

Jacobs Levy Center Forum on Quantitative Finance – October 23, 2013
Welcome Remarks
Don Keim, Inaugural Director

Good morning and welcome to the inaugural Forum on Quantitative Finance, presented by the Jacobs Levy Equity Management Center for Quantitative Financial Research. On behalf of the Center, I'd like to thank Bruce Jacobs and Ken Levy for their support, and for the work they've put in to bring us all together today. They are true champions for the field of quantitative finance.

It is the mission of the Jacobs Levy Center to integrate the many disciplines contributing to the field of quantitative finance, including Accounting, Statistics, Finance, and Operations and Information Management. It is with that goal in mind that we have gathered here. You have all made great contributions to this field, and we look forward to learning not only from our tremendous speakers, but from each of you throughout our conversations today.

The Jacobs Levy Center and the Wharton-Jacobs Levy Prize for Quantitative Financial Innovation were established in 2011 through a generous gift from Bruce Jacobs & Ken Levy. As you each observe every day in your work, quantitative finance provides a remarkable tool to the investment industry that, when harnessed and appropriately applied, has the potential to generate tremendous value. The Wharton School is proud to be at the forefront of research and scholarship in this important field.

At the Jacobs Levy Center, we seek to fund innovative research that will inform the next generation of business leaders; to create a new cadre of academics who continue to push the boundaries of existing financial knowledge; to promote research in, and the practice of, good governance and ethics; and to encourage research with practical applications that can help investors meet their goals. This mission provides the guiding light for today's Forum.

The collective knowledge, experience, and industry leadership in this room is impressive, and I look forward to your participation and engagement with our program. I am now pleased to introduce the Chair of the Jacobs Levy Center Advisory Board and Principal and Co-Founder of Jacobs Levy Equity Management, Bruce Jacobs.