Yale Initiative on Sustainable Finance & Journal of Environmental Investing Symposium

Friday, September 22, 2017
9:30am - 5:00pm
Yale School of Management,
165 Whitney Avenue, New Haven, CT

09:30 Coffee
2400 Concourse

10:00 Welcome
Classroom 2400
Dan Esty, YISF
Cary Krosinsky, JEI

10:30 State of Play in ESG Investing
Classroom 2400
Todd Cort, YISF

11:15 AM: Breakout Sessions

Breakout A: Identifying Alpha
Classroom 4400
Moderator: David Richardson, Impax
- Diana Glassman, Integration Strategy: The missing metrics that matter most to investors: How to produce ESG Financial Value Creation
- Karina Funk, Brown Advisory: ESG and active alpha: How can ESG metrics help us understand both company and fund performance?

Breakout B: New Tools in ESG Analysis
Classroom 4410
Moderator: Jim Hawley, TruValue Labs
- Mark Kriss, Macroclimate: Geofinancial Engineering Initiative, Using real time environmental data from satellites to move financial markets and improve climate outcomes
- Erik Allen, Two Sigma Investments: The Application of Machine Learning to Sustainable Finance

Breakout C: Green Bonds
Classroom 4420
Moderator: Sarah Wilson, Nuveen
- Patrick Bigger, University of Lancaster: Ratings, standards and practices for comingling risks in green bonds
- Anadi Jauhari, Yale Initiative on Sustainable Finance, Emerging Energy & Environment Investing Group LLC.

12:30 PM: Lunch
2400 Concourse

1:15 PM: Plenary Panel Discussion
Classroom 2400
Materiality and Corporate Financial Disclosure
Moderator: Lois Guthrie, World Business Council for Sustainable Development
- Todd Cort, Yale Initiative on Sustainable Finance
- Rodney Irwin, WBCSD
- Brandon Leblanc, EY
- Eszter Vitorino and Bastion Buck, Global Reporting Initiative
- Richard Pearl, State Street Corporation
- Cyeria Jackson, Monsanto Company
2:15 PM: Break, coffee 2400 Concourse

2:45 PM: Breakout Sessions

Breakout A: New Lenses  Classroom 4400
Moderator: John Streur, Calvert
- Linda-Eling Lee, MSCI: Do Corporate Controversies Help or Hurt Performance? A Study of Three Portfolio Strategies
- Gretchen Goldman, Union of Concerned Scientists: A Methodology for Assessment of Corporate Responsibility on Climate Change: A Case Study of the Fossil Fuel Industry
- Bill Davis, Stance Capital: Performance and Impact: Can ESG equity portfolios generate healthier financial returns?

Breakout B: Broad ESG Data
Moderator: Deborah Spalding, Commonfund
- Todd Cort, YISF: Sustainability Metrics, What Investors Need but do not Get
- Amy Springsteel, Voya Financial: The Value and Current Limitations of ESG Data for the Security Selector
- Elyse Douglas, New York University: Responsible Investing, Guide to ESG Data Providers and Relevant Trends

Breakout C: Normalization of ESG Metrics
Moderator: Rina Kupferschmid-Rojas, UBS
- Riva Krut, Praxair: Learning How to Count: The complexities for ESG investors of comparing energy efficiency and GHG performance.
- D Scott Showalter and Gilroy Zuckerman, North Carolina State University: Investor’s Guide to Analyzing Company Sustainability Performance

Breakout D: Materiality Roundtable on Sustainability Reporting
Moderator: Sabine Content, Global Reporting Initiative
- This session is designed for reporting companies that want to take sustainability reporting to the next level by engaging further with GRI, their peers and experts in the field.
- The Sustainability Reporting Roundtable helps reporting organizations take their reporting process further.

4:00 Wrap-up Discussion, Plenary  Classroom 2400
Dan Esty, YISF

5:00 Close