is within a foreign country that has inadequate information exchange with the United States, or (d) to the extent the dividend is attributable to interest paid by a person that is a related person of the foreign person and the foreign person is a controlled foreign corporation) from U.S.-source interest income of types similar to those not subject to U.S. federal income tax if earned directly by an individual foreign person, to the extent such distributions are properly reported as such by the Funds in a written notice to shareholders ("interest-related dividends"), and (ii) with respect to distributions (other than (a) distributions to an individual foreign person who is present in the United States for a period or periods aggregating 183 days or more during the year of the distribution and (b) distributions subject to special rules regarding the disposition of U.S. real property interests as described below) of net short-term capital gains in excess of net long-term capital losses to the extent such distributions are properly reported by the regulated investment company ("short-term capital gain dividends"). If a Fund invests in an underlying fund that pays such distributions to a Fund, such distributions retain their character as not subject to withholding if properly reported when paid by the Fund to foreign persons.

A Fund is permitted to report such part of its dividends as interest-related or short-term capital gain dividends as are eligible, but is not required, to do so. These exemptions from withholding will not be available to foreign shareholders of the Fund that do not currently report their dividends as interest-related or short-term capital gain dividends.

In the case of shares held through an intermediary, the intermediary may withhold even if a Fund reports all or a portion of a payment as an interest-related or short-term capital gain dividend to shareholders. Foreign persons should contact their intermediaries regarding the application of these rules to their accounts.

Under U.S. federal tax law, a beneficial holder of shares who is a foreign shareholder generally is not subject to U.S. federal income tax on gains (and is not allowed a deduction for losses) realized on the sale of shares of the Funds or on Capital Gain Dividends unless (i) such gain or dividend is effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business carried on by such holder within the United States, (ii) in the case of an individual holder, the holder is present in the United States for a period or periods aggregating 183 days or more during the year of the sale or the receipt of the Capital Gain Dividend and certain other conditions are met, or (iii) the special rules relating to gain attributable to the sale or exchange of “U.S. real property interests” (“USRPIs”) apply to the foreign shareholder’s sale of shares of the Fund or to the Capital Gain Dividend the foreign shareholder received (as described below).

Special rules would apply if the Funds were either a “U.S. real property holding corporation” (“USRPHC”) or would be a USRPHC but for the operation of certain exceptions to the definition thereof. Very generally, a USRPHC is a domestic corporation that holds USRPIs the fair market value of which equals or exceeds 50% of the sum of the fair market values of the corporation’s USRPIs, interests in real property located outside the United States, and other assets. USRPIs are generally defined as any interest in U.S. real property and any interest (other than solely as a creditor) in a USRPHC or former USRPHC.

If a Fund were a USRPHC or would be a USRPHC but for the exceptions referred to above, any distributions by a Fund to a foreign shareholder (including, in certain cases, distributions made by a Fund in redemption of its shares) attributable to gains realized by a Fund on the disposition of USRPIs or to distributions received by a Fund from a lower-tier regulated investment company or REIT that a Fund is required to treat as USRPI gain in its hands generally would be subject to U.S. tax withholding. In addition, such distributions could result in the foreign shareholder being required to file a U.S. tax return and pay tax on the distributions at regular U.S. federal income tax rates. The consequences to a foreign shareholder, including the rate of such withholding and character of such distributions (e.g., as ordinary income or USRPI gain), would vary depending upon the extent of the foreign shareholder’s current and past ownership of a Fund. On and after January 1, 2012, this “look-through” USRPI treatment for distributions by a Fund, if it were either a USRPHC or would be a USRPHC but for the operation of the exceptions referred to above, to foreign shareholders applies only to those distributions that, in turn, are attributable to distributions received by a Fund from a lower-tier REIT, unless Congress enacts legislation providing otherwise.

In addition, if a Fund were a USRPHC or former USRPHC, it could be required to withhold U.S. tax on the proceeds of a share redemption by a greater-than-5% foreign shareholder, in which case such foreign shareholder generally would also be required to file U.S. tax returns and pay any additional taxes due in connection with the redemption.

Whether or not a Fund is characterized as a USRPHC will depend upon the nature and mix of a Fund’s assets. The Funds do not expect to be USRPHCs. Foreign shareholders should consult their tax advisers concerning the application of these rules to their investment in a Fund.

If a beneficial holder of Fund shares who is a foreign shareholder has a trade or business in the United States, and the dividends are effectively connected with the beneficial holder’s conduct of that trade or business, the dividend will be subject to U.S. federal net income taxation at regular income tax rates.

If a beneficial holder of Fund shares who is a foreign shareholder is eligible for the benefits of a tax treaty, any effectively connected income or gain will generally be subject to U.S. federal income tax on a net basis only if it is also attributable to a permanent establishment maintained by that beneficial holder in the United States.

To qualify for any exemptions from withholding described above or for lower withholding tax rates under income tax treaties, or to establish an exemption from backup withholding, a foreign shareholder must comply with special certification and filing requirements relating to its non-U.S. status (including, in general, furnishing an IRS Form W-8BEN or substitute form). Foreign shareholders in a Fund should consult their tax advisers in this regard.

A beneficial holder of Fund shares who is a foreign shareholder may be subject to state and local tax and to the U.S. federal estate tax in addition to the federal tax on income referred to above.

**FATCA.** Payments to a shareholder that is either a foreign financial institution (“FFI”) or a non-financial foreign entity (“NFFE”) within the meaning of the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (“FATCA”) may be subject to a generally nonrefundable 30% withholding tax on: (a) income dividends paid by a Fund after June 30, 2014 and (b) certain capital gain distributions and the proceeds arising from the sale of Fund shares paid by a Fund after December 31, 2016. FATCA withholding tax generally can be avoided: (a) by an FFI, subject to any applicable intergovernmental agreement or other exemption, if it enters into a valid agreement with the IRS to, among other requirements, report required information about certain direct and indirect ownership of foreign financial accounts held by U.S. persons with the FFI and (b) by an NFFE, if it: (i) certifies that it has no substantial U.S. persons as owners or (ii) if it does have such owners, reports information relating to them. A Fund may disclose the information that it receives from its shareholders to the IRS, non-U.S. taxing authorities or other parties as necessary to comply with FATCA. Withholding also may be required if a foreign entity that is a shareholder of a Fund fails to provide a Fund with appropriate certifications or other documentation concerning its status under FATCA.

The foregoing is a general and abbreviated summary of the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code and the Treasury regulations in effect as they directly govern the taxation of a Fund and its shareholders. These provisions are subject to change by legislative and administrative action, and any such change may be retroactive. Shareholders are urged to consult their tax advisers regarding specific questions as to U.S. federal income, estate or gift taxes, or foreign, state, local taxes or other taxes.

**Possible Tax Law Changes.** At the time that this SAI is being prepared, the coronavirus (COVID-19) is affecting the United States. Various administrative and legislative changes to the federal tax laws are under consideration, but it is not possible at this time to determine whether any of these changes will take place or what the changes might entail.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The Annual Reports for the Funds for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2020, have been filed with the SEC. The financial statements contained in the Annual Reports are incorporated by reference into this SAI. The financial statements and financial highlights for the Funds included in the Annual Reports have been audited by the Funds’ independent registered public accounting firm, Tait, Weller & Baker LLP, whose reports thereon also appear in such Annual Reports and are also incorporated herein by reference. No other parts of the Annual Reports are incorporated by reference herein. The financial statements in such Annual Reports have been incorporated herein in reliance upon such reports given upon the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

You can receive free copies of reports, request other information and discuss your questions about the Funds directly at:

WORLD FUNDS TRUST  
8730 Stony Point Parkway, Suite 205  
Richmond, Virginia 23235  
Telephone: (800) 673-0550  
Website: [funds.appliedfinanceadvisors.com](http://funds.appliedfinanceadvisors.com)  
e-mail: [mail@ccofva.com](mailto:mail@ccofva.com)

## EXHIBIT A

### PROXY VOTING POLICY AND PROCEDURES

The World Funds Trust (the “Trust”) is registered as an open-end management investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (“1940 Act”). The Trust offers multiple series (each a “Fund” and, collectively, the “Funds”). Consistent with its fiduciary duties and pursuant to Rule 30b1-4 under the 1940 Act (the “Proxy Rule”), the Board of Trustees of the Trust (the “Board”) has adopted this proxy voting policy on behalf of the Trust (the “Policy”) to reflect its commitment to ensure that proxies are voted in a manner consistent with the best interests of the Funds’ shareholders.

#### **Delegation of Proxy Voting Authority to Fund Adviser**

The Board believes that the investment adviser, or the investment sub-adviser as appropriate, of each Fund (each an “Adviser”), as the entity that selects the individual securities that comprise its Fund’s portfolio, is the most knowledgeable and best-suited to make decisions on how to vote proxies of portfolio companies held by that Fund. The Trust shall therefore defer to, and rely on, the Adviser of each Fund to make decisions on how to cast proxy votes on behalf of such Fund.

The Trust hereby designates the Adviser of each Fund as the entity responsible for exercising proxy voting authority with regard to securities held in the Fund’s investment portfolio. Consistent with its duties under this Policy, each Adviser shall monitor and review corporate transactions of corporations in which the Fund has invested, obtain all information sufficient to allow an informed vote on all proxy solicitations, ensure that all proxy votes are cast in a timely fashion, and maintain all records required to be maintained by the Fund under the Proxy Rule and the 1940 Act. Each Adviser shall perform these duties in accordance with the Adviser’s proxy voting policy, a copy of which shall be presented to this Board for its review. Each Adviser shall promptly provide to the Board updates to its proxy voting policy as they are adopted and implemented.

#### **Conflict of Interest Transactions**

In some instances, an Adviser may be asked to cast a proxy vote that presents a conflict between the interests of a Fund’s shareholders and those of the Adviser or an affiliated person of the Adviser. In such case, the Adviser is instructed to abstain from making a voting decision and to forward all necessary proxy voting materials to the Trust to enable the Board to make a voting decision. When the Board is required to make a proxy voting decision, only the Trustees without a conflict of interest with regard to the security in question or the matter to be voted upon shall be permitted to participate in the decision of how the Fund’s vote will be cast. In the event that the Board is required to vote a proxy because an Adviser has a conflict of interest with respect to the proxy, the Board will vote such proxy in accordance with the Adviser’s proxy voting policy, to the extent consistent with the shareholders’ best interests, as determined by the Board in its discretion. The Board shall notify the Adviser of its final decision on the matter and the Adviser shall vote in accordance with the Board’s decision.

#### **Availability of Proxy Voting Policy and Records Available to Fund Shareholders**

If a Fund has a website, the Fund may post a copy of its Adviser’s proxy voting policy and this Policy on such website. A copy of such policies and of each Fund’s proxy voting record shall also be made available, without charge, upon request of any shareholder of the Fund, by calling the applicable Fund’s toll-free telephone number as printed in the Fund’s prospectus. The Trust’s administrator shall reply to any Fund shareholder request within three business days of receipt of the request, by first-class mail or other means designed to ensure equally prompt delivery.

Each Adviser shall provide a complete voting record, as required by the Proxy Rule, for each series of the Trust for which it acts as adviser, to the Trust’s administrator within 30 days following the end of each 12-month period ending June 30. The Trust’s administrator will file a report based on such record on Form N-PX on an annual basis with the U. S. Securities and Exchange Commission no later than August 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.

Adopted: November 26, 2013

Last Amended: February 20, 2019

## EXHIBIT B

### APPLIED FINANCE ADVISORS LLC

#### PROXY AND CORPORATE ACTION VOTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

##### I. POLICY.

Applied Finance Advisors LLC (the “Adviser”) acts as a discretionary investment adviser for various clients, including clients governed by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (“ERISA”) and registered open-end management investment companies (i.e., “mutual funds”). The Adviser is registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) as an investment adviser pursuant to the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended (the “Advisers Act”). Some of the Adviser’s clients have delegated to the Adviser the authority to vote proxies or act with respect to corporate actions that may arise with respect to securities held within such client’s investment portfolio. Corporate actions may include, for example and without limitation, tender offers or exchanges, bankruptcy proceedings, and class actions. The Adviser’s authority to vote proxies or act with respect to other corporate actions is established through the delegation of discretionary authority under its investment advisory agreements. Therefore, unless a client (including a “named fiduciary” under ERISA) specifically reserves the right, in writing, to vote its own proxies or to take shareholder action with respect to other corporate actions requiring shareholder actions, the Adviser will vote all proxies and act on all other actions in a timely manner as part of its full discretionary authority over client assets in accordance with these policies and procedures.

When voting proxies or acting with respect to corporate actions on behalf of clients, the Adviser’s utmost concern is that all decisions be made solely in the best interests of the client (and for ERISA accounts, plan beneficiaries and participants, in accordance with the letter and spirit of ERISA). The Adviser will act in a prudent and diligent manner intended to enhance the economic value of the assets in the client’s account.

##### II. PURPOSE.

The purpose of these policies and procedures is to memorialize the procedures and policies adopted by the Adviser to enable it to comply with its fiduciary responsibilities to clients and the requirements of Rule 206(4)-6 under the Advisers Act. These policies and procedures also reflect the fiduciary standards and responsibilities set forth by the Department of Labor for ERISA accounts.

##### III. PROCEDURES.

The Adviser is ultimately responsible for ensuring that all proxies received are voted in a timely manner and in a manner consistent with the Adviser’s determination of the client’s best interests. Although many proxy proposals may be voted in accordance with the Guidelines described in Section V below, some proposals require special consideration which may dictate that the Adviser makes an exception to the Guidelines.

The Adviser is also responsible for ensuring that all corporate action notices or requests which require shareholder action that are received are addressed in a timely manner and consistent action is taken across all similarly situated client accounts.

##### A. Conflicts of Interest.

Where a proxy proposal raises a material conflict between the Adviser’s interests and a client’s interest, including a mutual fund client, the Adviser will resolve such a conflict in the manner described below:

1. Vote in Accordance with the Guidelines. To the extent that the Adviser has little or no discretion to deviate from the Guidelines with respect to the proposal in question, the Adviser shall vote in accordance with such pre-determined voting policy.
2. Obtain Consent of Clients. To the extent that the Adviser has discretion to deviate from the Guidelines with respect to the proposal in question, the Adviser will disclose the conflict to the relevant clients and obtain their consent to the proposed vote prior to voting the securities. The disclosure to the client will include sufficient detail regarding the matter to be voted on and the nature of the conflict so that the client will be able to make an informed decision



regarding the vote. If a client does not respond to such a conflict disclosure request or denies the request, the Adviser will abstain from voting the securities held by that client's account.

3. **Client Directive to Use an Independent Third Party.** Alternatively, a client may, in writing, specifically direct the Adviser to forward all proxy matters in which the Adviser has a conflict of interest regarding the client's securities to an identified independent third party for review and recommendation. Where such independent third party's recommendations are received on a timely basis, the Adviser will vote all such proxies in accordance with such third party's recommendation. If the third party's recommendations are not timely received, the Adviser will abstain from voting the securities held by that client's account.

The Adviser will review the proxy proposal for conflicts of interest as part of the overall vote review process. All material conflicts of interest so identified will be addressed as described above in this Section III, A.

#### B. Limitations.

In certain circumstances, in accordance with a client's investment advisory agreement (or other written directive) or where the Adviser has determined that it is in the client's best interest, the Adviser will not vote proxies received.

The following are certain circumstances where the Adviser will limit its role in voting proxies:

1. **Client Maintains Proxy Voting Authority.** Where a client specifies in writing that it will maintain the authority to vote proxies itself or that it has delegated the right to vote proxies to a third party, the Adviser will not vote the securities and will direct the relevant custodian to send the proxy material directly to the client. If any proxy material is received by the Adviser for such account, it will promptly be forwarded to the client or specified third party.

2. **Terminated Account.** Once a client account has been terminated in accordance with its investment advisory agreement, the Adviser will not vote any proxies received after the termination date. However, the client may specify in writing that proxies should be directed to the client (or a specified third party) for action.

3. **Limited Value.** If the Adviser determines that the value of a client's economic interest or the value of the portfolio holding is indeterminable or insignificant, the Adviser may abstain from voting a client's proxies. The Adviser also will not vote proxies received for securities which are no longer held by the client's account. In addition, the Adviser generally will not vote securities where the economic value of the securities in the client account is less than \$500.

4. **Securities Lending Programs.** When securities are out on loan, they are transferred into the borrower's name and are voted by the borrower, in its discretion. However, where the Adviser determines that a proxy vote (or other shareholder action) is materially important to the client's account, the Adviser may recall the security for the purposes of voting.

5. **Unjustifiable Costs.** In certain circumstances, after doing a cost-benefit analysis, the Adviser may abstain from voting where the cost of voting a client's proxy would exceed any anticipated benefits from the proxy proposal.

#### IV. RECORD KEEPING.

In accordance with Rule 204-2 under the Advisers Act, the Adviser will maintain for the time periods set forth in the Rule: (i) these proxy voting procedures and policies, and all amendments thereto; (ii) all proxy statements received regarding client securities (provided however, that the Adviser may rely on the proxy statement filed on EDGAR as its records); (iii) a record of all votes cast on behalf of clients; (iv) records of all written client requests for proxy voting information; (v) a copy of any written response made by the Adviser to any written or oral client request for proxy voting information; (vi) any documents prepared by the Adviser that were material to making a decision on how to vote or that memorialized the basis for the decision; and (vii) all records relating to requests made to clients regarding conflicts of interest in voting the proxy.

The Adviser will describe in its Form ADV, Part II (or other brochure fulfilling the requirement of Rule 204-3 under the Advisers Act) its proxy voting policies and procedures and will inform clients how they may obtain information on how the Adviser voted proxies with respect to the clients' portfolio securities. The Adviser will also provide to

each mutual fund client a copy of its policies and procedures. Clients may obtain information on how their securities were voted or a copy of the policies and procedures by written request addressed to the Adviser.

The Adviser will coordinate with all mutual fund clients to assist in the provision of all information required to be filed by such mutual funds on Form N-PX. Form N-PX will provide information concerning each matter relating to a portfolio security considered at any shareholder meeting with respect to which a mutual fund was entitled to vote. Each Form N-PX will need to be filed no later than August 31<sup>st</sup> of each year, and will cover all proxy votes with respect to which a mutual fund was entitled to vote for the period July 1st through June 30th. The Adviser shall maintain and provide the following information concerning any shareholder meetings with respect to which a mutual fund they manage was entitled to vote:

- the name of the issuer of the portfolio security;
- the exchange ticker symbol of the portfolio security<sup>(1)</sup>;
- the CUSIP number of the portfolio security<sup>(1)</sup>;
- the shareholder meeting date;
- a brief description of the matter voted on;
- whether the matter was put forward by the issuer or a shareholder;
- whether the mutual fund voted;
- how the mutual fund cast its vote; and
- whether the mutual fund cast its vote for or against management.

## V. GUIDELINES.

Each proxy issue will be considered individually. The following guidelines are a partial list to be used in voting proposals contained in the proxy statements, but will not be used as rigid rules.

### A. Oppose.

The Adviser will generally vote against any management proposal that clearly has the effect of restricting the ability of shareholders to realize the full potential value of their investment. Proposals in this category would include:

1. Issues regarding the issuer's board entrenchment and anti-takeover measures such as the following:
  - a. Proposals to stagger board members' terms;
  - b. Proposals to limit the ability of shareholders to call special meetings;
  - c. Proposals to require super majority votes;
  - d. Proposals requesting excessive increases in authorized common or preferred shares where management provides no explanation for the use or need of these additional shares;
  - e. Proposals regarding "fair price" provisions;
  - f. Proposals regarding "poison pill" provisions; and
  - g. Permitting "green mail".
2. Providing cumulative voting rights.

### B. Approve.

Routine proposals are those which do not change the structure, bylaws, or operations of the corporation to the detriment of the shareholders. Given the routine nature of these proposals, proxies will nearly always be voted with management. Traditionally, these issues include:

1. Election of independent accountants recommended by management, unless seeking to replace if there exists a dispute over policies.
2. Date and place of annual meeting.
3. Limitation on charitable contributions or fees paid to lawyers.
4. Ratification of directors' actions on routine matters since previous annual meeting.

5. Confidential voting. Confidential voting is most often proposed by shareholders as a means of eliminating undue management pressure on shareholders regarding their vote on proxy issues. The Adviser will generally vote to approve these proposals as shareholders can later divulge their votes to management on a selective basis if a legitimate reason arises.
6. Limiting directors' liability.
7. Eliminate preemptive rights. Preemptive rights give current shareholders the opportunity to maintain their current percentage ownership through any subsequent equity offerings. These provisions are no longer common in the U.S., and can restrict management's ability to raise new capital.
8. The Adviser will generally vote to approve the elimination of preemptive rights, but will oppose the elimination of listed preemptive rights, e.g., on proposed issues representing more than an acceptable level of total dilution.
9. Employee Stock Purchase Plans.
10. Establish 401(k) Plans.

#### C. Case-By-Case.

The Adviser will review each issue in this category on a case-by-case basis. Voting decisions will be made based on the financial interest of the client involved. These matters include proposals to:

1. Pay directors solely in stock;
2. Eliminate director's mandatory retirement policy;
3. Rotate annual meeting location or date;
4. Changes in the state of incorporation;
5. Social and corporate responsibility issues;
6. Option and stock grants to management and directors; and
7. Allowing indemnification of directors and/or officers after reviewing the applicable laws and extent of protection requested.

#### D. Investment Company Issues.

From time to time the Adviser will have to vote shares of investment company securities that may be held in a client's account. These matters generally include proposals to:

1. Elect directors or trustees;
2. Ratify or approve independent accountants;
3. Approve a new investment adviser or sub-adviser;
4. Approve a change to an investment advisory fee;
5. Approve a Distribution (i.e., Rule 12b-1) Plan;
6. Approve a change in a fundamental investment objective, policy or limitation;
7. Approve a change in the state of incorporation; and
8. Approve a plan of reorganization or merger.

The Adviser will generally vote with management's recommendation on the election of directors and trustees, the approval of independent accountants, the approval of a change in a fundamental investment objective, policy or limitation, and the approval of a change in the state of incorporation. On the approval of a new investment adviser or sub-adviser, approval of a change in investment advisory fee, approval of a distribution (i.e., Rule 12b-1) plan, or the approval of a plan of reorganization or merger, the Adviser will review each issue on a case-by-case basis. Voting decisions will be made based on the financial interest of the client involved.

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(1) The exchange ticker symbol and CUSIP number may be difficult to obtain for certain portfolio securities, such as foreign issuers. Accordingly, such information may be omitted if it's not available through reasonably practicable means.

## EXHIBIT C

### NOMINATING AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE CHARTER

#### World Funds Trust

##### Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee Membership

1. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee of World Funds Trust (the “Trust”) shall be composed entirely of Independent Trustees.

##### Board Nominations and Functions

1. The Committee shall make nominations for Trustee membership on the Board of Trustees (the “Board”), including the Independent Trustees. The Committee shall evaluate candidates’ qualifications for Board membership and their independence from the investment advisers to the Trust’s series portfolios and the Trust’s other principal service providers. Persons selected as Independent Trustees must not be “interested person” as that term is defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, nor shall Independent Trustee have any affiliations or associations that shall preclude them from voting as an Independent Trustee on matters involving approvals and continuations of Rule 12b-1 Plans, Investment Advisory Agreements and such other standards as the Committee shall deem appropriate. The Committee shall also consider the effect of any relationships beyond those delineated in the 1940 Act that might impair independence, *e.g.*, business, financial or family relationships with managers or service providers. See Appendix A for Procedures with Respect to Nominees to the Board.
2. The Committee shall periodically review Board governance procedures and shall recommend any appropriate changes to the full Board of Trustees.
3. The Committee shall periodically review the composition of the Board of Trustees to determine whether it may be appropriate to add individuals with different backgrounds or skill sets from those already on the Board.
4. The Committee shall periodically review trustee compensation and shall recommend any appropriate changes to the Independent Trustees as a group.

##### Committee Nominations and Functions

1. The Committee shall make nominations for membership on all committees and shall review committee assignments at least annually.
2. The Committee shall review, as necessary, the responsibilities of any committees of the Board, whether there is a continuing need for each committee, whether there is a need for additional committees of the Board, and whether committees should be combined or reorganized. The Committee shall make recommendations for any such action to the full Board.

##### Other Powers and Responsibilities

1. The Committee shall have the resources and authority appropriate to discharge its responsibilities, including authority to retain special counsel and other experts or consultants at the expense of the Trust.
2. The Committee shall review this Charter at least annually and recommend any changes to the full Board of Trustees.

Adopted: August 2, 2013

## APPENDIX A TO THE NOMINATING AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE CHARTER

### WORLD FUNDS TRUST

#### PROCEDURES WITH RESPECT TO NOMINEES TO THE BOARD

- I. *Identification of Candidates.* When a vacancy on the Board of Trustees (the “Board”) exists or is anticipated, and such vacancy is to be filled by an Independent Trustee, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee shall identify candidates by obtaining referrals from such sources as it may deem appropriate, which may include current Trustees, management of the Trust, counsel and other advisors to the Trustees, and shareholders of the Trust who submit recommendations in accordance with these procedures. In no event shall the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee consider as a candidate to fill any such vacancy an individual recommended by any investment adviser of any series portfolio of the Trust, unless the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee has invited management to make such a recommendation.
- II. *Shareholder Candidates.* The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee shall, when identifying candidates for the position of Independent Trustee, consider any such candidate recommended by a shareholder if such recommendation contains: (i) sufficient background information concerning the candidate, including evidence the candidate is willing to serve as an Independent Trustee if selected for the position; and (ii) is received in a sufficiently timely manner as determined by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee in its discretion. Shareholders shall be directed to address any such recommendations in writing to the attention of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, c/o the Secretary of the Trust. The Secretary shall retain copies of any shareholder recommendations which meet the foregoing requirements for a period of not more than 12 months following receipt. The Secretary shall have no obligation to acknowledge receipt of any shareholder recommendations.
- III. *Evaluation of Candidates.* In evaluating a candidate for a position on the Board, including any candidate recommended by shareholders of the Trust, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee shall consider the following: (i) the candidate’s knowledge in matters relating to the mutual fund industry; (ii) any experience possessed by the candidate as a director or senior officer of public companies; (iii) the candidate’s educational background; (iv) the candidate’s reputation for high ethical standards and professional integrity; (v) any specific financial, technical or other expertise possessed by the candidate, and the extent to which such expertise would complement the Board’s existing mix of skills, core competencies and qualifications; (vi) the candidate’s perceived ability to contribute to the ongoing functions of the Board, including the candidate’s ability and commitment to attend meetings regularly and work collaboratively with other members of the Board; (vii) the candidate’s ability to qualify as an Independent Trustee and any other actual or potential conflicts of interest involving the candidate and the Trust; and (viii) such other factors as the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee determines to be relevant in light of the existing composition of the Board and any anticipated vacancies. Prior to making a final recommendation to the Board, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee shall conduct personal interviews with those candidates it concludes are the most qualified candidates.