1	NEW YORK CITY TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
	INVESTMENT MEETING
2	Held on Thursday, February 2, 2017
	at
3	55 Water Street
	New York, New York
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	ATTENDEES:
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	JOHN ADLER, Chairperson, Trustee, Mayor's Office
7	PATRICIA REILLY, Executive Director, TRS
	DEBRA PENNY, Trustee, TRS
8	THOMAS BROWN, Trustee, TRS
	DAVID KAZANSKY, Trustee, TRS
9	RAYMOND ORLANDO, Trustee, Department of Education
	SUSANNAH VICKERS, Trustee, Comptroller's Office
10	ANTONIO RODRIGUEZ, Trustee, Finance
	THADDEUS MCTIGUE, Deputy Executive Director, TRS
11	SCOTT EVANS, CIO, Comptroller's Office
	LIZ SANCHEZ, TRS
12	SUSAN STANG, TRS
	VALERIE BUDZIK, TRS
13	DAVID LEVINE, Groome Law Group
	MELVYN AARONSON, TRS
14	SHERRY CHAN, Chief Actuary
	ROBIN PELLISH, Rocaton

15 MICHAEL FULVIO, Rocaton

ROBERT RAUCCI, TRS

MS. REILLY: Thomas Brown?

MS. REILLY: David Kazansky?

MR. KAZANSKY: Present.

MS. REILLY: Debra Penny?

MS. REILLY: Ray Orlando?

MR. ORLANDO: I'm here.

MS. VICKERS: Here.

MS. REILLY: Susannah Vickers?

MS. REILLY: We do have a quorum.

So, Rocaton folks, I'll pass it to you.

25 to remind everybody that we wanted to change the

MS. REILLY: Before we start, I wanted

CHAIRPERSON ADLER: Thank you very much.

MR. BROWN: Here.

MS. PENNY: Here.

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- 1 June 1 board meeting, which conflicts with the TRS
- 2 TDA meeting, because BAM has an annual conference.
- 3 We want some suggestions.
- 4 (Discussion off the record.)
- 5 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: It will be June 5,
- 6 10:00 a.m., right?
- 7 MS. REILLY: Right.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: Robin?
- 9 MR. FULVIO: Good morning, everyone.
- 10 Diving into the December performance report for the
- 11 Passport funds. You might recall from the meeting
- 12 in January, we discussed the performance of the
- 13 markets at the end of the year. We talked about
- 14 the U.S. equity market having a continued strong
- 15 rally.
- 16 Late last year, the month of December,
- 17 the U.S. equity markets grew 2 percent. Abroad we
- 18 saw returns for emerging markets, more modest
- 19 actually, up about 1 percent. And developed
- 20 markets in December were up about 3 1/2 percent.
- 21 So continuing strong performance through
- 22 the end of the year in the equity markets. That
- 23 brought the year to date return for the Russell
- 24 3000 to about 12.8 percent, 11.7.
- 25 During that time period the diversified

- 1 equity fund returned about 10 percent, and that
- 2 compared to the hybrid benchmark, roll up exposures
- 3 across markets, to about 11 percent. So you can
- 4 see the diversified equity funds for the calendar
- 5 year lagged somewhat.
- 6 When we looked back at the different
- 7 components within the diversified equity funds, the
- 8 defensive composite was up 8 percent last year.
- 9 And the actively managed composite was up 9
- 10 percent. The international equity composite was up
- 11 about 5 1/2 percent, so about 1 1/2 percent ahead
- 12 of its broad benchmark.
- So again, we saw really strong markets
- 14 here in the U.S. for the year, somewhat positive
- 15 markets outside U.S.
- 16 At the end of the year the fund stood at
- 17 \$14 billion. That includes the asset transfer that
- 18 occurred at the end of the year, and those assets,
- 19 as you will recall, during the month of December
- 20 wen to the passive composite as well as the
- 21 international equity composite.
- As far as the bond fund, at the end of
- 23 the year the fund stood at about \$390 million. The
- 24 month was modestly positive, bringing the year to
- 25 date return for 2016 to 1.8 percent. And that was

- 1 modestly ahead of the Barclays 1 to 5 year credit
- 2 benchmark.
- 3 The international equity fund at the end
- 4 of the year was about \$114 million. Again, I noted
- 5 the performance was modestly positive for the year,
- 6 up 4.75 percent for the year, ahead of its
- 7 composite benchmark.
- 8 The inflation protection fund was about
- 9 \$50 million at the end of the year. It had a
- 10 positive month of December, bringing the year to
- 11 date return to 9 percent; and that surpassed both
- 12 its custom benchmark and CPI last year, which
- 13 returned about 2.1 percent.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: Question. So, 9
- 15 percent is like off the charts for inflation
- 16 protection, especially the TPI has been very
- 17 steady, basically 2 percent, give or take; right?
- 18 MR. FULVIO: We had interesting similar
- 19 discussion this time last year. And so you will
- 20 note that this fund invests, a good allocation of
- 21 the fund is in commodities. And that commodities
- 22 exposure caused the fund lag significant CPI last
- 23 year. And this year that had the opposite impact,
- 24 because commodities, as you recall, came back last
- 25 year very strong.

- 1 MR. EVANS: How much of the benchmark is
- 2 commodities?
- 3 MR. FULVIO: The benchmark in this fund
- 4 is pretty close to that as well -- this is more
- 5 broadly diversified.
- 6 MR. EVANS: They all have a lot of oil.
- 7 MS. PELLISH: A lot of energy.
- 8 MR. FULVIO: What Robin -- I'll note
- 9 quickly that the socially responsive equity fund at
- 10 the end of the year was about \$142 million, and
- 11 that fund last year returned about 10.4 percent
- 12 versus the S&P of about 12 percent.
- And so one of the things I noted earlier
- 14 was the performance of the active managers within
- 15 the diversified equity fund, as well as the
- 16 international and the socially responsible equity
- 17 fund. And we find ourselves at least, especially
- 18 in the last year or so, talking a lot about the
- 19 difficulties of active management pretty broadly,
- 20 in the U.S. especially, non-U.S. managers did well
- 21 on a relative basis.
- But what we saw was that a lot of these
- 23 challenges were pretty pronounced, not only during
- 24 parts of last year, but for the year as a whole.
- 25 There should be a handout underneath that report

- 1 that has a bar chart on one side, and on the other
- 2 side a performance table. Maybe just starting very
- 3 quickly with the performance table.
- 4 We'll start with the bar chart. It's
- 5 got the blue and grey bars on it. One of the
- 6 things you would note here is that blue bars are
- 7 2016 as a whole, the grey bars are just the 4th
- 8 quarter.
- 9 And what we saw was that for the year,
- 10 nowhere near half the universe shown on the page
- 11 outperformed their prospective benchmarks last
- 12 year.
- 13 MS. PELLISH: So, just to take a step
- 14 back. This is the universe of mutual funds, and
- 15 the Morningstar universe. Morningstar monitors all
- 16 these mutual funds. They break it down into
- 17 groupings based on the managers' strategies. And
- 18 then we're comparing them to the benchmark the
- 19 manager puts in their prospectus.
- 20 So it's a simple division, over the
- 21 calendar year, what percentage of U.S. large value
- 22 mutual funds actually outperforms the benchmark
- 23 they state in the prospectus. And for 2016 it was
- 24 about a third. And that was a pretty big
- 25 percentage relative to some other groups.

- 1 If you look particularly at U.S. large
- 2 growth, that was a terrible experience on a
- 3 relative basis. Only 6 percent of those managers
- 4 outperformed their prospectus benchmark. And we've
- 5 some of that mirrored in your portfolio. The large
- 6 growth managers did not do well.
- 7 MR. FULVIO: One of the other things
- 8 I'll note. Again, the bar chart only focuses on
- 9 last year. But if you look at the next page, going
- 10 further back. And the top section here shows
- 11 periods ending December 2016. The one below that
- 12 is a year earlier, 2015.
- 13 And you can see what the difference a
- 14 year makes in these numbers. The blue shaded
- 15 percentages are those that exceeded 50 percent.
- 16 You can see last year alone had a significant
- 17 impact on the long term numbers here.
- 18 MS. PELLISH: This is Morningstar again.
- 19 This is mutual fund data.
- 20 MR. EVANS: Same data --
- 21 MS. PELLISH: Same data, it's organized
- 22 a little differently, because it collapses growth
- 23 and value. But again, I think the takeaway here is
- 24 last year was terrible for active managers in the
- 25 U.S. equity market, relative to their -- not so

- 1 much on an absolute basis, the market was up
- 2 strongly -- but on a relative basis, really to
- 3 passive alternatives.
- 4 And if you look over longer periods of
- 5 time, what you can see is that the record is still
- 6 pretty inferior for large cap U.S. equity managers,
- 7 which is a theme we have talked about and which is
- 8 why we're almost fully indexed.
- 9 I think we are fully indexed in the
- 10 pension fund and U.S. large cap. And we're very
- 11 heavily indexed in the variable funds.
- 12 MR. EVANS: Except for the emerging
- 13 managers.
- 14 MS. PELLISH: Thank you, Scott; except
- 15 for the emerging managers.
- 16 MR. EVANS: We'll scale this chart for
- 17 the next CIM, because it explains some of the
- 18 issues we have in the emerging --
- 19 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: Emerging markets or
- 20 managers, Scott?
- 21 MR. EVANS: Managers; sorry.
- 22 If you look, the really important
- 23 numbers here on the top of the chart, the Russell
- 24 1000 index, large cap, 70 percent or so of the U.S.
- 25 market. If you ignore, you have all kinds of

- 1 reasons that last year was bad; but if you look
- 2 over to the longer term results, it's tough to beat
- 3 that benchmark across time and across managers. So
- 4 this is why -- I think Rocaton is doing the same
- 5 thing in the TDA -- but in the pension system we
- 6 have stopped trying to put active managers against
- 7 large cap.
- 8 The odds are better in small and in
- 9 international. The odds have been pretty good
- 10 there over time, even with the disastrous year in
- 11 2016, which was driven by the Googles and Netflixes
- 12 and so forth, extreme dispersion of the markets.
- 13 That's important as we talk about the --
- 14 CIM and some of the struggles they've had. You
- 15 have large cap mandates recommended --
- 16 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: When you say
- 17 "disastrous," you mean disastrous for active
- 18 management, not for the market? Because the market
- 19 was up in excess --
- 20 MR. EVANS: In was speaking in terms of,
- 21 disastrous in terms of active managers' ability to
- 22 beat the benchmark. Any time, you see this
- 23 periodically over time when you have huge expenses
- 24 in the valuations on huge stocks, managers tend to
- 25 be more equally weighted, they end up looking

- 1 really bad in a situation like this. That's why
- 2 you have to look at the longer term numbers.
- 3 Sorry.
- 4 MS. PELLISH: The only caveat here is,
- 5 these are mutual funds, they generally have
- 6 reasonably significantly higher fees than you're
- 7 able to negotiate. You don't tend to use mutual
- 8 funds for this reason. Nonetheless, I think it's
- 9 indicative of the plight of active management in
- 10 general.
- 11 MR. KAZANSKY: I understand the theory
- 12 behind active management. But I'm looking at the
- 13 December numbers; and going back ten years I'm not
- 14 seeing the reality of it. In theory it makes sense
- 15 when there's a down market active management is
- 16 going to shine. I'm not seeing it.
- 17 Maybe at some point in the near future
- 18 maybe we can have a deep dive into our active
- 19 managers and who is doing what and maybe rethinking
- 20 our strategy here.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: Specifically on U.S.
- 22 equity is what you're talking about; right?
- MR. KAZANSKY: Yes, the actively managed
- 24 U.S. equity composite.
- MS. PELLISH: Over the years it's been

- 1 reduced to a modest allocation. But I agree,
- 2 another deep dive -- because the theory of active
- 3 management, when you're talking about large cap
- 4 managers, they acknowledge it's very, very
- 5 difficult to keep up in a bull market. The
- 6 argument has always been to wait for the downturn.
- 7 And if they can protect in the downturn
- 8 in a significant way, that's very valuable.
- 9 Because on a compounded basis it really makes a
- 10 difference, you can protect on the downside.
- 11 But if we look at the calendar
- 12 performance, which is page 7, you look at the
- 13 actively managed composite for the year 2008 when
- 14 the Russell 3000 down 37, we were down with the
- 15 market. And that's not your unique experience. I
- 16 will tell you that's across portfolios.
- 17 And I think we've done a lot to try to
- 18 negotiate fees, of course fees are a headwind.
- 19 We've done more work on performance based fees to
- 20 try to align fees and investment experience. But I
- 21 think the efficiency of information flow makes it
- 22 very difficult to have enough information. That's
- 23 what you need to outperform. You either need
- 24 special insight, a special process or special
- 25 access. In the large cap market, no one has

- 1 special access. It's very difficult to get special
- 2 insight, and special process, as soon as you
- 3 identify an advantage it gets arbitraged away.
- 4 Others identify it.
- 5 So it's very difficult to have a
- 6 competitive advantage in a very efficient part of
- 7 the market.
- 8 MR. FULVIO: One of the other things
- 9 that made it more of an issue for active management
- 10 is the difficulties of active management in recent
- 11 years led to pretty stark amount of assets going
- 12 out of active last year into passive.
- So one of the things we'll track over
- 14 time -- I apologize I don't have a chart to show
- 15 today -- it might have been hundreds of billions of
- 16 dollars out of active management flowing into
- 17 passive. It becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy.
- 18 MS. PELLISH: As an active manager will
- 19 tell you that creates mispricings. So, what you
- 20 see is dollars flowing into a cap weighted
- 21 benchmark, pushing up the prices of the largest cap
- 22 weighted. So Apple -- that creates a mispricing
- 23 and an opportunity for active managers to generate
- 24 returns. So we will see. This isn't new trend.
- 25 So we agree completely.

- 1 MR. KAZANSKY: Thanks.
- 2 MR. FULVIO: Quickly we'll go over
- 3 January market performance. It's the benchmark
- 4 report everybody should have. For the month of
- 5 January, the U.S. market measured by the Russell
- 6 3000 index were up 1.9 percent abroad. In
- 7 developed markets, we saw that they were up about
- 8 2.9 percent. Non U.S. small cap markets were up
- 9 3.5, and emerging markets up 3.5 percent.
- 10 So that should bode well for the
- 11 diversified equity fund. You can see the hybrid
- 12 benchmark here. We're expecting a positive return
- 13 of about 2.1 percent.
- 14 The benchmark for the bond fund is up
- 15 about one-fourth of a percent.
- 16 I commented earlier on the international
- 17 markets. Together we would expect the
- 18 international markets to be up somewhere in the 3
- 19 percent neighborhood, 3.2 percent.
- 20 The underlying strategy for the
- 21 inflation protection fund was also positive, to the
- 22 tune of about 60 basis points. And with that, the
- 23 underlying strategy for the socially responsive
- 24 fund, it appears to do very well relative to the
- 25 S&P in January, nice to start the year on the right

- 1 foot.
- 2 So we will be back next month to present
- 3 the managers.
- 4 MS. PELLISH: To perform again.
- 5 (Laughter.)
- 6 MR. FULVIO: That concludes the comments
- 7 we have on the performance --
- 8 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: I'll turn it over to
- 9 Scott.
- 10 MR. EVANS: Susannah?
- 11 MS. VICKERS: I want to remind
- 12 everybody, I think we are in the process of
- 13 discussing IPS and divestment. At the last meeting
- 14 Trustees expressed a desire to start a conversation
- 15 on both of those topics. Our office has circulated
- 16 the e-mail, divestment information from other funds
- 17 across the country, as well as the relevant section
- 18 in the SOIP document, which you also have before
- 19 you.
- 20 With regard to the IPS we did a couple
- 21 of different things. Antonio helped us go through
- 22 the SOIP document and link up where the text and
- 23 proposals in SOIP link up to the IPS. So when you
- 24 are going through the SOIP you will see an
- 25 annotation referring to a certain section or page

- 1 of the IPS.
- 2 And then we thought it would be helpful
- 3 to do the opposite and go through the IPS and see
- 4 where it can link back to the SOIP. So you also
- 5 have before you, and was e-mailed last night, a
- 6 copy of the IPS with notes and different places of
- 7 where it links back to the SOIP.
- 8 So it should be pretty clear going back
- 9 and forth, what places that BAM focused on in
- 10 making recommendations about how to update the IPS.
- 11 And we thought it would be a good basis for
- 12 discussion moving forward.
- So any questions before we start the
- 14 discussion, in terms of the materials we have
- 15 available?
- 16 MR. KAZANSKY: I just want to say at the
- 17 point of repeating myself far too much, that as far
- 18 as the Board should be concerned, the IPS is the
- 19 governing document; and that the statement of
- 20 investment principles should be only a guide that
- 21 brings us back to the IPS for where the specifics
- 22 lie. And that if there is an argument between the
- 23 two over which supersedes which, the IPS should
- 24 always be the one, since that's the official
- 25 document that the boards have put together.

- 1 MS. VICKERS: Absolutely. The SOIP was
- 2 a suggestion to get things started; because as we
- 3 all see, the IPS is a big document and there were
- 4 certain things that were urgent in terms of needing
- 5 attention. We dealt with some of those
- 6 individually at previous CIMs in terms of
- 7 rebalancing ranges, parking places, things like
- 8 that.
- 9 So Scott will take you through it; but I
- 10 think the SOIP is important because it's kind of a
- 11 cheat sheet of what has to be addressed, but it
- 12 links back to the IPS.
- 13 MR. EVANS: I wouldn't look at the SOIP
- 14 and our objective -- whether or not to do anything
- 15 but to suggest -- these are the parts of the IPS
- 16 that are most relevant to us in terms of
- 17 interpreting your wishes to execute our policy.
- 18 And what we were finding was, not only with you but
- 19 the other four systems, that these IPSs have been
- 20 layered over the years and amended without going
- 21 back and restructuring them, so that they were,
- 22 many of them, internally inconsistent in terms of
- 23 the instructions that we had.
- 24 And so we didn't feel that we were any
- 25 more in a position where we could follow the IPSs

- 1 in managing funds, and that concerned me greatly.
- 2 So what I did was put together sort of
- 3 those topic that are most relevant to us conducting
- 4 our version at the Bureau of Asset Management and
- 5 try to get agreement among the five boards in terms
- 6 of the principles to be used.
- 7 Now we're moving to the next step.
- 8 Different boards want to do it different ways.
- 9 Some would like to take the SOIP and sort of append
- 10 it to our existing IPS and say, okay, this
- 11 supersedes anything in the IPS that deals with
- 12 these topics. And that way you don't have to go
- 13 through and redo the IPS.
- 14 You all, from what I understand, have
- 15 requested instead that what we do is take the SOIP,
- 16 translate it into the relevant parts of the IPS,
- 17 and go about the matter of rolling up our sleeves
- 18 and doing the hard work of trying to streamline the
- 19 IPS so it's not internally inconsistent; and that
- 20 we have clear marching orders to BAM from the Board
- 21 with regard to investment policy.
- 22 So that's what we have done. I have to
- 23 giber a shout-out again, as Susannah did, to
- 24 Antonio and the Mayor's Office, who did a lot of
- 25 the heavy lifting and volunteered for the

- 1 assignment -- we're doing a lot of things, you did
- 2 a terrific job working with Susannah's team to try
- 3 to translate this; not only here, but with the
- 4 other four systems as well.
- 5 You can if you want ignore the SOIP now
- 6 and look at the proposals we have to add to the IPS
- 7 in the relevant sections. But I will warn you that
- 8 in the sections we'll have to go back and look at
- 9 the other language. And I recommend that you look
- 10 at the other language and try to come to a place
- 11 where we have clean marching orders.
- For me, all I'm trying to do is get
- 13 clean marching orders from the five boards that I
- 14 serve so my team can execute it efficiently. That
- 15 was the objective.
- 16 MR. KAZANSKY: Lunderstand. Lhave
- 17 question when you say "inconsistent." Are you
- 18 saying that there is language in the IPS that
- 19 contradicts other language in that same relevant
- 20 section of the IPS?
- 21 MR. EVANS: Yes.
- MR. KAZANSKY: Or are you saying it
- 23 contradicts the asset allocation?
- 24 MR. EVANS: No, it contradicts other
- 25 language in the IPS. We found this frequently in

- 1 IPS. I think that Teachers was better than most.
- 2 If you notice, when you look at the language --
- 3 when these guys came back to me I shot back at them
- 4 because I'd forgotten we did this. Actually, when
- 5 we were building the SOIP we worked a lot from the
- 6 Teachers' language in many of the things because it
- 7 was particularly clean.
- 8 But some of the other IPSs for the other
- 9 systems, the language is more cumbersome, and BERS
- 10 doesn't even have an IPS.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: BERS doesn't have an
- 12 IPS? I thought they have an older one.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: Really, really old.
- 14 The failed at the last --
- 15 So this is a problem.
- 16 MR. ORLANDO: No criticism meant, of
- 17 course, of the BERS Board or its behavior. It has
- 18 a new executive director, as you may know, and new
- 19 employee trustees working very hard to update all
- 20 of our important policies and procedures.
- 21 That was on the record.
- 22 MR. EVANS: We are in constant
- 23 communication with BERS, as we are with all the
- 24 systems. And really the effect of it is no
- 25 different across the systems. But for me and my

- 1 team, trying to execute these IPS's it's become
- 2 cumbersome and has gotten so weighty that they are
- 3 not serving their role as the primary guiding force
- 4 we need to do our job.
- 5 So that was what the attempt was here,
- 6 to have a three page document that we can use kind
- 7 of as a Bible. I understand your need to look at
- 8 the whole IPS. That's your prerogative as the
- 9 Board. We will do it your way, and that's how
- 10 we'll try serve it up.
- 11 MS. BUDZIK: I want to clarify from a
- 12 compliance perspective how TRS understands this
- 13 work. The statement of investment principles at
- 14 this point doesn't exist as an official document
- 15 for the Board; it hasn't been adopted.
- 16 And that to the extent a Board meeting
- 17 and action is proposed by whomever, typically the
- 18 Comptroller's Office, in the investment area, that
- 19 is different than what is specified in the IPS, our
- 20 understanding is the Comptroller's obligation to
- 21 update the IPS to reflect the action that was
- 22 approved by the Board.
- To be clear that we are not operating
- 24 inconsistent with the IPS, from a perspective, when
- 25 the Board approves something that changes something

- 1 in the IPS it's more than going through the
- 2 compliance function of updating the IPS.
- 3 MS. REILLY: Which is the responsibility
- 4 of the Comptroller's Office.
- 5 MR. EVANS: This is different than what
- 6 I've been told. It's the responsibility of the
- 7 Comptroller's Office to update and --
- 8 MS. BUDZIK: To maintain the IPS. The
- 9 Board approves both on any action, and to the
- 10 extent it changes something in the IPS, the
- 11 Comptroller's Office is maintaining the IPS to
- 12 amend it to reflect that action was approved by the
- 13 Board.
- 14 MS. VICKERS: A couple thoughts on that.
- 15 Just to be clear, the IPS though is the Teachers
- 16 Board document, it's drafted and approved by
- 17 Teacher Trustees. But you are saying that the
- 18 Comptroller's Office maintains it, even though it's
- 19 a Board document.
- 20 MS. BUDZIK: Yes; that has been the
- 21 practice.
- 22 MS. VICKERS: That's not entirely the
- 23 way we've been operating. There is one case I can
- 24 think of, maybe someone else will remember the
- 25 specifics; there was an action that was taken that

- 1 necessitated a change in the IPS. I think David
- 2 and I spoke about language for the approval that
- 3 mentioned updating the IPS to reflect the Board
- 4 action. So that was very clear that it was baked
- 5 into the recommendation.
- 6 But in terms of who the keeper of the
- 7 IPS is, who needed to make that update, I think
- 8 that's something that maybe we can focus on going
- 9 forward.
- 10 MR. EVANS: I don't think there's any
- 11 problem in running it that way. I actually think
- 12 it might be productive to run it that way.
- Again, my objective here -- when I got
- 14 here I had five sets of extremely confusing
- 15 instructions on how we should execute the role.
- 16 There was a lot of practice that evolved over time.
- 17 And I was fairly insistent that we have a crisp set
- 18 of instructions for the investment team. So that's
- 19 how I came up with the statement of investment
- 20 principles. You can view it.
- 21 I think as we're talking about now, it's
- 22 a set of proposed language to be inserted into the
- 23 IPS. And we'd love to work with you to now -- we
- 24 talked about this language well before I brought it
- 25 to the CIM. I had several sessions with the

- 1 Trustees about this to get their thoughts on it.
- 2 We met with all five boards on this.
- 3 And so we'd like to move forward and
- 4 work with you to streamline the IPS. It's BAM's
- 5 charge, the Comptroller's Office's charge to be the
- 6 keeper of the IPS and the proactive force in
- 7 streamlining, and we're happy to take that role.
- 8 And it is my objective to get streamlined
- 9 instructions that are somewhat consistent among the
- 10 five boards.
- 11 MR. McTIGUE: Given my experience, it's
- 12 always been my understanding that going back to the
- 13 mid 90's it was always BAM's responsibility to
- 14 maintain that IPS. I think it's important to put
- 15 on the record that I'm unaware of any circumstance
- 16 where this Board acted inconsistent with the IPS
- 17 and if there was something that wasn't consistent,
- 18 that was noted in the --
- 19 MS. VICKERS: I don't think anybody
- 20 thinks that that occurred. I think there was one
- 21 instance, sorry that I can't remember, there was an
- 22 investment recommendation by BAM that necessitated
- 23 an update for an amendment to the IPS. And I was
- 24 just mentioning that BAM bake that into the
- 25 recommendation that we gave to the boards and the

- 1 language, included in the language that the Board
- 2 had consensus around.
- 3 MR. EVANS: Let me be clear. We're not
- 4 trying th throw anything at anybody here. We're
- 5 just trying to get clear instructions.
- 6 MS. BUDZIK: I think that comment, from
- 7 a compliance perspective, again, we don't want to
- 8 suggest this was the Wild West out there. To the
- 9 extent any action --
- 10 MR. EVANS: We've never knowingly done
- 11 something inconsistent with the IPS. The IPS is
- 12 difficult to interpret, and in some cases when you
- 13 get down to really technical matters, because it
- 14 goes to very, very low level of detail, it can be
- 15 vague as to which way the specific instructions in
- 16 the IPS are.
- 17 My recommendation is that we pull the
- 18 altitude up a little bit on the document, make it
- 19 principles based to the extent we can, so that
- 20 there is a clear understanding by this
- 21 administration of BAM and any administrations that
- 22 follow, on what your marching orders are in terms
- 23 of how the portfolio should be managed.
- I'm not trying to say any mistakes were
- 25 made in the past or anything; I'm just trying to

- 1 move forward in an efficient manner.
- 2 MS. REILLY: In addition to, as votes
- 3 were taken and the IPS updated to reflect the
- 4 change of the Board's position as far as the IPS is
- 5 concerned, there is also every three years, BAM's
- 6 supposed to review the IPS and come back to the
- 7 Board with changes and streamlining, and any
- 8 updates you want to make to the IPS, and then the
- 9 Board can review those changes and approve the IPS.
- 10 As a matter of fact, it says the
- 11 resolution --
- 12 MS. BUDZIK: It's in the IPS that it's
- 13 reviewed, in addition to any periodic changes.
- 14 MR. EVANS: So rather than being an ad
- 15 hoc movement on our part, it's actually part of
- 16 what you're expecting from us.
- 17 (Talking over each other.)
- 18 MS. BUDZIK: Right on schedule.
- MR. EVANS: So we don't expect you to
- 20 absorb this entire thing now. We just wanted to
- 21 present the work, get clear instructions from you
- 22 all about the scope of what we're trying to do,
- 23 answer any questions from you as we begin this
- 24 work. But that would be my overall mission, would
- 25 be to try to get the IPS to the altitude of the

- 1 statement of investment principles on direct
- 2 BAM-related, investment-related matters; and to
- 3 carefully consider anything that's at a lower
- 4 altitude that may need to be an exception that 's
- 5 specifically notated.
- 6 But I don't think -- one of the things
- 7 we did was to survey IPS's for other leading public
- 8 and private pension systems to see how we compared;
- 9 and we were comfortable that the altitude and focus
- 10 of those recommendations embedded in our statement
- 11 of investment principles was at the right level.
- We're happy to talk about that. It is,
- 13 after all, your responsibility to give us a charge,
- 14 and if we don't have that right you can reorient
- 15 us.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: I have a question.
- 17 As I understand it, what this long IPS document
- 18 reflects, the red lines and comments, is the points
- 19 from the statement of investment principles that
- 20 you are referencing or adding or changing in the
- 21 IPS; is that right?
- MR. EVANS: In some cases, you will find
- 23 a number of them, that the statement of investment
- 24 principles used verbatim language from the existing
- 25 TRS IPS. And I said before, I used the TRS IPS on

- 1 purpose, because it happened to be particularly
- 2 clearly stated among the documents that we were
- 3 working with.
- 4 So there are many of them that there's
- 5 no change recommended, but I wanted to show you,
- 6 thanks to Antonio, where it was that we were
- 7 pulling these things from.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: Two things. One is
- 9 that, what I just heard you say a moment ago is
- 10 that you feel like the IPS has too much detail.
- 11 And so, are there parts of the IPS that you would
- 12 like to either excise or change to not go into so
- 13 much detail as you're describing? Because I think,
- 14 truthfully, I think what I hear the Board saying is
- 15 that the Board wants the IPS to be the controlling
- 16 document, not the statement of investment
- 17 principles. They don't want them to be
- 18 inconsistent.
- 19 But I think what I hear you saying is,
- 20 that you want, since the Board wants the IPS to be
- 21 the controlling document, you want the IPS to be
- 22 more principles based and less detailed on how it
- 23 goes.
- 24 But I don't think -- again we got this
- 25 yesterday, late and I haven't looked at it in

- 1 detail -- but it doesn't seem to me you've gone
- 2 through and said we don't think this is necessary.
- 3 MR. EVANS: No, we' haven't gotten to
- 4 that state, John. What we did is to draft the
- 5 statement of investment principles. And again,
- 6 with the help of your staff, we have sort of drawn
- 7 a line into the IPS to begin the work of working on
- 8 the IPS itself.
- 9 And until we had the conversation that
- 10 we just had, I was under the impression that you
- 11 all were going to tell us where you wanted to move,
- 12 and that we would work with you.
- 13 If you would like us to come back with a
- 14 proposal on how to streamline the IPS, we'd be
- 15 happy to do so. What I was giving you is just a
- 16 philosophy on how we would go at it. I have not
- 17 attempted to start the work on your IPS proper at
- 18 all. I was waiting for your instructions to do so.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: Dave?
- 20 MR. KAZANSKY: Couple questions. Number
- 21 1, does Rocaton have any role in going through this
- 22 as our general consultant?
- MR. EVANS: Sure. When we put the
- 24 statement of investment principles together we
- 25 checked in with Robin and her team, with the other

- 1 consultants and their teams to get their feedback,
- 2 to get their thoughts about what was standard and
- 3 non-standard in the industry. And so absolutely,
- 4 I would encourage you to seek Rocaton's advice and
- 5 ask us to work together with them, as we will work
- 6 with the other consultants with the other five
- 7 systems.
- 8 You will appreciate -- I understand what
- 9 you guys care about is the Teachers' IPS. But
- 10 we're running, we have five clients and we need to
- 11 try to have some harmony in a way that we're taking
- 12 instructions. And so, I've got a five part
- 13 optimization to work out. It's not your problem,
- 14 it's my problem.
- 15 MR. KAZANSKY: Lunderstand. I think
- 16 from my advantage point on our IPS, you used the
- 17 phrase "cheat sheet" to refer to the SOIP earlier.
- 18 MR. EVANS: A series of --
- 19 MR. KAZANSKY: I prefer the Cliff Notes
- 20 version. If I were wanting to get an understanding
- 21 of War and Peace I might get the Cliff Notes so I
- 22 understand the basic concepts. But if I really
- 23 want to dig into the material to know what's going
- 24 into that particular piece of work, I have to read
- 25 the book itself.

- 1 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: In the original
- 2 Russian.
- 3 MR. KAZANSKY: That's my expectation
- 4 with these two documents, that this is the novel,
- 5 these are the Cliff Notes.
- 6 (Indicating.)
- 7 MR. EVANS: In fact, I would suggest the
- 8 statement of investment principles should go away.
- 9 It was just a set of recommendations. And what we
- 10 would do is try to work together to get the
- 11 instructions in the IPS itself to the point where
- 12 it was a brief enough novel that everyone in BAM
- 13 who's out there executing would have a working
- 14 memory of the components, would quickly understand
- 15 hitting the borders of the IPS.
- 16 If it's a tune we need a scholar to
- 17 interpret, we've got a problem. I think we're
- 18 close enough to that that -- we shouldn't have to
- 19 bring in ODC, for most things the investment people
- 20 ought to be able to read the IPS and know exactly
- 21 what is expected of them.
- 22 And so, we're happy to work together
- 23 with you on this and roll up our sleeves and get
- 24 this document really tight.
- 25 MR. KAZANSKY: Okay.

- 1 MS. REILLY: And maybe when looking at
- 2 it you can organize it differently, so that
- 3 information is front and center, and maybe the
- 4 other parts of it are still there --
- 5 MR. EVANS: Just to be clear, I was
- 6 really under the impression that this was your
- 7 document and I shouldn't mess with it and come in
- 8 with those kind of wholesale suggestions. I am
- 9 more than happy to do to.
- 10 It's my basic belief that what you have
- 11 here in the IPS is, in terms of the vernacular of
- 12 the industry and the way that the industry works in
- 13 the private sector, you have an investment policy
- 14 statement and a board charter.
- 15 And there are a lot of items in here
- 16 about the way the boards work, the way the
- 17 representation works, et cetera, that private firms
- 18 would have in their board charter, and are
- 19 extraneous to -- they're important in terms of how
- 20 the board will work, but they're exogenous to your
- 21 instructions to BAM on how we ought to manage the
- 22 portfolio.
- 23 So what I would suggest is that we take
- 24 those elements that are part of BAM's charge from
- 25 the Board and put them in one place. So I think

- 1 that just increases the clarity. And if there are
- 2 other things the Board wants to put into the IPS
- 3 for whatever reasons the Board has, I have no
- 4 objection to it, but it's kind of exogenous to my
- 5 world. I'm happy for my staff to be help, like
- 6 Antonio's staff helped us, to work on those
- 7 aspects. My focus is on the stuff directly related
- 8 to our charge.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: Let me make a
- 10 process suggestion, and let's have a discussion of
- 11 where we go from here.
- 12 It seems to me in your statement of
- 13 investment principles there are a number of new
- 14 things that are not currently in the IPS, which I
- 15 think are delineated as proposed additions.
- 16 MR. EVANS: Yes.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: So I think at the
- 18 first step for the Board -- not today -- is to go
- 19 through those proposed additions and decide whether
- 20 the Board agrees with each of them.
- Then, the second step, it seems to me,
- 22 is to go through the existing IPS and see whether
- 23 there are things in there that are not in your
- 24 statement of investment principles that the Board
- 25 feels are central to those which you just described

- 1 as, I wan to use the term "marching orders," but
- 2 that's not quite the right term. I think you
- 3 called them, your critical to what BAM does for the
- 4 Teachers Retirement System.
- 5 So, for example, I don't know, but if
- 6 there's something in here that we think really
- 7 needs to be part of, that you have to have front
- 8 and center for what you do that's not in this front
- 9 and center document right now, I think we should
- 10 highlight that.
- And then, it seems to me the third step
- 12 is then going through this now revised IPS for
- 13 items in here that are either in conflict with
- 14 other parts of it or we feel are unnecessary at
- 15 this point for the IPS.
- 16 MR. EVANS: If I'm understanding you,
- 17 what you first do is go through any new proposals
- 18 we have.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: Yes.
- 20 MR. EVANS: Then the Board would
- 21 identify anything that want to make sure stays in,
- 22 and we can talk about that.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: Right.
- 24 MR. EVANS: After that, list to try to
- 25 propose a streamlined version.

- 1 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: It's basically
- 2 deletions or reductions or edits to the document,
- 3 so that at the end we are all satisfied that we
- 4 have the IPS that we want, that works for you, and
- 5 that you can use this Cliff Notes, knowing that the
- 6 Board has approved it --
- 7 MS. VICKERS: As Scott said, I think
- 8 it's helpful in focusing, bug let's forgot it. I
- 9 think everybody wants one thing and it should be
- 10 the IPS. If everybody wants --
- 11 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: Then the second step
- 12 might not be necessary. In other words, if we're
- 13 just focusing on the IPS, what we really need to do
- 14 is first focus on your proposed additions; and then
- 15 second since we don't have to worry about that
- 16 anymore, then go through the IPS and decide what is
- 17 in conflict and what is unnecessary.
- 18 MR. EVANS: And everything else just
- 19 drops out.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: WHAT needs to be
- 21 updated.
- 22 (Talking over each other.)
- MS. VICKERS: That's not BAM coming back
- 24 to the Board.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: Right.

- 1 It seems to me maybe what we can do for
- 2 next month is, first step of looking at your
- 3 decisions, looking at where you're putting them in
- 4 the IPS, and seeing if everybody is okay with that.
- 5 And then the second step, which is going
- 6 to be more detailed -- and I do think that that
- 7 should be a collaboration between BAM and the
- 8 Board. You have already done this, so it's really
- 9 up to the Board, including you Susannah, to do the
- 10 first step.
- 11 But then the second step of going
- 12 through the document, honestly, what I think we
- 13 should do is delegate a committee, which I would
- 14 propose includes Rocaton, someone from BAM --
- MS. VICKERS: Me and someone else.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: Plus Robin, someone
- 17 from BAM and another Trustee or two; maybe I would
- 18 actually propose Antonio from my office and then
- 19 one or more Teacher Trustees. Anybody else who
- 20 wants to, but a working committee to work with the
- 21 document and say, okay we don't think this is
- 22 necessary.
- 23 I'm not saying you, per se, Robin, but
- 24 someone from Rocaton.
- 25 Ideally, today is the February board

- 1 meeting. For the March board meeting we do the
- 2 additions, and hopefully the April board meeting
- 3 come back with edits, reductions, changes.
- 4 MS. PELLISH: May I make a slight
- 5 suggestion? I would do it holistically. I think
- 6 dealing with additions separately -- it all has to
- 7 flow together. So maybe it makes sense to take two
- 8 months and come back with one integrated set of
- 9 recommendations.
- 10 MR. BROWN: You could have someone from
- 11 TRS on that committee as well.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: You mean staff?
- 13 Sure, absolutely.
- 14 Should we decide who today?
- 15 Are you okay with being a volunteer?
- 16 MR. ORLANDO: I'd be happy to join
- 17 Antonio in the volunteering area.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: So Ray, Antonio --
- 19 MS. REILLY: Valerie and Susan.
- 20 MS. PELLISH: Rocaton will participate.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: It's almost the
- 22 whole Board at this point.
- 23 (Laughter.)
- Really, the truth is that we can't sit
- 25 down and go through it line by line. People need

- 1 to come in with some proposals. So that's really
- 2 why I suggest a subcommittee that could do that, as
- 3 opposed to everybody. We will figure it out.
- 4 MR. EVANS: I'll point out, you brought
- 5 up the divestment policy before. The divestment
- 6 policy is embedded in the third bullet point, which
- 7 is a proposal about an investable universe. And it
- 8 effectively -- this shorter document -- two bullets
- 9 under Objective and three bullets under Philosophy.
- 10 "All securities held in the portfolio should be
- 11 included in the relevant Board approved investable
- 12 universe -- consistent with the Board's values,
- 13 expressed -- " (Reading.)
- 14 So, effectively excluded from that
- 15 investable universe would be any companies who fail
- 16 to meet those criteria with us, be divested from
- 17 the portfolio.
- 18 If you approach it as an investable
- 19 universe, you can then evaluate that investable
- 20 universe, its risk characteristics, et cetera, and
- 21 analyze it.
- 22 I point that out as one proposal that's
- 23 particularly topical, because you also asked about
- 24 divestment policies. And my recommendation would
- 25 be that we approach divestment, the whole issue of

- 1 divestment, from the perspective of an investable
- 2 universe. It's easier for us to then measure what
- 3 we've done and keep track of it. As you know,
- 4 we're having trouble making sure that the
- 5 resolutions that can happen at a very high level
- 6 are consistent and kept track of and updated over
- 7 time. It would help a lot.
- 8 I mention that parenthetically, and we
- 9 can go through the other ones.
- 10 MS. VICKERS: I would also point out,
- 11 since we're talking about it, another I think
- 12 topical idea that's embedded in all of this, on
- 13 page 16 of the IPS you will see a proposed addition
- 14 that includes a reference paragraph for
- 15 rebalancing.
- 16 So one thing that we talked about
- 17 internally, trying to avoid the need to update the
- 18 IPS every time the Board updates an asset
- 19 allocation or rebalancing or something like that;
- 20 that the IPS, instead of giving a specific number,
- 21 would refer to the most recent strategic allocation
- 22 or whatever policy that has been approved by the
- 23 Board.
- So I think having a reference paragraph
- 25 in maybe many places might be helpful in keeping

- 1 the document at a high level and also relevant.
- 2 MR. EVANS: That allows you to update
- 3 the strategic allocation without going back and
- 4 changing -- to incorporated in my reference. The
- 5 reference document would include the target asset
- 6 allocation the approved rebalancing ranges, the
- 7 approved place-holders.
- 8 MR. FULVIO: Appendix --
- 9 MR. EVANS: The appendix, and then the
- 10 appendix would be updated every time -- certainly
- 11 with hindsight I would have done it that way. But
- 12 we had to take advantage of hindsight now, set it
- 13 up for the next time.
- 14 MS. VICKERS: Last question for the
- 15 subcommittee. Who will organize the subcommittee?
- 16 Is ti BAM or TRS? In terms of getting everybody's
- 17 availability and scheduling meetings.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: I'm happy to defer
- 19 to BAM, if BAM wants to take that on.
- MS. VICKERS: Sure.
- 21 MR. ORLANDO: I second the motion, Mr.
- 22 Adler.
- 23 MS. PELLISH: If you like, Rocaton can
- 24 volunteer for that.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: To organize it?

- 1 MS. PELLISH: Yes.
- 2 (Talking over each other.)
- 3 We can most of it over the phone, and
- 4 we're in New York. We will volunteer.
- 5 MS. VICKERS: Thank you.
- 6 MS. REILLY: You can use TRS facilities,
- 7 meeting rooms.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: To be clear, this
- 9 agenda item was the IPS and the divestment policy.
- 10 Did you want to have more discussion about the
- 11 divestment policy than we just suggested?
- 12 MR. EVANS: No. We provided you with a
- 13 bunch of documents to look at divestment policies
- 14 of others. And we can think about the divestment
- 15 policy in a number of ways. But I think there
- 16 ought to be a path the Board goes down on its way
- 17 to divestment, which when you divest from a
- 18 security, from an economic standpoint, you are
- 19 taking on uncompensated risk. And you want to take
- 20 on uncompensated risk very, very carefully as a
- 21 fiduciary.
- And so, this is why there is so much
- 23 attention. And also when you divest you give up
- 24 your leverage to engage with the company -- you're
- 25 not a shareholder anymore, they could care less.

- 1 And so, divestment is always a last
- 2 resort, and you want to make sure you go through a
- 3 well documented process that can lead you to a
- 4 decision to take on uncompensated risk that is well
- 5 thought out and well documented, that you can use
- 6 to defend yourself against somebody charging that
- 7 it was an unwise fiduciary decision.
- 8 I'd point you to the State of California
- 9 where they went through all kinds of funs and games
- 10 at the Board relative to their historical
- 11 divestment from tobacco. And so, this would
- 12 insulate you from them.
- But from an IPS standpoint, you can see
- 14 this as kind of a subsidiary of your decision to
- 15 create an investable universe for BAM. How did you
- 16 come up with that investable universe? You
- 17 excluded some companies. You excluded some
- 18 companies after going through a very well thought
- 19 out, well documented process, that I would suggest
- 20 to you should have a very high bar.
- 21 That insulates you from all kinds of
- 22 pressures that might come along to make a snap
- 23 decision. We've seen some of that.
- 24 And so I think there are many good
- 25 policies in there, but you should do it your way.

- 1 You should do it in a way you are comfortable with.
- 2 I just mentioned our proposal, it would sit on top
- 3 of any specific divestment policy.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: This is really my
- 5 question. You are not advocating that that
- 6 statement about investable universe substitutes for
- 7 a divestment policy. I think you are saying the
- 8 divestment policy should be consistent with having
- 9 an investable universe.
- 10 MR. EVANS: Let's say that the
- 11 investable universe doesn't include gun
- 12 manufacturers. I think that would probably be the
- 13 case -- you'd have to have a process for
- 14 determining you are comfortable excluding gun
- 15 manufacturers from the investable universe, you're
- 16 comfortable with the extra risk that takes on, and
- 17 it's gone through a vetting process. You don't
- 18 feel that you're giving up too much leverage,
- 19 you've exhausted all possible attempts to reason
- 20 with management, whatever.
- 21 And you've got that all in the board
- 22 minutes and everything and it's a very deliberative
- 23 process.
- So it's an investment policy, how you
- 25 narrow the investable universe, one way that you

- 1 narrow the investable universe.
- 2 For instance, you have other policies
- 3 that would conform to the same thing. You have
- 4 excluded certain countries in your policy, most of
- 5 them in the emerging markets. And you can write
- 6 that into the policies for -- you could reframe it
- 7 for policies to create the investable universe, in
- 8 a positive sense.
- 9 I think that becomes sort of an
- 10 overarching policy that helps all of these other
- 11 things that reduce the investable universe go
- 12 through a consistent process.
- 13 MR. KAZANSKY: Would I be correct that
- 14 inherent in whatever divestment policy we have
- 15 would be some sort of language that would apply,
- 16 monitoring of the investments that we have; that
- 17 way, if a company that we have investments in or
- 18 whatever the case may be, suddenly decides to also
- 19 become a gun manufacturer, the example I would use;
- 20 we'd be able to monitor that and have a process of
- 21 bringing that to light so we can follow the
- 22 appropriate policy.
- 23 MR. EVANS: I think that's the sort of
- 24 thing you need to build in explicitly. Some of
- 25 those things are easier to do in practice than

- 1 others. We will talk through that when we go
- 2 through the details of it.
- 3 But I think there's some good examples
- 4 for you to consider, that you will want to
- 5 customize to your own values and your own preferred
- 6 way of doing things.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: So what is our
- 8 process for doing that? It seems like it's a
- 9 little bit distinct from this IPS. It will be
- 10 incorporated in the IPS, but it seems a special
- 11 case, as it were. I don't know if we want to do it
- 12 in the same way we're dealing with the IPS.
- 13 I think, based on those drafts you
- 14 circulated, somebody needs to work, or a committee
- 15 needs to work on drafting a divestment process for
- 16 this Board.
- 17 MR. EVANS: I would urge you to include
- 18 a member of the BAM staff on your committee, but I
- 19 don't think this particular one would be a good one
- 20 for us to lead; because if you ask the investment
- 21 manager what level -- an investment manager can't
- 22 take a position on exogenous social issues,
- 23 environmental issues, et cetera. But just based on
- 24 the laws of the land, ask the investment manager
- 25 without any framing, how much uncompensated risk

- 1 can the portfolio take? The answer is zero.
- 2 And this is why when you ask an
- 3 investment manager to lead a discussion on policy
- 4 on this, "Well, we should engage, we should never
- 5 divest." And if you ask me as your investment
- 6 manager, that's what I would answer.
- 7 So the Board has got to supercede that
- 8 and take on uncompensated risk while weighing it
- 9 very, very carefully; and instruct the manager that
- 10 he's operating in a constrained investable
- 11 universe. And then within that constrained
- 12 universe I can now answer the question without
- 13 having those conflicts.
- 14 We should be there, for example, to tell
- 15 you how practical with the data existent that we
- 16 can come back to you in the time frame that you
- 17 want. You want to make sure that all aspects of
- 18 that are executable. And so we should be there to
- 19 help you with that. But this would have to be led
- 20 by the Board and not by BAM.
- 21 MS. PELLISH: Two quick thoughts. One
- 22 is that, in reviewing the divestment policies, I
- 23 think the best of the divestment policies have
- 24 outlined a process for making a divestment decision
- 25 that leads to a conclusion that it is not an

- 1 uncompensated risk. So it identifies risk, clear
- 2 and present risks of retains that exposure that
- 3 would lead to expected losses.
- 4 So I guess I quibble with -- the
- 5 divestment policy should be, I think, focused on
- 6 divestment when retaining that exposure would lead
- 7 to uncompensated risk; not the reverse.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: I totally agree. In
- 9 theory, Scott, yes, when you reduce the investable
- 10 universe you're increasing risk. But the reality
- 11 is that we're looking at either securities or
- 12 industries or what have you where the Board
- 13 believes just what Robin said; that holding on to
- 14 those securities increases risk, and that we
- 15 improve our risk profile by divesting them.
- 16 MR. EVANS: I'm not disagreeing with
- 17 that or disagreeing at all with Robin that that's
- 18 how the Board ought to take it. But I don't think
- 19 that BAM is in a position to judge whether gun
- 20 manufacturers are going to --
- 21 MR. KAZANSKY: If I may, TRS staff like
- 22 Valerie's and Susan's team should be leading the
- 23 charge on that, to some degree.
- 24 MS. PELLISH: Sorry to interrupt. The
- 25 second sentence I wanted to say was, that I'm not

- 1 sure why -- I defer entirely to the Board -- I'm
- 2 not sure why it would be a separate effort. I
- 3 would think that the IPS should be an integrated
- 4 document that reflects, just as Scott and BAM were
- 5 putting forward, that reflects a perspective and a
- 6 set of principles, and that language should be
- 7 integrated throughout, that language and
- 8 perspective and philosophy should be integrated
- 9 throughout the document. And the divestment policy
- 10 is one aspect of that viewpoint.
- 11 So I'm not sure why it would be a
- 12 separate effort.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: I agree. I do think
- 14 that the divestment thing, which is going to be a
- 15 new part, does need to be integrated with the rest.
- 16 But someone or some group needs to take
- 17 responsibility for coming up with the initial
- 18 draft, which would then become integrated into the
- 19 whole process.
- And so, Dave, I agree it would be useful
- 21 for the staff to weigh in on that. But I do think
- 22 a committee of board members needs to get it
- 23 started. And I will once again volunteer the
- 24 Mayor's Office, though at this point I'm happy to
- 25 take the lead --

- 1 But Scott just said BAM shouldn't do it.
- 2 MR. EVANS: I was pointing out that BAM
- 3 should be at the table, but some of these judgments
- 4 are going to need to happen at the Board level.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: Absolutely.
- 6 MR. EVANS: And so, being realistic
- 7 about it. I think Robin makes an excellent point,
- 8 that it's part of an integrated process, so it
- 9 might be sub work stream --
- 10 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: The point -- I would
- 11 actually like you guys to volunteer your Deputy
- 12 Comptroller for Responsible Investment, Mr.
- 13 Garland, who I think has a lot of experience in the
- 14 engagement versus divestment arena, and could be
- 15 very helpful -- not to say only him from BAM --
- 16 MR. EVANS: A person with this
- 17 particular sub stream. And any time we talk about
- 18 this topic, we've got Mike and his team close by.
- 19 MS. VICKERS: I've done a lot of
- 20 thinking about this, and as a Trustee rather than
- 21 as an employee of BAM, I'd be happy to volunteer,
- 22 if we do it together.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: Sure; sounds great.
- 24 Again, it gets folded in and integrated into this
- 25 overall IPS process. We need to get started.

- 1 MS. VICKERS: We need to put together a
- 2 paragraph.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: Maybe more than a
- 4 paragraph.
- 5 So I think we have a process. Anything
- 6 else people want to discuss on this agenda item,
- 7 investment policies, divestment policy? I don't
- 8 think we have to make a decision about that in any
- 9 way today, just have a process on how to move
- 10 forward.
- 11 MS. PELLISH: One question. I think I
- 12 heard, but I want to confirm. Is it the thought
- 13 that the surviving document would be the IPS, and
- 14 that we no longer need an SOIP?
- 15 MR. EVANS: Yes.
- 16 MS. PELLISH: Okay.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: Okay. At this point
- 18 the plan is to put this back on the agenda for
- 19 April.
- 20 I believe that concludes public agenda
- 21 for today. A motion would be in order to go into
- 22 executive session.
- 23 MS. PENNY: I move, pursuant to Public
- 24 Officer's Law Section 105 to go into executive
- 25 session for discussions regarding specific

1	investment matters.
2	CHAIRPERSON ADLER: There's a motion
3	Is there second?
4	MR. KAZANSKY: Second.
5	CHAIRPERSON ADLER: Any discussion?
6	(No response.)
7	All favor of the motion all in favor of
8	the motion please say "Aye."
9	(A chorus of "Ayes.")
10	Any opposed say "Nay."
11	Abstentions?
12	(No response.)
13	Motion carries.
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1 (Whereupon, the Board entered executive 2 session.) 3 A motion would be in order to exit 4 executive session and return to public session. 5 Is there such a motion? 6 MR. BROWN: Motion. 7 MS. PENNY: Second. 8 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: Discussion? 9 (No response.) 10 All in favor of the motion to exit 11 executive session and return to public session, say 12 "Aye." (A chorus of "ayes.") 13 14 Opposed? Abstentions? 15 16 (No response.) We're out of executive session.) 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

- 1 (Whereupon, the Board returned to public
- 2 session.)
- 3 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: Susan, would you
- 4 please report out?
- 5 MS. STANG: In executive session one
- 6 manager update was presented.
- 7 There was a presentation on the
- 8 defensive composite of Variable A, which was --
- 9 A regulatory issue was requested for
- 10 private equity managers and was discussed.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: Thank you very much.
- 12 That concludes our business for today.
- 13 Is there a motion to adjourn?
- 14 MS. VICKERS: So moved.
- 15 MR. BROWN: Second.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON ADLER: Discussion?
- 17 (No response.)
- 18 All in favor of the motion to adjourn
- 19 please say "Aye."
- 20 (A chorus of "ayes.")
- 21 Opposed? Abstentions?
- 22 Motion carries. The meeting is
- 23 adjourned.
- 24 (Time noted: 12:15 p.m.)

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2	CERTIFICATION
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4	I, Jeffrey Shapiro, a Shorthand
5	Reporter and Notary Public, within and for the
6	State of New York, do hereby certify that I
7	reported the proceedings in the within-entitled
8	matter, on Thursday, February 2, 2017, at the
9	offices of the NEW YORK CITY TEACHERS RETIREMENT
10	SYSTEM, 55 Water Street, New York, New York, and
11	that this is an accurate transcription of these
12	proceedings.
13	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
14	my hand this 9th day of February, 2017.
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20	JEFFREY SHAPIRO
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