

Big Update: August 2014



Bowden Investment Group

Faculty Advisors

Dr. Delbert Goff
Mr. David Thompson, CFA

New BIG Members

Nathan Birmingham
Stephen Boatman
Danelle Chilcott
Brett Featherstone
Patrick Fontaine
Andrew Furr
Paul Hee
Connor Kelly
Jack Ludlow
Caitlin Owings
Zach Pulliam
Matthew Wine

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WALKER
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Letter from Advisors

As the new academic year begins we are honored to welcome twelve new members to the Bowden Investment Group. The students are off to a good start to a year that will be filled with great challenges and great achievements.

The students had a very busy summer. Several students completed internships and four have already received job offers as a result of their performance during the internship. During the summer the students were given the challenge of learning how to model and forecast financial statements. Through the generosity of our financial supporters, we were able to provide the students with free access to online training provided by Wall Street Prep, a global investment banking training firm. The students were given the task of generating a forecast model for Family Dollar Stores. Throughout the academic year the students will improve on their modeling skills and develop valuation models that are more advanced than we have used in past years.

In addition to the modeling assignment, the students read *One Up on Wall Street* by Peter Lynch. This timeless investment book provided the students with some fundamental insights that they were able to apply by researching and tracking several of the stocks held in the Bowden Investment Fund. They came to class the first day ready to discuss the stocks and give their opinion about the investment potential of the stocks.

For the fourth consecutive year we kicked off the semester with The BIG Day, a full day experience with a focus on team building and professional development. Students started the day with discussions on business professional skills followed by an etiquette luncheon. The afternoon was filled with a team building exercise organized by the ASU Outdoor Programs Department. This exercise involved climbing the Alpine Tower, a fifty foot, pyramid-shaped climbing structure. The exercise requires teamwork and trust, each climber's safety is in the hands of other team members. Finally, we completed the day with a reception and dinner where the students had the opportunity to interact with colleagues, professors, and administrators in a relaxed, informal atmosphere.

We are at the beginning of our fifth year working together on the Bowden Investment Group. By combining our strengths we have been able to give students in the BIG an experience that is unparalleled. We are very pleased that the participants have responded well to the program and have excelled both as students and as alumni. We are excited about the new group of students and look forward to working with them in the coming months. We also look forward to the challenge that they will give us as we push them to excel and reach their full potential.

-Delbert Goff
-David Thompson



Letter from the Editors:

The members of the 2014 – 2015 Bowden Investment Group feel very fortunate to have the unique, hands-on experience of managing an investment portfolio. The members are already off to a great, yet busy, new academic year. We all enjoyed team building, professional development, and networking during the fourth annual BIG Day. It was an honor to be mentored by Linda Matney and Janet Woodson. Each of us feel more prepared for full-time job interviews and entering the professional workplace.

We have spent our meeting time learning the basics of equity analysis and how to effectively research individual stocks. From watching the 2012 – 2013 CFA Research Team presentation, we were able to identify good presentation skills and are now eager to conduct our first presentations.

Our goals are to continue the growth of the BIF and to outperform the S&P 500. We look forward to the many learning opportunities and challenges we will face throughout the year, and for the chance to work alongside Dr. Goff and Mr. Thompson.

-Danelle Chilcott

Alumni Spotlight: Bixby Stewart



BIG Class: 2008-2009

After graduating from Appalachian, Bixby worked for three years as an automotive industry analyst at Silver Point Capital in Greenwich, CT. In August 2012 Bixby entered the MBA program at Duke University and in May of 2014, he graduated in the top 10% of his class. Bixby is now an Associate in the Diversified Industries investment banking coverage group at J.P Morgan in New York.

In May of this year Bixby married his college sweetheart, Ellen Brown, and they currently reside in Manhattan.

A new feature of the Bowden Investment Group monthly update will be an “Alumni Spotlight” section. This section will showcase the success that different individuals have had since being members of the Bowden Investment Group. If you would like to be featured in this section, please contact Danelle Chilcott (chilcottdm@appstate.edu) or Caitlin Owings (owingsca@appstate.edu)

Current Portfolio

AAPL
ABB
ARG
CSX
CVX
DHR
ESRX
F
FL
GOOG
GOOGL
HD
KKD
KORS
NVS
RTN
SKT
SLYG
SPY
SSYS
SYK
VFH
VSI
WMT

For an up-to-date view of the BIF, click [here](#).

Bowden Investment Fund YTD Returns

	Bowden Investment Fund	S&P 500 Index
2014 YTD	4.70%	9.88%