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**Education Session No. 398:  
Fireside Chat with CERN Pension Fund's Theodore Economou and Pierre Sauvagnat**

May 14, 2013 at 6:30 PM  
Geneva

Pension plan sponsors are challenged recently by the interplay of low discount rates, funding requirements, and longevity, all strongly impacting benefit obligations. Accordingly, plan sponsors have adopted dynamic asset allocation strategies to address these issues.

Theodore Economou and Pierre Sauvagnat will examine these concerns and address how properly designed investment governance frameworks have enabled the pension fund industry to positively respond to these challenges. They will also discuss how these challenges have presented opportunities for their providers.

**Participants**

**Théodore Economou**, CERN Pension Fund  
**Pierre Sauvagnat**, Banque Cantonale de Genève  
**Bertrand Bricheux**, *Moderator*, Mirabaud & Cie Banquiers Privés

**Event Details**

**Date:** May 14, 2013

**Time:** 6 PM Registration.

We will begin *promptly* at 6:30 PM; please arrive early. Since it is disruptive to everyone when latecomers enter the session, those arriving after an education session has begun will only be admitted at the discretion of 100WHF and the host. Please note the start time on this invite and plan to arrive early.

Networking and cocktails will follow.

**Host:** Mirabaud & CIE Banquiers Privés

**Location:** Theatre les Salons

6 rue Jean-F. Bartholoni, **Geneva**, 1204, Switzerland - [Directions](#)

**RSVP:** [RSVP Now](#)

(add a guest)

If you have any questions about this event, please contact the [Geneva Education](#) committee.

**This event is NOT FOR ATTRIBUTION. All 100WHF events are private events and we require that no one reports publicly on any aspect of them.**

**Admission to this event is free, but there is a 30 CHF charge if you register and do not attend (even if you cancel in advance). No-show proceeds will be donated to the 2013 beneficiary of 100WHF's Swiss philanthropic initiatives.**

If you have no-show fees in arrears, the system cannot register you for an event. You can view and pay for any outstanding no-show fees online from your [Member Profile](#)

Space is limited. No walk-ins will be permitted.

## Biographies

### **Théodore Economou**, Chief Executive Officer, CERN Pension Fund

Théodore Economou, CFA, is chief executive officer of the pension fund management unit of CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research, based in Geneva, Switzerland. The Fund manages approximately 4 billion Swiss Francs in assets, both internally and externally. Under Mr. Economou's tenure, CERN's Pension Fund was awarded the 2012 Award for "Best Risk Management Solutions" by Investment & Pensions Europe, as well as the 2012 Innovation Award in the "Best Public Pension Plan - Below \$15 Billion" category by Asset International - Chief Investment Officer magazine.

Prior to joining CERN, Mr. Economou worked for a Fortune 500 multinational corporation where he had been responsible for managing worldwide pension assets and liabilities, capital markets activities, and investor relations. Prior to that, he was a consultant with Accenture's Financial Services Group in Geneva and Zurich, Switzerland. He holds degrees from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, and Northwestern University's J.L. Kellogg School of Management.

Mr. Economou serves on the Investment Advisory Council of the Virginia Retirement System, one of the world's 50 largest pension funds. He currently advises the European Commission on paneuropean pension issues. He has served as Advisory Board member of the Institutional Investor Institute, and the European Pension Fund Investment Forum, and has been a speaker at conferences devoted to institutional investing and pension policy issues.

### **Pierre Sauvagnat**, Senior Vice President, Banque Cantonale de Genève

Pierre Sauvagnat is a Senior Vice President at Banque Cantonale de Genève (BCGE) in charge of Financial Markets and Treasury. He is a member of the Asset Liability committee and the vice president of the Sub ALM committee.

He is also member of the Strategic Committee. Pierre has an overall international experience of 27 years in capital markets, trading and distribution. Prior to joining the bank in 2009, he served as a principle for Nova Capital Partners in New York (2005). At Credit Lyonnais / Calyon (now Credit Agricole Group), he completed the following assignments: Managing Director of the Treasury in Paris (2001), Head of trading room in Prague (1999), Director of the Latin America Emerging desk in New York (1995), Head of the trading room in Singapore (1993), trading room Deputy Manager in Madrid (1989) and trader in New York (1985).

Prior to that, Pierre worked on multiple occasions in the family companies.

Pierre is a member of the Investment Committee of CERN Pension Fund. He is also a member of the Board of Trustees at the American University in Paris.

Pierre holds a Bachelor in International Business Administration from the American University in Paris (AUP) and an MBA from the Instituto de Empresa (IE). He is fluent in French, English, German, Spanish and Italian.

### **Bertrand Bricheux**, Head of Fund Marketing, Mirabaud & Cie Banquiers Privés

Bertrand Bricheux, Head of Mirabaud Asset Management's Fund Marketing for both alternative investments and traditional funds, manages the team maintaining all marketing documents and dealing with RFPs and has experience in the asset management industry since 1992.

Prior to joining Mirabaud & Cie in 2011, Mr Bricheux headed the Marketing and Business Development of UBP Asset Management and their Product Specialists team, and was a Partner at Allianz Hedge Fund Partners, where he was responsible for direct distribution of single Hedge Funds and Fund of Hedge Fund portfolios to various types of institutional investors. Beforehand, Mr Bricheux spent four years with Citigroup's Alternative Investment Strategies unit and also four years at Citibank in various Capital Markets positions and two years in the structured finance group of Daiwa London.

Mr Bricheux graduated from the University Paris IX Dauphine with a "Maîtrise des Sciences de Gestion".

**About Mirabaud & CIE Banquiers Privés**

Mirabaud & Cie was founded in Geneva in 1819. Over the course of time, it has developed into a multi-national firm with a presence on four continents. Mirabaud offers its clients customised advice and financial services in three areas of activity: private banking (portfolio management, investment advice and services to independent asset managers), asset management (institutional management, fund management and distribution) and intermediation (brokerage, corporate finance and debt capital management). As a rapidly growing independent company, it has tripled its assets under management in the space of 10 years

The group employs around 650 staff and has offices in Switzerland (Geneva, Basel, and Zurich), Europe (London, Paris, Madrid, Barcelona, Valencia and Luxembourg) and the rest of the world (Montreal, Hong Kong, Dubai and Perth).

**About 100 Women in Hedge Funds ([www.100womeninhedgefunds.org](http://www.100womeninhedgefunds.org))**

100 Women in Hedge Funds is a global, practitioner-driven non-profit organization serving over 10,000 alternative investment management investors and professionals through educational, professional leverage and philanthropic initiatives. Formed in 2001, 100 Women in Hedge Funds has hosted more than 300 events globally, connected more than 250 senior women through Peer Advisory Groups and raised close to \$28 million for philanthropic causes in the areas of women's and family health, education and mentoring.