



Longleaf Partners

Global Fund Commentary

Longleaf Partners Global Fund delivered a substantial 26.33% return in 2017, meaningfully exceeding our annual absolute goal of inflation plus 10% and the MSCI World Index, up 22.40%, for the second consecutive year. The Fund outperformed even after falling short in the fourth quarter with a 2.64% gain versus 5.51% for the index. The Fund's 2017 results were particularly laudable given double-digit cash, lower exposure to the industries and countries that drove MSCI World's return and a market bias for momentum.

Most companies positively contributed to the Fund's substantial 2017 results, and all of those posted double-digit gains. Investments that our management partners made in the last few years began to deliver returns. We have written previously about the market's tendency to discount non-earning assets (NEAs) until cash is flowing. Several companies benefitted from NEAs beginning to generate cash including Melco's Studio City and Wynn's Palace resorts in Macau, new Ground distribution facilities at FedEx, EXOR's purchase of PartnerRe, OCI's newly producing Iowa nitrogen plant, Fairfax's investments in Asia and Pratt and Whitney's geared turbofan engines within United Technologies. Multi-year cost cutting programs also yielded results, moving margins up at CNH and FedEx's Express unit. LafargeHolcim cut substantial costs but still has plenty of potential to optimize further under new CEO, Jan Jenisch. Our management partners pursued transactions to further entrench their competitive positions, focus on their core businesses or capture value recognition. Fairfax completed its acquisition of Allied World and monetized its stake in First Capital; United Technologies announced a plan to buy Rockwell Collins in September; and in the fourth quarter, CK Asset sold The Center, Hong Kong's fifth tallest office building for an almost 2% capitalization rate – well above our carrying value, while CONSOL Energy completed the split of its coal and gas businesses.

The absence of many detractors added to the Fund's performance for the year and the fourth quarter. Chesapeake declined along with other Exploration and Production companies as natural gas prices fell. Level 3, now CenturyLink (CTL), spent most of the year under price pressure with uncertainty over the deal's outcome and skepticism over CTL's dividend sustainability, but following the merger's close and management's renewed commitment to the dividend, the stock rebounded over 22% from its November low.

The Fund's strong return came in spite of both holding over 10% cash in a rising market and having limited help from much of what drove the index. Our investment discipline requires a business with sustainable competitive advantage as well as a material margin of safety between the stock price and intrinsic worth. This discipline resulted in cash but also in the Fund's high 98% Active Share that made performance all the more noteworthy. Information Technology (IT) drove much of the index results. The sector far surpassed all others with a 38% gain and was the largest contributor by far to performance. IT momentum chasing contributed to stocks that others define as "growth" far surpassing those categorized as "value," 28% versus 17%. The Fund had one-third less exposure to the U.S., the index's largest country contributor, and none to the second largest, Japan. In the fourth quarter, the prospect of higher global interest rates and U.S. tax reform meant that the Fund's lower U.S. weight and lack of bank stocks impacted relative results. The broad index moved on trends and cycles that are unlikely to be durable over the long term, while the Fund's strong performance in 2017 was primarily a function of company-specific performance driven by the quality businesses we own, the work of their managements and the discount to a growing intrinsic value.

As is typical after several years of strong returns, our investment cases worked out, and a number of stocks moved closer to our appraisals. We sold three investments including one in the fourth quarter. More surprisingly, we bought three new companies – two in the fourth quarter, as prospective investments increased even as the market appreciated. With IT dominating and fewer companies participating in the market's highs, greater dispersion helped our on-deck list of qualifiers grow.

Contributors/Detractors

(2017 Investment return; 2017 Fund contribution; Q4 Investment return; Q4 Fund contribution)

Melco International (+116%, +5.23%, +2%, +0.09%), the Macau gaming company, was the top contributor for the year and performed well in the fourth quarter as the industry gross gaming revenues (GGR) accelerated in the second half of 2017. November year-to-date GGR growth of 19.5% was substantially higher than Melco's mid-to-high single-digit full year GGR growth expectation. With major infrastructure projects moving closer to completion, mass visits and spending increasing, and

Average Annual Total Returns (12/31/17): Since Inception (12/27/12): 9.61%, Ten Year: na, Five Year: 9.63%, One Year: 26.33%

Returns reflect reinvested capital gains and dividends but not the deduction of taxes an investor would pay on distributions or share redemptions. Performance data quoted represents past performance; past performance does not guarantee future results. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance of the fund may be lower or higher than the performance quoted. Performance data current to the most recent month end may be obtained by visiting longleafpartners.com.

As reported in the Prospectus dated May 1, 2017, the total expense ratio for the Longleaf Partners Global Fund is 1.52%. The expense ratio is subject to fee waiver to the extent normal annual operating expenses exceed 1.65% of average annual net assets. Effective May 1, 2016, Southeastern agreed to voluntarily reduce the expense limit to 1.20%. This voluntary fee waiver for the Global Fund may be discontinued at any time.

VIPs returning, concerns about potential over-supply from significant capacity additions in Macau turned into confidence that additional hotel and gaming properties will be well absorbed by the market. Melco Resorts is on schedule to open phase 3 (Morpheus) of City of Dreams (COD) in the first half of 2018, which will almost double the number of five star hotel rooms at COD. Upon the completion of Morpheus, we expect free cash flow (FCF) —and distributions to shareholders —to increase significantly with growth in industry GGR and the completion of significant growth capital expenditures (capex). Melco's price remained below our appraisal, but we reduced the Fund's exposure as the discount shrunk after the stock more than tripled in the last 18 months.

Wynn Resorts (+98%, +4.11%, +14%, +0.42%), the U.S. and Macau gaming company, also contributed to the Fund's 2017 and fourth quarter performance with strong earnings growth in Macau and Las Vegas. The same positive Macau dynamics described above helped Wynn. Steve Wynn continued to create future value with the Boston resort expected to open in 2019, new development around the Las Vegas golf course, and the chance to pursue casino development in Japan. After the stock more than tripled from its lows two years ago and moved closer to our assessment of the company's value, we reduced the Fund's position.

Yum China (+54%, +2.69%, +0%, +0.02%), the operator of KFC and Pizza Hut restaurants in China, was a significant contributor to performance during the year and continued to rise in the fourth quarter. Since its November 2016 spin out from Yum Brands!, YUM China (YUMC) has delivered strong results including KFC's 7% same store sales growth year-over-year in Q3 2017. The company returned much of its growing FCF to shareholders, initiating a cash dividend of \$0.10/share, buying back stock, and expanding its buyback program from \$300mm to \$550mm. The announcement that COO Joey Wat will become CEO and current CEO Micky Pant will become Vice-Chairman in March 2018 created additional optimism. Wat has been instrumental in KFC's success, and we believe she will continue to create significant value. With the stock's rapid appreciation more closely reflecting the company's worth, we reduced the portfolio weight of YUMC.

FedEx (+35%, +2.33%, +11%, +0.68%), the world-leading transportation and logistics company, added to the Fund's fourth quarter and 2017 results. Express margins jumped to the company's long-held goal of double-digit levels due to strong pricing and utilization of lower cost passenger plane space. Ground yield and volumes were strong, and margins seem to have finally bottomed after recent years of rapid expansion and investment. FedEx moved quickly to integrate acquired TNT into its global network as it deftly handled the effects of a significant TNT cyberattack. CEO Fred Smith continued to think far ahead and prioritize the business's long-term competitive position, reinvesting most earnings into high return expansions and improvements.

EXOR (+43%, +2.14%, -3%, -0.19%), one of Europe's leading investment holding companies, was another strong performer in 2017. The component pieces of our appraisal are Fiat

Chrysler Automobiles (FCA) (32%), PartnerRe (26%), CNH Industrial (21%), and Ferrari (16%). FCA's profits increased substantially, and takeover speculation also pushed its stock up. CNH rose during the year as its agricultural equipment sales and margins grew, and the company received an investment grade rating. Ferrari's stock reflected its stellar year operationally, if still not living up to hopes on the Formula 1 Circuit. In spite of EXOR's appreciation, at year end the stock traded at a near 40% discount to the market value of its component pieces. European holding companies that are generally held up as EXOR peers tend to cluster around a 10% NAV discount, whereas some North American ones with substantial track records of value creation trade at net asset value (NAV) or even a premium. We believe EXOR's extreme discount is unwarranted as CEO John Elkann and his management team can produce additional double-digit value growth on top of the significant value creation over the last decade. Attractive upside optionality remains in the underlying pieces of EXOR.

CONSOL Energy (+8%, +0.93%, +16%, +0.86%), the former natural gas and coal company based in Appalachia, was a the largest contributor to the Fund's fourth quarter results. The company completed the long-awaited spin-off of its coal assets from its natural gas reserves, undrilled acreage, and pipelines - a move we had encouraged to enable others to fully appreciate the values of each business. The gas company now trades as CNX Resources Corporation, while the coal pure-play business retained the CONSOL Energy name. Our CNX appraisal assumes gas prices at today's depressed strip, yet the stock price implies much less value for its undrilled resources and midstream assets than comparable peers receive. The company reduced commodity risk by hedging the majority of next year's production above \$3/mcf. CONSOL's Pennsylvania Mining Complex is the low-cost coal producer in the eastern U.S. Both companies announced large buybacks to address their undervalued post-spin prices. We believe our management partners will continue to take action to gain value recognition at both companies. We increased our stake in CNX after the spin-off. In spite of rampant coal divestment by institutional investors, CONSOL's stock jumped 84% after becoming a pure-play coal business.

Chesapeake Energy (-44%, -1.8%, -8%, -0.13%), one of the largest U.S. producers of natural gas and oil, was one of the Fund's few detractors in 2017 during a tough market for closing energy asset sales. Overshadowing strong operational performance by CEO Doug Lawler and his management team, domestic gas oversupply weighed down strip prices. Chesapeake made progress delineating some of its newer plays, but the market continued to underestimate the company's ability to sell meaningful assets, as it has done multiple times in the past. We reduced the position to reflect the broad range of outcomes dependent on commodity prices.

CenturyLink (formerly Level 3) (-12%, -1.27%, -7%, -0.5%), the global fiber and integrated communications network company, was the Fund's largest holding and declined during the year and fourth quarter, even though the stock rallied

over 22% from its November low after CTL's purchase of Level 3 closed. Throughout, our investment case grew more compelling. The merger of Level 3's fiber network with Qwest's assets that CTL had previously acquired created a uniquely competitive global fiber network that has particular strengths in the higher margin, growing Enterprise segment. Level 3's CEO Jeff Storey becoming President and COO and eventual CEO of CTL and Sunit Patel maintaining the CFO position in the combined company were critical to our support for the deal. Their leadership makes us confident that CTL management will be able to drive mid single-digit Enterprise revenue growth at high contribution margins, cut costs substantially and deliver the projected \$1 billion in deal synergies, much of which will be created by moving traffic onto the company's combined network from third parties. Despite CTL's stronger positioning, the stock price fell, in part because Level 3 customers delayed new purchases until it was clear who would lead the combined company. But, the primary price pressure was due to fears that CTL would not be able to sustain its double-digit dividend yield (a valid concern without the Level 3 acquisition). This worry heightened after the stocks of two mostly unrelated and massively overleveraged regional operators which were more closely aligned with CTL's legacy landline business than the fiber business, saw their stocks collapse after dividend cuts. Storey and Patel confirm that the dividend is safe based on the combined EBITDA of the Level 3 and CTL fiber networks, the synergies from the deal, and the use of Level 3's net operating losses (NOLs) to reduce taxes. By our estimates, once the synergies are realized, the company should deliver over \$3/share of FCF after capex, which will amply cover the \$2.16 dividend. We see material additional upside not built into our appraisal based on Patel's record of cost cutting after mergers and the multiple players that would benefit from owning this network. When the stock price dramatically disregarded the positive fundamentals and our assessment of CTL's intrinsic value, we bought more during the year, including in the fourth quarter. Management and the board appeared to share our enthusiasm as demonstrated by significant December insider purchases as soon as the blackout period that prohibited purchases was lifted.

Portfolio Activity

It may seem odd that we made purchases given new market highs. We do not require a market correction to find qualifiers, just individual business value mispricing. And while the overall market had strikingly low volatility, a few good businesses' stocks declined enough to enable us to buy three new investments – Fairfax in the first half and two undisclosed businesses in the fourth quarter. One new position was a time horizon arbitrage opportunity where past mismanagement and a dividend cut obscured the longer term value and prospects for industry-leading businesses. The other was an example of how complexity often leads Southeastern to investments. A more traditionally associated segment of the company was under pressure industry-wide, taking the stock to a multiple similar to peers within that segment. In the case of this company, however, its most valuable segment consists of leading, protected brands that are growing in strength and demand.

We sold three businesses during the year and trimmed some of the Fund's stronger performers whose discounts had

diminished. Genting Singapore reached our appraisal; we sold K Wah with Hong Kong real estate's strength after our view of management changed; and in the fourth quarter, we sold investment firm T. Rowe Price as the stock approached our appraisal. Despite near daily headlines on the death of active funds, T. Rowe grew assets under management and maintained its strong position in Target Date retirement funds. The stock gained 70% during our short 13 month holding period. We are grateful to CEO Bill Stromberg and Chairman Brian Rogers for driving strong performance during a challenging time for the industry.

Outlook

The Fund's last two years' 52% cumulative return outperformed the index and substantially beat our absolute goal of real double-digit returns. We believe we can continue to provide solid absolute and relative performance over the next 5+ years. First, as was true in 2017, what we own – not what drives the index – will produce our returns going forward, and the Fund's portfolio contains discounted strong businesses with growing values selling at an average P/V in the mid-70s% – a striking contrast to what we believe is an overvalued index increasingly driven by momentum in a narrower group of companies. We expect our differentiation from the index to be a source of strength. Second, with lower equity market correlations and the prospect of more volatility among stocks, we expect undervaluation opportunities will increase, as they did in late 2017, providing us additional investments that will drive future compounding. Third, through our 42 years at Southeastern and in studying market history, we know that most broad trends come in cycles that can either turn quietly or with unexpected force. Most of our businesses remain in the out of favor bucket. We believe the recent dominance of momentum investing, which reflects speculation at elevated prices, will likely turn back to a favorable environment for undervalued stocks.

It is our strong view that with most asset classes selling at full prices and many areas within the stock market trading at high multiples, the inflated index is more vulnerable to downside surprises than likely to continue double-digit gains. Ben Graham's definition of an investment from *Security Analysis* written in 1934 has never been more relevant: "An investment operation is one which, upon thorough analysis, promises safety of principal and a satisfactory return." As the largest shareholder group in the Fund, we aim to preserve capital and compound at a real double-digit rate of return by owning a limited number of undervalued, high quality, competitively advantaged businesses where we are engaged with capable and aligned management partners. We have no doubt that we can deliver good performance because of our understanding of the drivers of each company's value growth versus the associated risks, our ongoing dialogue with management, and our discipline to hold cash when businesses do not meet our stringent criteria.

See following page for important disclosures.

Before investing in any Longleaf Partners Fund, you should carefully consider the Fund's investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses. For a current Prospectus and Summary Prospectus, which contain this and other important information, visit longleafpartners.com. Please read the Prospectus and Summary Prospectus carefully before investing.

RISKS

The Longleaf Partners Global Fund is subject to stock market risk, meaning stocks in the Fund may fluctuate in response to developments at individual companies or due to general market and economic conditions. Also, because the Fund generally invests in 15 to 25 companies, share value could fluctuate more than if a greater number of securities were held. Investing in non-U.S. securities may entail risk due to non-US economic and political developments, exposure to non-US currencies, and different accounting and financial standards. These risks may be higher when investing in emerging markets.

MSCI World Index is a broad-based, unmanaged equity market index designed to measure the equity market performance of 24 developed markets, including the United States. An index cannot be invested in directly.

P/V ("price to value") is a calculation that compares the prices of the stocks in a portfolio to Southeastern's appraisal of their intrinsic values. The ratio represents a single data point about a Fund and should not be construed as something more. P/V does not guarantee future results, and we caution investors not to give this calculation undue weight.

Active Share measures how much an equity portfolio's holdings differ from those of the benchmark index.

"Margin of Safety" is a reference to the difference between a stock's market price and Southeastern's calculated appraisal value. It is not a guarantee of investment performance or returns.

Free Cash Flow (FCF) is a measure of a company's ability to generate the cash flow necessary to maintain operations. Generally, it is calculated as operating cash flow minus capital expenditures

As of December 31, 2017, the top ten holdings for the Longleaf Partners Global Fund: CenturyLink, 7.8%; FedEx, 6.9%; Fairfax, 5.5%; EXOR, 5.5%; LafargeHolcim, 5.3%; CK Hutchison, 5.3%; OCI, 4.9%; CK Asset, 4.3%; Alphabet, 4.3%, United Technologies, 4.1%. Fund holdings are subject to change and holding discussions are not recommendations to buy or sell any security. Current and future holdings are subject to risk.

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