EDITOR'S NOTE

Anthony B. Davidow

With the recent strong performance of U.S. financial markets, and the increasing correlation among global markets, some advisors have questioned the merits of global diversification. This issue of *Investments & Wealth Monitor* takes on that topic by focusing on international investing. We address both the challenges and the opportunities of allocating assets offshore. We revisit the why and how to allocate abroad, and we also provide an in-depth look at a few unique investment opportunities.

We begin with a far-reaching article from Matthew Peterson, "Challenges to International Investing," in which he tackles head-on some of the skepticism about investing abroad. Robert Colehan and Edward Baker revisit a topic that warrants careful consideration, "Pros and Cons: Currency Hedging versus Not Hedging." Based on feedback from the *I&WM* editorial advisory board, I conducted new research presented in my article, "Strategic Beta Strategies: Do They Work Outside Our Borders?" Cliff Quisenberry offers his perspective with "Frontier Markets: A Comparative Analysis."

Adam Hetts delves into a challenging topic for investors with his article, "Myths, Misconceptions, Blind Spots: Overcoming the Home Country Bias in Equity Investing." Brian Laible, an editorial advisory board member and frequent contributor, offers his take on a long underappreciated asset class in "The Case for International Small Caps." Teresa Kong and Satya Patel examine challenges and opportunities with their article, "Diversifying in a Rising-Rate Environment: As Rates Rise, Asia Bonds May Help Advisors Diversify Portfolios."

We switch gears a bit with Matt Stagner and Jessica Tuman's article, "Special Needs: How Much Is Required to Fund a Special Needs Plan?" and Anna Rappaport talks about "Realities of Retirement: Family Is Very Important." *I&WM* Ethics Editor Mark Harbour conducts an insightful interview with Pamela Meyer in "Liespotting: Proven Techniques to Detect Deception."

As we close out 2018, I'd like to reflect on the range of topics *I&WM* has covered throughout this year. We began focusing on disruptive trends, followed up with geopolitics and the advisor of the future, then focused on the evolution of indexing and fiduciary and regulatory challenges. I would like to thank the editorial advisory board for sourcing, critiquing, and curating the various articles that have appeared in *I&WM* during the past 12 months. And we couldn't bring you any of this material without the dedication and diligence of *I&WM* Managing Editor Debbie Nochlin. Thank you all!

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Chair, *Investments & Wealth Monitor*
Editorial Advisory Board

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