



**HEDGEYE CAPITAL ALLOCATION PRO**

# Getting Structured For Investment Success

Mini-Tutorial #1

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March 15, 2023

Robert McGroarty

David Salem

# The Gist

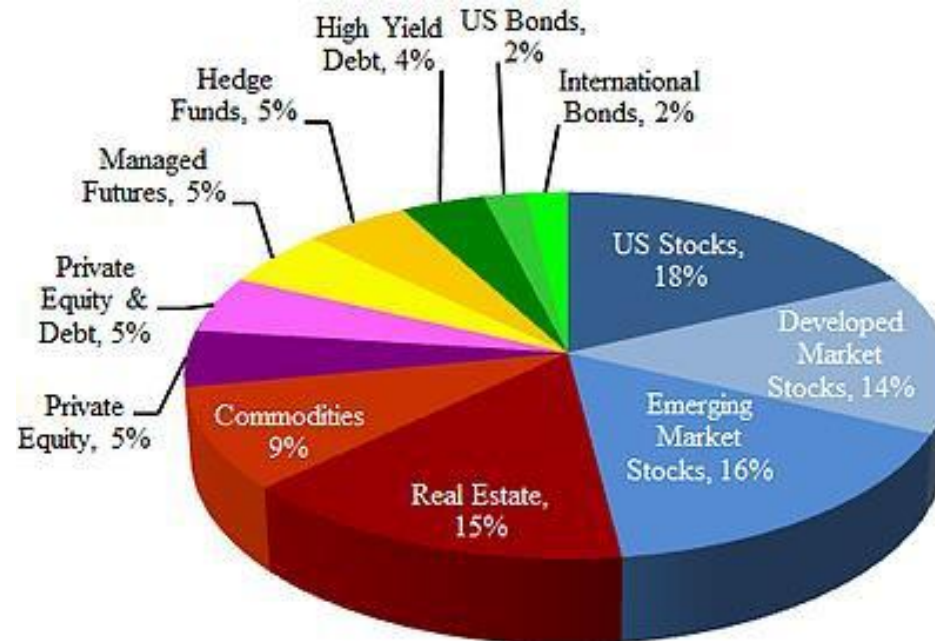
- Big differences in their other elements aside, all effective investment programs (EIPs) embody four elements: (1) **explicit recognition** of risks that must be incurred to achieve satisfactory returns; (2) **actionable constraints** on such risks (3) **return goals** consistent with such constraints and (4) **rank ordering** of constraints and goals.
  - **Rank ordering** is crucial—because constraints and goals inevitably conflict.
  - Ineffective investment programs typically embody **price-insensitive** buys or sells.
- EIPs also embody time **time horizons** for assessing total fund results materially longer than the average holding period for individual positions.
  - Hedgeye’s “**Full Cycle Investing**” acs the test just referenced, its “**Core**” components’ relatively long holding periods notwithstanding.
- EIPs also embody exclusively investment processes amenable to effective execution by players at hand: asset owners or hired guns who know their **circles of competence** and stay within them.
  - Like risk, which depends on its beholder, an investment program’s **soundness** depends on (a) the skills, temperaments and incentives of the person(s) executing it and (b) its responsiveness to the evolving wants and needs of its ultimate owner.
  - Mimicking the **mindset** of world-class investors often pays rich dividends; mimicking or rather attempting to mimic their specific moves seldom does.

# How Did We Get From A to B?

**A**  
Institutional Paradigm  
circa 1980



**B**  
Institutional Paradigm  
circa 2020

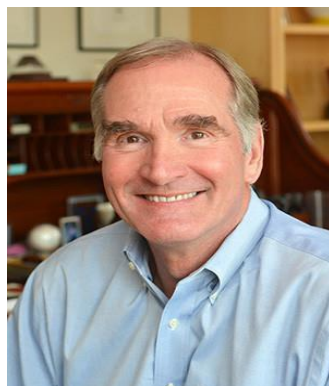


# Key Drivers of Asset Class Proliferation



**Samuel Putnam**

Author of *Harvard College v. Amory* (1830), establishing the “prudent man” (lemming?) rule



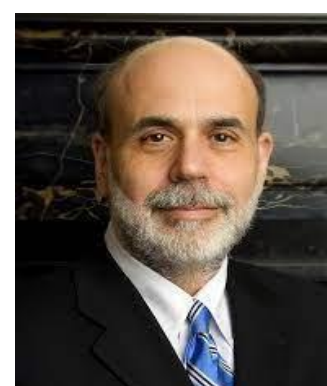
**David Swensen**

Chief Investment Officer of Yale University  
1985-2022



**Alan Greenspan**

Chair of the Federal Reserve Board  
1987 - 2006



**Ben Bernanke**

Chair of the Federal Reserve Board  
2006 - 2014



**Janet Yellen**

Chair of the Federal Reserve Board  
2014 - 2018

U.S. Treasury Secretary  
2021 - Present

# Discerning and Designing Effective Investment Programs (1 of 2)

## Disqualifying Attributes

- Policy allocations to contractual arrangements or marketing schemes masquerading as asset classes, e.g., “Hedge Funds”.
- Policy frameworks comprising fund segments whose constituent parts embody vastly different return drivers and risks, e.g., “Alternative Investments”.

## Unfavorable Attributes

- Non-zero minimum allocations to assets held for total return as distinct from hedging purposes, e.g., venture capital.
- Operating procedures, governance protocols and other verbiage whose inclusion in policy statements renders them unmanageably prolix and whose codification is best done via separate docs.
- Rebalancing protocols driven by calendar intervals rather than price
- Total fund benchmarks comprising uninvestable elements, e.g., mean returns for PE or VC funds.

# Discerning and Designing Effective Investment Programs (2 of 2)

## Favorable Attributes

- Clear and concise statements of the aim(s) that asset classes or sub-classes seek to advance, with each such segment sorted ideally into one of two categories based on its aim: (1) total return **or** (2) hedging.

## Essential Attributes

- Codification of the types of risk that **must** be incurred to achieve the ultimate owner's goals coupled with tolerable maxima for such risks
- Return goals consistent with agreed-upon risk parameters—**rank ordered** to facilitate sound decision-making when such goals' simultaneous pursuit becomes infeasible, with **time horizons** specified for each.

# Good, Bad and Ugly

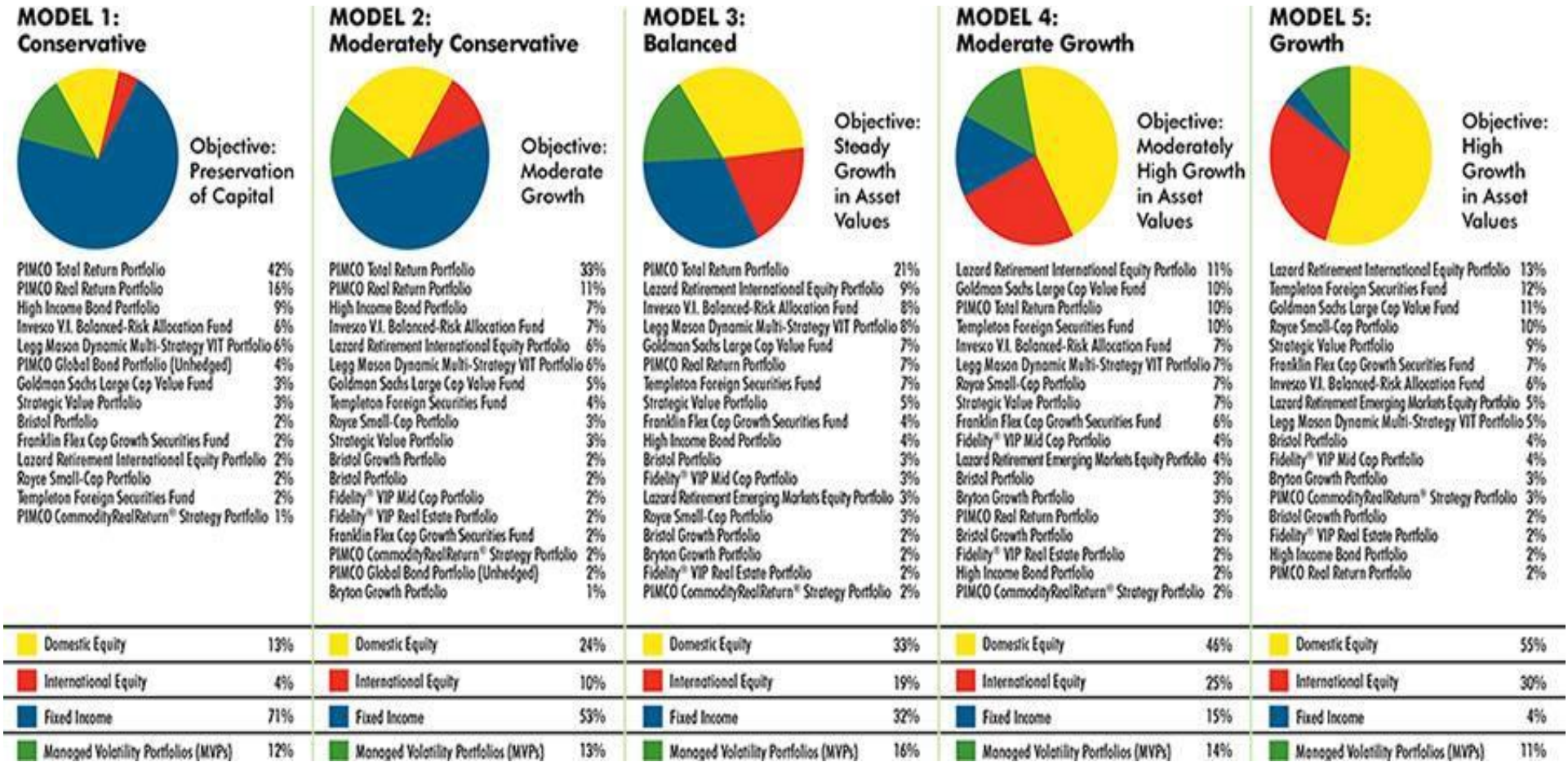
Current (2023) Investment Guidelines—University of [Redacted] \*

	<b>Current Policy Allocation</b>	<b>Long-Term Target Allocation</b>	<b><u>Allowable Ranges</u></b>	
			<b><u>Minimum</u></b>	<b><u>Maximum</u></b>
U.S. Equity	18.5%	13.5%	13.5	23.5
Developed Non US Equity	16.0	8.0	11.0	21.0
Emerging Mkt Equity	6.0	7.0	4.0	8.0
Global Equity	2.0	0.0	1.0	3.0
US Fixed Income	5.75	5.0	2.75	8.75
High Yield Fixed Income	3.0	2.5	2.0	4.0
Emerging Mkt Fixed Income	3.0	2.5	2.0	4.0
TIPS	4.0	2.5	2.0	6.0
Private Equity	9.0	9.0	6.0	12.0
Absolute Return – Diversified	23.5	23.5	18.5	28.5
Cross Asset Class	2.0	5.0	0.0	7.0
Opportunistic Equity	0.0	10.0	0.0	12.0
Real Assets	1.25	3.0	0.25	2.25
Real Estate	6.0	8.5	3.0	9.0
Liquidity	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>		

\* University's identity redacted to avoid embarrassing its trustees and officers.

# Good, Bad and Ugly

“Model” Portfolios Offered by Prominent Variable Annuity Vendor \*



\* Vendor’s identity withheld in hopes of attracting it as a Hedgeye patron. 😊



# Good Investment Program

Adapted from *The Aspirational Investor* by Ashvin Chhabra (Harper Collins, 2015).

## Aspirational Goals

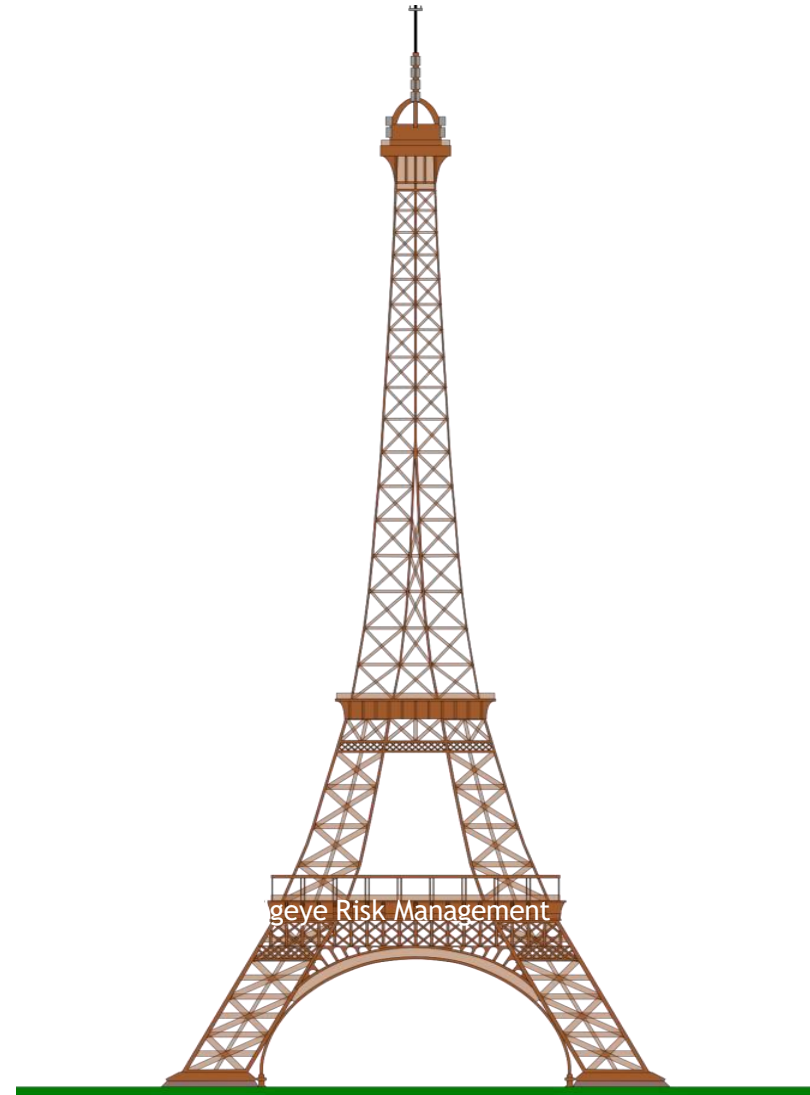
- Concentrated Stocks & Stock Options Investment Real Estate
- Human Capital
- Cash Reserves

## Important Goals

- Core Equities (Marketable or Private)  
Core Investment Real Estate
- Core Fixed Income
- Active Strategies
- Cash Reserves

## Essential Goals

- Pension Assets and Receipts
- Life and Disability Insurance  
Owner-Occupied Real Estate
- Cash Reserves



# Good (?) Investment Policy Statement <sup>1</sup>

**Risk Parameters.** The Portfolio's capital shall be deployed in a manner that seeks to avoid 25% or greater peak-to-trough declines in inflation-adjusted unit values measured in real time based on best available data. While adhering to the primary risk parameter just described, the Portfolio's deployment shall also (a) seek to avoid annualized underperformance of the mean return of \$1+ billion endowments as reported by NACUBO exceeding 3% over 5-year rolling periods and (b) satisfy at all times the liquidity constraints specified in the table below.

Readily Reducible to Cash Within:	Minimum Allocation
One business day	5% of net assets
One month (defined as 20 business days)	15% of net assets
12 months (defined as 240 business days)	25% of net assets
36 months (defined as 720 business days)	50% of net assets

**Return Objective.** The Portfolio's return objective is to maximize annualized returns net of all costs over 5- year rolling periods without violating the foregoing risk parameters.

**Performance Evaluation.** To facilitate the Board's ongoing evaluation of Portfolio performance, staff shall provide the Board with quarterly reports detailing the evolving returns and drawdowns of a diverse range of mutually agreed upon investible benchmarks. The benchmarks so tracked shall as a group comprise the broadest identifiable universe of readily exploitable opportunities within which conscientious fiduciaries and investment professionals employed and overseen by them are deploying capital. Reported drawdowns for each benchmark shall reflect at a minimum the largest peak-to-trough decline it has undergone since the Board's initial ratification of this Statement. In assessing total fund results, the Board and staff shall focus on measurement periods comprising full market cycles, defined in peak-to-trough-to-peak or trough-to-peak-to- trough terms.

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<sup>1</sup> This IPS comprises 272 words—the precise number Abraham Lincoln used in crafting what is arguably the best policy statement ever devised: his famed Gettysburg Address (1863).