

The background of the entire page is a photograph of the Ursinus College building, a large stone structure with a prominent bell tower on the left and a series of arched windows on the right. The building is set against a clear blue sky, with some autumn-colored leaves visible in the top left corner. A semi-transparent light blue banner is overlaid across the top half of the image, containing the title text.

# **URSINUS COLLEGE INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT COMPANY**

**Fall 2024 Newsletter**

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# URSINUS COLLEGE

## Investment Management Company

Fall 2024 Newsletter

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# URSINUS COLLEGE

## Investment Management Company

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### At a Glance

The Ursinus College Investment Management Company, UCIMCO, is a student managed investment fund headed by Jack Shimer and Alexandra Nenish under the advisement of Dr. Jennifer VanGilder, Professor Maureen Cumpstone, and Dr. Elisheva Stern. UCIMCO is split between three teams of student investors: Endowment, Stock Selection, and the Women's Fund. Each team holds weekly meetings to review investment strategies and discuss current events that may impact portfolio performance. Our goal is to assist students in learning and understanding the complexity of financial markets, securities, and institutions, while also developing their skills in presenting and networking. This semester, UCIMCO focused on reviewing financial basics as a result of many new analysts who joined the fund. Our syllabus allowed analysts to gain an overarching understanding of the market before diving into their respected areas of focus. After extensive research, analysts presented to other UCIMCO members, Ursinus Alumni, and professionals in the financial industry to prepare them for the final portfolio update.

Each team is responsible for a specific segment of the portfolio. Members of the Stock Selection and Women's Fund teams focus on evaluating individual companies and then pitching potential additions to the portfolio at the end of each semester. The Endowment Team invests in a variety of ETFs, and each group within the team is assigned to research a specific asset class throughout the semester. At the end of the semester, these groups determine the appropriate weightings for their asset classes and decide which ETFs to buy, sell, or hold. Leaders of the Endowment, Women's Fund, and Stock Selection teams collaborate to rebalance the portfolio at the close of each semester.

With the generous support of our donors and contributors, UCIMCO is able to continue empowering and educating students on investment principles, exploring financial opportunities, and engaging with the Ursinus alumni network. Ongoing contributions have also enabled UCIMCO to enhance its research capabilities by subscribing to tools like Morningstar, Seeking Alpha, and Yahoo Finance.



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### Letter from Michael Scheller ('25)

I started my UCIMCO journey as a sophomore in the Endowment Fund with Dr. Scott Deacle. I was still learning the ropes as a college student but knew I wanted to expand my knowledge further in finance and economics. My teammate and good friend, Matt Tuley ('24), encouraged me to join the fund as this was a great opportunity to enhance my skills and further explore my interests in investing. That year I was shaped into an analyst working in the U.S Equities and Developed Market sectors in guidance from Evan Coffey ('24) and Jack Thompson ('24). I was very fortunate to then be asked to shadow and work with Matt to become the next Chief Risk and Research Officer. During that time, I broke down each asset class allocation and understood the risk that went into each purchase. Matt was one of the many people who guided me through enhancing our portfolio by learning the value at risk with each ETF.



My time at Ursinus went by quickly. Thanks to UCIMCO, I made many friends and connections that will last forever. Being a part of the fund has turned me into a professional in everything I am a part of. My advice to future members is to never take anything for granted. Your time in college is so valuable. Learn as much as you possibly can and go the extra mile because the return on investment will be worth it. The fund has allowed me to use my skills in and out of the classroom which has prepared me for the challenges I will face in the future. To everyone that I have worked with, I would like to say thank you -- not only for helping me in the fund but for allowing me to grow and pursue a career in finance and investing.





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#### Letter from Jack Shimer ('25)

I began my journey with UCIMCO during my first semester of freshman year with Dr. Deacle and the stock selection team. I had always been a fan of investing in stocks, but was unsure how to get involved with it on campus. An older teammate of the lacrosse team advised me to check out the course and learn more about investing as a portfolio. From the first few classes looking over our existing portfolio and presenting my ideas to the older members, I was hooked. During my freshman year I was able to enhance my knowledge of the market, solidify my presentation skills, and understand our investment strategy. Peyton Vostenak ('22) noticed my keenness and pushed me to further develop my skills and expand my horizons to a leadership role. One year later and I was working alongside Joe Kolonich ('23), Ben Sjosten ('23), and Scott Sloan ('24) as the Chief Curriculum Officers for stock selection. During my sophomore year, I helped to curate the curriculum for students and tackle our semiannual rebalancing. I was fortunate enough to be tasked with drafting the first ever UCIMCO Investment Policy Statement which we later debuted during our Fall presentation. Fast forward to my senior year, where I now work as the Chief Executive Officer of UCIMCO and am focused on sustainability within the fund to ensure other students are able to experience UCIMCO like I did.



My time with UCIMCO has been a highlight of my college experience, and I'm grateful to Ursinus for providing such an extraordinary platform for hands-on learning. Managing real investments and making decisions that have tangible financial outcomes is an experience that truly sets UCIMCO apart from typical classroom settings. The stakes are high, and students quickly realize the importance of their work. It's been a privilege to be a part of this, and I'm excited to see how the program evolves and what future students will accomplish.

I would also like to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to the incredible advisors, past leaders, and everyone who has been involved in UCIMCO throughout my four years. Your guidance, support, and expertise have been invaluable to me and to the entire team. The insights you've shared and the mentorship you've provided have shaped my experience and helped me grow both personally and professionally. I'm especially grateful to the previous leaders, whose dedication and vision have set a strong foundation for the program's continued success. It's truly been a privilege to learn from all of you, and I am so thankful for the opportunity to have been a part of this remarkable community.



# URSINUS COLLEGE

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#### Investment Team Strategies and Updates

##### Stock Selection

This semester we have our largest group to date in the Stock Selection, with 47 students. This number accounts for over half of the total fund. While the large number has been a challenging adjustment, it certainly has its benefits. We have seen an increase in quality and volume of research going into our picks and rebalances. This relatively young and raw group has produced some impressive research and shows poise for a bright future of the portfolio.

The Stock Selection group employs two distinct investment strategies. The first is inspired by Edgar Wachenheim III, who emphasizes using financial ratios to identify worthwhile investments. In line with his approach, we target stocks with minimal or no debt and that appear undervalued relative to their earnings, as indicated by metrics such as the debt-to-asset and price-to-earnings ratios. The second strategy draws from Michael Moe's emphasis on recognizing super trends and assessing the four Ps: people, product, potential, and predictability.

By leveraging these strategies, the fund has achieved diversification across all 11 sectors, providing broad market exposure. Ongoing macroeconomic factors such as cuts in interest rates, the recent presidential election, and continued geopolitical tensions in the Middle East have continued to fuel volatility in the U.S. stock market. Nevertheless, despite these challenges, the Stock Selection team has outperformed its benchmark of the S&P 500 by over 3% since the April rebalance, driven largely by strategic allocations in the financial and technology sectors. Tech giants such as Nvidia and Salesforce have continued to pump out strong gains, while financial companies such as American Express and Goldman Sachs have both also produced strong returns.

Conversely, the portfolio's weakest performance has come from holdings in the energy and materials sectors. The two worst performers in our portfolio were: Occidental Petroleum Corporation from the energy sector, and Westlake Corporation from the materials sector. Following our latest rebalance, we chose to reorganize our allocations in Energy and boost our weighting by a small margin. Similarly, with the decreasing inflation in mind, we have decided to increase our allocation in Consumer Discretionary.

As far as buy and sell decisions for this Fall's rebalance are concerned, we have decided to take some of our gains from the strong performing technology and financial sectors and reallocate the funds across other sectors such as Energy and Consumer Discretionary, while maintaining our weight in Consumer Staples to mitigate some risk in this time of economic uncertainty.



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### Investment Team Strategies and Updates

#### Women's Fund

With all junior analysts within the team being new to UCIMCO, this fall 2024 semester was a building period for the Women's Fund. With help from CCO Mayleigh Rickey, Alexandra Nenish, and Professor Maureen Cumpstone, our analysts learned how to read a 10K, how to do ratio analysis, and how to do SWOT analysis. Students were also taught what different benchmarks were, how they are used within ratio analysis, and how to understand the story that these ratios can tell. Multiple homework assignments were used to bolster these skills before analysts began doing individual company research.

This semester, Mayleigh Rickey worked with CEO Jack Shimer and CIO Harry Sweitzer to uncover where the women's portfolio lacked diversity. After deciding to invest in the Industrials sector, the three leaders then used Koyfin to find stocks that met certain ratio criteria, namely that their ratios were outperforming the industry averages. The ratios our analysts focused on this semester were P/E, EPS, P/S, D/E, current, beta, and dividend yield. After finding four potential picks, the Women's Fund analysts were then broken into two teams, with each team researching two of these picks and developing theses for investment. After presenting on all four companies and hearing feedback from both leaders and alumni, the analysts then went back and did a second round of comprehensive research to answer certain questions about company performance and risks to consider. After this second round of research and discussion, each team selected one stock to buy into: Maximus Inc. (MMS) and Deere and Co. (DE).

The priority of this semester was to teach the new analysts the basics of fundamental analysis and financial research. As we continue to grow the Women's Fund again and increase participation, we hope to dive into more detailed forms of research, such as technical analysis and ESG standards, and give analysts a broader freedom to choose which companies they would like to research. Nonetheless, we are extremely proud of the analysts within the Women's Fund, as they have tackled this learning opportunity head on. Our students came to class with open ears and asked many questions to clarify their understanding of the markets and what to research. We are excited to see how these students continue to grow not only within the Women's Fund, but within UCIMCO as a whole.

The portfolio is now invested in nine different industries: Health Care, Technology, Consumer Staples, Industrials, Consumer Discretionary, Financial Services, Energy, and Communications. Next semester, we are looking to enhance our performance and increase female participation in the fund in addition to more collaboration with the Stock Selection Fund. The Women's Fund will continue to be led by Mayleigh Rickey ('25). She will continue her role by recruiting more women into UCIMCO with the help of this year's CEO Allie Nenish ('25).



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### Investment Team Strategies and Updates

#### Endowment

Due to the extensive scale of the endowment's investment portfolio, the fund employs an active investment strategy, adjusting allocations across asset classes annually to minimize unsystematic risk. This is primarily achieved through asset and geographical diversification. Following extensive market research, asset classes are weighted accordingly to reach the endowment's key goal of maintaining purchasing power while simultaneously yielding returns in the long term. This analysis is essential for understanding asset distribution, as economic events such as interest rate decreases directly affect our current holdings. In previous semesters, the endowment has incorporated ESG investment and research strategies to align with Ursinus' core mission. It has prioritized growth-oriented opportunities in emerging sectors, including markets in India, the Asia-Pacific region, and Switzerland. This semester, the endowment continues this trend, while also gaining exposure to Australia.

Recently, the Commodities group purchased GSG, a fund that mirrors our commodity benchmark. This semester, the asset class is taking a shift with the selling of GSG and the addition of SGOL and IBIT. Aside from being a hedge against geopolitical risks, SGOL provides direct exposure to gold and shows great potential for increased returns in an environment with rate cuts. The newsflash of the asset class comes with the purchase of IBIT, a crypto ETF. We recognize that crypto carries significant risks, but after careful research, the minimal allocation of 1% of the portfolio is a prudent way to explore its growth potential while staying grounded in a well-considered strategy. As for Real Estate, the team will keep DTGR. DTGR gives us broad market exposure with similar holdings to the Real Estate benchmark while also giving us a tilt into AI infrastructure and telecommunications storage – two industries we have an optimistic outlook on. This new addition for this semester is REZ, as its exposure outside of technology provides stable returns. The current macroeconomic landscape has led the Real Estate asset class onto the tail of rate cuts, as they tend lead to lower mortgage rates. The group has kept a close eye on the competitive market's outlook for data centers along with prices and volatility of the market.

Structurally, the endowment has gone under reconstruction in terms of the US Treasuries and US Corporate Bonds classes. The two asset classes have merged into the Fixed Income asset class. The new class creates an opportunity for a balanced, income-generating component with both security and growth potential. This reduces volatility and supports steady returns in the long run. On top of this, the US Equities asset class has been divided into two parts, Growth and Value. Growth Equities offer the potential for high returns, especially in booming economic periods with a focus on companies expected to increase profits faster than the market average. Further, the Value Equities tend to be stable and perform well during downturns since they focus on undervalued companies with strong fundamentals. The split provides the portfolio with high-growth potential and a buffer against market volatility.

As the semester ends, we continue to monitor key metrics including jobs reports, FOMC comments, CPI and PCE data, GDP, and interest rates. We are eager to further grow the portfolio to increase diversification to reduce risk and make the fund more accessible to a greater number of Ursinus students. Over time, we hope to position the fund to compete with some of the largest funds nationwide.





# URSINUS COLLEGE

## Investment Management Company

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### UCIMCO Investment Performance and Analysis

#### Stock Selection Performance

|                                  | S&P 500 | Our Portfolio |
|----------------------------------|---------|---------------|
| April 19th - November 13th, 2024 | 15.49%  | 18.58%        |

The UCIMCO Stock Selection Fund has once again outperformed the benchmark (S&P 500), generating 3.09% alpha from April 15th to November 13th. The portfolio has really worked towards proper weighting and diversification within the 11 S&P 500 sectors and uses a combination of strategic and tactical asset allocation strategies. Stock selection had a few notable high performing equities over the last rebalance period such as NVIDIA (up 70.95%), Goldman Sachs group (up 50.11%), Walmart (up 43.03%), and American Express (up 32.40%). Materials and financials were the two leading sectors since the last rebalance period, fueling the outperformance of the benchmark. The Stock Selection Fund is proud to report that out of 31 held equities, only 7 (22.5%) saw losses over the last period, whereas 16 of our equities (51.6%) saw gains in the double digits. The Stock Selection Fund will continue to work diligently at maintaining proper allocations within sectors while cautiously reacting to everchanging Macroeconomic events.



# URSINUS COLLEGE

## Investment Management Company

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### UCIMCO Investment Performance and Analysis

#### Women's Fund Performance

|  | S&P 500 | Our Portfolio |
|--|---------|---------------|
| Apr. 19th, 2024 - November 13th , 2024 | 15.49%  | 4.66%         |

The UCIMCO Women's portfolio underperformed the S&P 500 benchmark by -10.83% over the investment period. The main goal of this semester was to make fund wide decisions on sectors in collaboration with the Stock Selection team. For the Women's Fund, this meant entering back in the industrial sector. To note, a few selections that have stood out are: InterDigital Inc (IDCC), which is up 47.15% relative to the price at which we bought shares, SPX Technologies (SPXC) which is up 27.58% relative to our buy price, Cincinnati Financial Corp. (CINF) which is up 22.56% relative to the sector benchmark and RenaissanceRe Holdings Ltd. (RNR) which is up 18.75% relative to the sector benchmark, Travel & Leisure Co. (TNL) which is up 17.13% , and Cognizant Technology Solutions (CTSH) which is up 16.30%. The portfolio is headed in the correct direction and plans to focus on balancing out sector weights as we were heavily weighted in technology before. With this goal in mind, we strategically choose to invest in industrials as well as buying more shares in some of our financial services companies such as Cincinnati Financials.



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### UCIMCO Investment Performance and Analysis

#### Endowment Fund Performance

|                                     | Benchmark<br>(70/30) | Benchmark<br>(60/40) | Our Portfolio |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| April 15th -<br>November 13th, 2024 | 10.17%               | 9.09%                | 7.34%         |

| Performance by Sector |             |             |                  |                   |                |                 |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|------------------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Fixed Income          | Real Estate | Commodities | Emerging Markets | Developed Markets | Value Equities | Growth Equities |
| 1.02%                 | 15.40%      | -9.33%      | 10.67%           | 0.75%             | 12.46%         | 15.60%          |

The UCIMCO Endowment portion of the company returned 7.34% from the period of April 19th to November 13th, 2024. 6/7 of Endowment's sectors saw gains, with 4/7 sectors returning more than double digits. Endowment saw its best gains in the Real Estate, Growth and Value equities, and Emerging Markets. Inside of our seven asset classes, we held 17 exchange traded funds (ETFs). 14/17 (82%) ETF's saw positive gains with 7/17 (41%) ETF's posting at least a double-digit return. Our highest returning ETFs were INDA, tracking the Indian economy, as well as VBK, a small-cap growth ETF, and SPY, a fund that tracks the overall S&P 500. While our commodities asset class saw negative returns, this asset class is used as a hedge against the rest of the portfolio, so it is to be expected to fall behind other asset classes during favorable market conditions.

The UCIMCO Endowment portfolio lagged behind both the 70/30 and 60/40 ACWI/AGG benchmark over the most recent investment period. The relative underperformance to the benchmark is due to the overall markets return being fueled by a small number of technology heavy stocks. As an endowment portfolio, our goal is to properly diversify our asset classes, protect the college's wealth, and generate passive income through dividends. Since we are highly diversified, and not as highly concentrated in high growth technology stocks, we were not able to generate the same return as most benchmarks. However, we are confident in our long term strategy, as we believe our diversified portfolio will generate solids returns during bull markets, and be higher protected from downside during bear markets.



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### Endowment Outlook

| Asset Class     | Tickers           | Weighting Strategy | Key Considerations  |
|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------|---|
| Growth Equities | SPY, VBK<br>VGT   | Overweight         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hold SPY for strong dividends and broad market diversity but gain exposure to “Magnificent 7” and AI-related equities.</li><li>• Hold VBK because its focus on small-cap growth stocks allows SPY and VBK to have no overlap between holdings, helping to diversify our holdings</li><li>• Add VGT – Factors like falling inflation, rapid advancements in tech innovations such as AI, and lowering interest rates, the technology sector appears primed for further growth</li></ul>                              |
| Value Equities  | VTV, SCHD<br>VBR  | Underweight        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• With inflation rates projected to decline in the coming months, these ETFs will be better for the short term due to a less volatile market</li><li>• Hold VTV since its holdings are different than the Magnificent 7's. We will maintain good value even if the S&amp;P 500 is not performing well</li><li>• Hold SCHD as it is focused on the quality and sustainability of dividends through healthy financial ratios</li><li>• Add VBR since small caps have shown to benefit the most from rate cuts</li></ul> |
| Fixed Income    | ICSH, QLTA<br>TLH | Normal             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hold ICSH as its investment in short-term debt securities and money market instruments will benefit while the yield on new fixed-rate bonds decreases in value</li><li>• Hold QLTA with its favorable holdings in banking and tech</li><li>• Hold TLH: benefits longer-term bonds as the yield curve is no longer inverted</li><li>• Seek to try and capitalize on riskier bonds (AA, A, BBB) as they are yielding positive returns with falling interest rates</li></ul>   |





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### Endowment Outlook

| Asset Class       | Tickers                | Weighting Strategy | Key Considerations  |
|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------|---|
| Developed Markets | JIRE, EWJ<br>EWL, IPAC | Overweight         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Japan is performing well since coming out of a deflationary environment. Political reforms requiring higher corporate capital expenditures have helped GDP growth.</li><li>• Switzerland shows strong corporate earnings and recent rate cuts that are likely to spur domestic consumption.</li><li>• JIRE provides exposure to broad international markets through an actively managed ETF. Allows the fund to double down on our optimistic outlook on Japan</li><li>• Add IPAC: Offers access to the broad array of companies in the Pacific region with increasing domestic demand growth</li></ul>   |
| Emerging Markets  | INDA, GMF, KSA         | Normal             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Looking to maximize investment in Asia-Pacific because of the highest growth potential compared to other EM economies.</li><li>• Hold INDA, as we seek to capitalize on India's vast, educated, and young workforce</li><li>• Since 1988, emerging market equities have delivered positive performance 24 months after the last FED rate hike in four of the past five Fed rate cycles.</li><li>• Add KSA: Focused on sectors of financials, as its top three holdings are AL Rajhi Banking and Investments, Saudi Arabian Oil Company, and The Saudi National Bank</li><li>• Small-cap emerging equities have a positive outlook due to likely rate cuts, making borrowing cheaper and allowing for capital projects</li></ul> |



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### Endowment Outlook

| Asset Class      | Tickers    | Weighting Strategy | Key Considerations  |
|------------------|------------|--------------------|---|
| Commodities      | SGOL, IBIT | Normal             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Originally, we tried to beat the benchmark within commodities but realized the purpose and goal of our asset class is to be a hedge and uncorrelated from equities and fixed income</li><li>• Sell GSG as the asset class's shifts to gold and bitcoin will provide commodities with a "new school" and "old school" hedge against inflation</li><li>• Still have exposure to the energy sector but to less of an extent where volatility will not hurt the asset class as a whole.</li></ul> |
| U.S. Real Estate | DTCR, REZ  | Overweight         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hold DTCR as we continue to capitalize on holdings centralized in North America and diversification in South Asia and Australia</li><li>• The rapid growth of cloud computing, artificial intelligence, and heavy resilience on digital infrastructure are prosperous exposure for the asset class</li><li>• Add REZ, as its exposure outside of tech provides stable returns</li></ul>   |



# URSINUS COLLEGE

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### Stock Selection Picks

#### Duke Energy Corp. (DUK)



##### Background:

Based in Charlotte, North Carolina, Diamondback Energy, with a market capitalization of \$88.73 billion, is a domestic energy supplier employing 27,600 people, providing electricity and natural gas that fuel everyday products and industries.

##### Thesis:

Duke Energy is a valuable addition to our portfolio, driven by its commitment to clean energy transformation; its investments in large-scale solar and wind, grid modernization, and energy storage are strengthening its market position and supporting steady revenue growth.

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##### Ratios:

- Current Price: \$114.08
- Dividends: 3.61%
- P/E: 19.55
- Current: 0.81
- Debt to Equity: 175%
- EPS: \$5.98
- Beta: 0.46

##### Strengths:

- Diversified energy portfolio
- Strong Financial Ratios
- Large client base

##### Weaknesses:

- Subject to Environmental regulations
- Accusations of Monopolizations
- High operating expenses and interest costs

##### Opportunities:

- Expansion in renewable energy assets
- Technological Advancements and Customer satisfaction

##### Threats:

- Environmental Regulations could impact performance and growth
- Fluctuations in natural gas prices can impact the company's competitive position

##### ESG Considerations:

- Focuses on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and transitioning to renewable energy sources while ensuring energy equity for underserved communities.



# URSINUS COLLEGE

## Investment Management Company

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### Stock Selection Picks

#### Hartford Financial Services (HIG)



##### Background:

Based in Hartford, Connecticut, The Hartford, with a market capitalization of \$35.18 billion, employs 18,000 people and provides property and casualty insurance, offering commercial and personal coverage such as home, auto, and liability insurance, serving individual consumers, small businesses, and large corporations with risk management solutions.

##### Thesis:

Hartford's strategic focus on digital insurance innovation, proactive risk management, and growth in employee benefits and specialty property insurance, combined with a strong history of shareholder returns and a forward-looking approach to industry trends, positions the company to deliver sustained value for our portfolio.

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##### Ratios:

- Current Price: \$120.59
- Dividends: 1.57%
- P/E: 12.60
- Current: 1.9
- Debt to Equity: 28%
- EPS: \$7.46
- Beta: 0.94

##### Strengths:

- Strong Brand Reputation
- Diverse Product Offerings
- Not dependent on single stream of income

##### Weaknesses:

- Dependence on U.S. markets:
- Underwriting losses: catastrophic events and high claims can negatively impact profitability.

##### Opportunities:

- Diversify revenue sources, mitigate risks in U.S., expand into international markets
- Capitalize on the growing demand for cyber insurance

##### Threats:

- Increasing competition puts pressure on pricing and market share.
- Any changes in tax laws, accounting standards, or state-specific insurance regulations can affect profitability

##### ESG Considerations:

- Engages in promoting climate resilience, offering sustainable insurance products, and maintaining strong governance practices





# URSINUS COLLEGE

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### Stock Selection Picks

#### Ingredion Inc. (INGR)



##### Background:

Founded in 1906 and based in Westchester, Illinois, Ingredion, with a market capitalization of \$8.79 billion, is a global supplier employing thousands to provide sweeteners, starches, and biomaterials, developing products such as biodegradable plastics and specialty food ingredients for industries including food, textiles, and pharmaceuticals.

##### Thesis:

Ingredion maintains strong financials that indicate company growth, driven by a diverse portfolio of innovative ingredient solutions in constant demand, which provide a defensive edge against market uncertainty and are supported by the company's commitment to research and technology, enabling effective competition and steady long-term growth

##### Ratios:

- Current Price: \$150.51
- Dividends: 2.30%
- P/E: 13.8
- Current: 2.5
- Debt to Equity: 49.61%
- EPS: \$9.79
- Beta: 0.73

##### Strengths:

- Global presence and a diverse product portfolio across multiple industries..
- Attractive dividend yield appeals to income-focused investors, offering stability and long-term growth potential.

##### Weaknesses:

- Relies on a few key customers for a large portion of its revenue.
- Susceptible to shifts in consumer preferences and regulatory changes.

##### Opportunities:

- Growing demand for sustainability .
- Current economic volatility allows stable products to attract cautious investors

##### Threats:

- Global economic downturns or supply chain disruptions can hurt sales and profits.
- The food ingredients and biomaterials market is highly competitive.

##### ESG Considerations:

- Prioritizes sustainable sourcing of raw materials, reducing carbon emissions, and advancing food security through responsible agricultural practices



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### Stock Selection Picks

#### Diamondback Energy Inc. (FANG)



##### Background:

Headquartered in Midland, Texas, Diamondback Energy, with a market capitalization of \$54.16 billion and approximately 1,100 employees, focuses on the acquisition, development, and exploration of oil and natural gas reserves in the Permian Basin, with upstream revenue driven by selling crude oil, natural gas, and natural gas liquids (NGLs) extracted from their wells.

##### Thesis:

Diamondback is backed by robust financials and low-cost, high-yield assets in the resource-rich Permian Basin, which amid global tensions and geopolitical uncertainty in Europe and the Middle East, offers a rare blend of growth potential and dependable stability, poising it to be a valuable addition to our portfolio

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##### Ratios:

- Current Price: \$183.29
- Dividends: 5.11%
- P/E: 9.65
- Current: 3.66
- Debt to Equity: 69%
- EPS: \$18.98
- Beta: 1.88

##### Strengths:

- Strong Financials
- 41% of revenue is supported by Natural Gas
- Low beta

##### Weaknesses:

- Little momentum and uncertainty of the future
- Limited to the US

##### Opportunities:

- Expansion in the Permian Basin
- More acquisition opportunities in the near future

##### Threats:

- Oil price volatility
- Conflicts in the Middle-East
- Recent Insider sells

##### ESG Considerations:

- Emphasizes operational safety, water management, and reducing flaring, with a focus on environmental stewardship in oil and gas extraction.



# URSINUS COLLEGE

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### Stock Selection Picks

#### Garmin (GRMN)



##### Background:

Based in Olathe, Kansas, Garmin, with a market capitalization of \$32.18 billion and more than 19,000 employees, specializes in automotive, aviation, and marine navigation, while also selling high-end fitness and outdoor watches within the consumer discretionary sector focused on leisure activities.

##### Thesis:

Garmin has strong financials with very low debt, maintaining steady sales in GPS markets while expanding into wearable technology with future expansion providing room for growth while maintaining steady revenue and limited liabilities.

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##### Ratios:

- Current Price: \$204.46
- Dividends: 1.80%
- P/E: 23.45
- Current: 2.9
- Debt to Equity: 1.45%
- EPS: \$7.14
- Beta: 0.98

##### Strengths:

- Strong Financials
- Diversified across various industries such as watches, automation, marine, fitness, outdoors
- Brand recognized for reliability

##### Weaknesses:

- Garmin wearables have higher price point than competitors
- Less individual dependence on GPS navigation with smartphones

##### Opportunities:

- Innovation in technology such as AI navigation
- Wearable technology demand is growing

##### Threats:

- Competition from companies like Apple, Fitbit, Samsung.
- New brands like Whoop and Polar are gaining traction
- Competition in the marine navigation system with Simrad and Humminbird

##### ESG Considerations:

- Works on improving product sustainability through energy-efficient designs and reducing waste through recycling initiatives.



# URSINUS COLLEGE

## Investment Management Company

Fall 2024 Newsletter

### Women's Fund Picks

#### John Deere Co. (DE)

# JOHN DEERE

##### Background:

Deere & Company, founded in 1837 and headquartered in Moline, Illinois, manufactures and distributes a wide range of agricultural, turf, construction, and forestry equipment globally. Its four main segments include Production and Precision Agriculture, which offers large machinery and harvesters for grain production; Small Agriculture and Turf, providing utility tractors, mowing, and outdoor power equipment; Construction and Forestry, offering heavy machinery for logging; and Financial Services, which finances sales and leases of its equipment.

##### Thesis:

We should invest in Deere & Company because of their potential to expand into more countries and their very promising future growth. We have an opportunity to invest in a well-known, global company as we believe they will continue into even more success.

---

##### Ratios:

- Current Price: \$394.06
- Dividend Yield: 1.34%
- P/E: 13.88
- EPS: \$29.28
- Current: 2.08
- Debt to Equity: 2.88
- Beta: 0.94

##### Strengths:

- Strong brand and technology recognition
- Well established global presence
- Financial Services segment providing flexible payment options.

##### Weaknesses:

- Limited product flexibility for Small-Scale Farmers.
- High R&D and Production costs.
- High dependence on agricultural sector.

##### Opportunities:

- Technological and sustainability advancements.
- Expand into countries with a higher agricultural demand.

##### Threats:

- Industry competition: Kubota, CAT, and CNH Industrial.
- Sales are sensitive to economic cycles and trade policies.

##### ESG Considerations:

- Key ESG considerations for Deere & Company include reducing environmental impact through fuel-efficient and low-emission machinery, prioritizing worker safety, and maintaining ethical supply chain practices. Deere's focus on sustainable innovation and responsible operations can help support long-term environmental and social goals.





# URSINUS COLLEGE

## Investment Management Company

Fall 2024 Newsletter

### Women's Fund Picks

#### Maximus Inc (MMS)

##### Background:

Maximus, Inc., founded in 1975 and based in McLean, Virginia, provides support services to government programs in the U.S. and internationally. In the U.S., Maximus assists with program enrollment, eligibility, health assessments, and job-related services, while also offering technology and consulting solutions to improve program efficiency. The company's federal segment supports health and human services through enrollment, clinical, and cybersecurity solutions. Internationally, Maximus works with governments on health assessments, employment services, and wellness programs. Overall, Maximus is focused on making government services more accessible and effective for communities around the world.

##### Thesis:

Maximus appears to be a strong company due to its position in essential government services, which guarantees a steady demand regardless of political shifts. Historically, the company has navigated changes in administration effectively, and continuing to secure government contracts from both parties. We should invest because with solid sector ratios, steady dividends, and an important role in public service efficiency, Maximus may offer a promising long-term growth opportunity.

---

##### Ratios:

- Current Price: \$85.17
- Dividend Yield: 1.3%
- P/E: 18.47
- EPS: 4.72
- Current:
- Debt-to-Equity: 0.71
- Beta: 0.77

##### Strengths:

- Wide-ranging service offerings and high technology innovation.

##### Weaknesses:

- Heavily reliant on government contracts.
- Strict compliance requirements.

##### Opportunities:

- Rising demand for Health Services that Maximus can contribute towards.
- Expansion into new markets.

##### Threats:

- Challenges of regulatory changes and technological disruptions.

##### ESG Considerations:

- Enhancing data privacy and security, given the sensitive nature of government services and personal data they manage. Equitable access and quality of services for underserved communities are central to their social impact, as is fostering a diverse and inclusive workforce. Governance priorities include maintaining ethical practices, regulatory compliance, and board diversity, all of which are essential for operating with government entities.



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## Investment Management Company

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### Management Team

#### Chief Executive Officers:



Alexandra Nenish



Jack Shimer

#### Chief Risk and Research Officers:



Michael Scheller



Cole Grubbs

#### Chief Investment Officer:



Harry Sweitzer

#### Chief Outreach Officer:



Kieran Hollander

#### Chief Curriculum Officers:



Sean Connelly - Stock



Mayleigh Rickey - Women's

#### Faculty Advisors:



Dr. Jennifer VanGilder



Maureen Cumpstone



Jordan Williams - Endowment



Dr. Elisheva Stern



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## Investment Management Company

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### Women's Fund Analysts

#### Senior Analysts

Mayleigh Rickey

#### Junior Analysts:

Edie Cordes

Erin Glanz

Grace Klag

Samantha Leusner

Josephine Parson



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### Stock Selection Analysts

#### Senior Analysts:

Sean Connelly  
Harry Sweitzer  
Ryan Dever  
Alex Pratzner  
James Condi  
Hunter Murray  
Trey Williams  
Richard Williams  
Daniel Kupiec  
Lars Homan  
Luke Christmas  
Dominic Nunez  
Logan Downs

#### Junior Analysts:

|                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Mohamed Abdelatty | Nathan Lloyd        |
| Elijah Alexandre  | Tristan Machado     |
| Kevin Bradley     | Aidan McCann        |
| James Cage        | John McSorley       |
| Declan Curran     | Asa Mitchell        |
| Michael Danter    | Braeden OConnell    |
| Colin Deal        | Noah Parchinski     |
| Amar Dzombalic    | David Piotrowski    |
| Benjamin Factor   | Bryce Pistorio      |
| Julian Faust      | Ben Quach           |
| Gabriel Glassic   | Samuel Rock         |
| Reed Grant        | Jaesung Ryu         |
| Wyatt Hart        | Sean Spinoso        |
| Alexander Hromek  | Bryce Svensen       |
| Cole Jackson      | Alexander Torres    |
| Andrew Kmett      | Nickolas Washington |
| Quentin Kuehn     | William Breslin     |
| Thomas Quinn      | Patrick Esemplare   |
|                   | Patrick McManus     |



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### Endowment Analysts

#### Senior Analysts

Will Allain  
Tyler Causa  
Cole Grubbs  
Kieran Hollander  
Kyle Rosenfeld  
Michael Scheller  
Jordan Williams

#### Junior Analysts

Ryan Barrow  
Ryan Bevensee  
Jack Garrity  
Patrick Collins  
Nick Covis  
Nadya Dato  
Tyler Dinan  
Anthony Esposito  
Michael Farley  
Matthew Field  
Jack Garrity  
Isaac Gesford  
Hunter Hannum  
Gabriel Heaney  
Andrew Hladik  
John Hodges  
Logan Jones  
Marco Maiuolo  
Sawyer Mezzatesta  
Stephen Mullen  
Tyler Pan  
Mohamed Toure



# URSINUS COLLEGE

## Investment Management Company

### Fall 2024 Newsletter

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- Amanda Palladino '18
- Elizabeth Gombosi '10
- Dan Myers P'19

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- Michael Piotrowicz, Legacy Advisors
- Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia



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Mark Pistorio  
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Scott Sloan '24  
Ken Cage P'26





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