
USC Marshall

Student Investment Fund (SIF)

Information Session

October 4, 2021

SIF 2022, CIS Director Suh-Pyng Ku & Professor Shane Shepherd

Student Investment Fund Snapshot

1986

15-MONTH LONG
COURSE ESTABLISHED

5

FUNDS

\$11.4M

AUM

8

CIS BOARD MEMBERS

474 SIF ALUMNI



CAPITAL
GROUP®



TCW

Allianz 
Global Investors



PIMCO



Asset
Management



OAKTREE



HOULIHAN LOKEY



SIG
SUSQUEHANNA

Bank of America
Merrill Lynch

BCG BOSTON
CONSULTING
GROUP

THE CARLYLE GROUP
GLOBAL ALTERNATIVE ASSET MANAGEMENT



Blackstone

PJT Partners

20 MBA

PORTFOLIO MANAGERS



INCLUDES LECTURES,
GUEST SPEAKERS, SITE
VISITS AND STOCK/BOND
PITCHES



SF & NY
SIF TREKS

What is the Student Investment Fund?

An experiential learning program consisting of two 3-unit electives over a 15-month period, in which students learn the theory and practice of financial analysis and portfolio management. Today, 20 Marshall MBA student managers are responsible for the management of \$11.4M of USC endowment funds.

Fund	Style	Benchmark	AUM** (\$MM)
Trojan Equity Fund	Large Cap Value	Russell 1000 Value	\$3.2
Provident Growth Fund	Mid Cap Growth	Russell Mid Cap Growth	\$3.4
Babcock California Fund	Small Cap, 50% in CA	Russell 2000	\$1.7
Global Equity Fund	Global All Cap	MSCI ACWI	\$2.1
Marshall Fixed Income Fund	U.S. Fixed Income	Blended Barclays Index*	\$1.0

*The blended benchmark is 80% Barclays US Intermediate Credit Index & 20% Barclays US High-Yield Bond Index.

**As of September 30, 2021, the total SIF AUM is \$11.4 million.

SIF 2022 Representative Fund Managers

Fund	Fund Manager
Trojan Equity Fund	Taylor Ferguson
Provident Growth Fund	Max Reinert
Babcock California Fund	Jimmy Zhang
Global Equity Fund	Rui Ma
Marshall Fixed Income Fund	Chris Reeves

Who is eligible?

To be eligible, all student applicants must:

- Currently be enrolled in either the USC Marshall MBA or the USC Marshall MBA.PM Program
- Be in good academic standing with a minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA at the time of application
- Plan to graduate in May 2023
- Have successfully completed GSBA 548
- Have successfully completed FBE 529 (and/or FBE 555)

What are we looking for?

Candidates must demonstrate the following qualities:

- Serious interest and commitment in the areas of asset management, investment banking, financial consulting, and/or corporate finance
- High level of intellectual curiosity
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Outstanding leadership and teamwork skills
- Highly professional
- Diverse class of managers

What is the Application/Admission Process?

1. Submit application by 5pm on Thursday, January 20, 2022
 - A copy of your resume.
 - A 2-page personal statement (750-word maximum). In Page 1, explain why you are interested in the SIF and how working as a SIF manager would contribute to your career objectives. In Page 2, explain your unique skill sets and how you can contribute to the SIF program.
2. First Round Interviews on Friday, January 28, 2022 (conducted by SIF 2022 members)
 - Present a 5-minute “pitch” of a stock or bond idea
3. Second Round Interviews during the weeks of January 31 and February 7, 2022 with SIF Instructor
4. Class of SIF 2023 will be announced in February 2022

What can you do to prepare for the SIF application?

1. Demonstrated interest
2. Take calculated risks and start building your portfolio
 - a. Academic
 - Do well in accounting, economics, data science and finance (GSBA 548)
 - Do well in FBE 529 and FBE 555
 - b. Follow the markets
 - Write research reports (or investor memos)
 - Build a stock portfolio (paper or real money)
 - Read a few books
 - c. Network
 - Do informational interviews
 - Participate in MFA activities (e.g., stock pitches)
 - Meet with your classmates and the class of SIF 2022

What are the Prerequisites?

Required:

- FBE 529 – Financial Analysis and Valuation
- FBE 555 – Investment Analysis and Portfolio Management (*co-requisite*)

Suggested:

- FBE 535 – Applied Finance in Fixed Income Securities (Required for SIF Fixed Income Fund)
- FBE 558 – Law of Corporate Finance and Management
- FBE 559 – Management of Financial Risk
- FBE 560 – Mergers & Acquisitions
- ACCT 572 – Corporate Accounting and Reporting
- ACCT 581 – Financial Statement Analysis
- BUCO 503 – Advanced Managerial Communication

Funds & Managers

Babcock California Fund

- Lauren Butler
- Kevin Doran
- Priyanka Metha
- Jimmy Zhang

Global Equity Fund

- Mark Brewster
- Rui Ma
- Ericson Shi
- Melissa Wongso

Marshall Fixed Income Fund

- Ian Heath
- John McAndrew III
- Christopher Reeves
- Max Skelly

Provident Growth Fund

- David Dugan
- Brennan Reif
- Max Reinert
- Fernando Zepeda

Trojan Equity Fund

- Mary Chelini
- Taylor Ferguson
- Yushuang (Hank) Gou
- Hailey Waller

**Click fund names to learn about the investment philosophies*

Questions?

www.marshall.usc.edu/faculty-research/centers-excellence/center-investment-studies

Contact:

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