The Economics of Private Equity Investment

Sponsored by the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco Center for the Study of Innovation and Productivity

October 19, 2007
Guest Speakers

Colin Blaydon is the founding Director of the Center for Private Equity and Entrepreneurship at The Tuck School of Business. He is also the William and Joseephine Buchanan Professor of Management and Dean Emeritus at the Tuck School. Professor Blaydon serves on the advisory boards of two venture capital funds, a fund of funds, and a buyout fund. He also is a member of the board of directors of two venture backed companies. Over his career he has served as a board member of over 30 corporations and not-for-profit institutions. Professor Blaydon’s research and teaching interests are in the area of private equity finance, both buyout and venture capital. He testifies as an expert witness on energy finance and cost of capital issues. In addition to his academic career, Professor Blaydon has served in the Department of Defense and the Office of Management and Budget. He obtained a BEE from the University of Virginia and received an AM and PhD in applied mathematics from Harvard University.

Chris James holds the William H Dial/Sunbank Eminent Scholar Chair in Banking and Finance at the University of Florida. His research focuses on the role of banks in the capital acquisition process, mergers and acquisitions and the resolution of financial distress. He has published over 50 articles on these topics. Prior to joining the faculty at the University of Florida he held positions at the University of Oregon and the University of Michigan. Professor James has served as a consultant to a number of government agencies including the Comptroller of the Currency, FDIC and the Federal Reserve Board of Governors. He has also served as a consultant to a number of corporations on issues concerning risk management, valuation, and bank lending policies. Professor James currently serves on the editorial boards of the Journal of Financial Economics, Journal of Banking and Finance, Journal of Managerial and Decision Economics, and the Journal of Financial Services Research. He also has served as an associate editor of the Journal of Finance and a co-editor of the Journal of Financial Intermediation.

Ayako Yasuda joined Wharton as an Assistant Professor of Finance in 2001. She earned her bachelor’s degree with honors in quantitative economics from Stanford University in 1993, and her Ph.D from Economics Department at Stanford University in 2001. Prior to her graduate studies, she also worked in the investment banking division of Goldman Sachs in Tokyo. Professor Yasuda’s research focuses on economics of financial institutions, including private equity/VC firms, banks, and self-side research. Her current projects examine issues such as the relation between power-sharing rules at private equity funds and their risk-taking and investment performance; the effect of bond investor base fragility on the leverage of the firm; and the relation between analyst reputation and investment values of analyst stock recommendations.

Peter Y. Chung is a Managing Partner of Summit Partners, L.P. Since joining the firm in 1994, he has focused on growth equity and recapitalization transactions in the technology, health care and financial technology/services sectors. He has served on the board of directors of numerous public and private companies and has been involved in Summit’s investments in ADVA AG Optical Networking, Altocorn, Ditech Networks, E-Tek Dynamics, Finisar, GoldenGate Software, iPayment, NightHawk Radiology, Sealright Insurance, Sirena Microdevices, and Splash Technology. Prior to joining Summit, Mr. Chung worked in the Mergers & Acquisitions Department of Goldman, Sachs & Co. and at Patagonia, Inc. Mr. Chung also serves as a member of the Advisory Board of The Salvation Army in San Francisco and as a Trustee of the California Academy of Sciences. Mr. Chung received an A.B, magna cum laude, from Harvard University and an M.B.A from the Stanford University Graduate School of Business.

Jonathan Coslet is a Senior Partner of TPG Capital L.P. He is a member of the firm’s Investment Committee, Executive Committee and Management Committee. Prior to joining TPG, Mr. Coslet worked at Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette, specializing in leveraged acquisitions and at Drexel Burnham Lambert. Mr. Coslet received his MBA from Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration. Mr. Coslet received his B.S.E. in Economics (Finance) from the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School, where he was Valedictorian, summa cum laude. Mr. Coslet has served on the Boards of Directors of Burger King, Neiman Marcus, Petco Animal Supplies, J.Crew, Biomet, Quintiles Transnational, Iasis Healthcare, Fidelity National Information Services, Endurance Specialty, Oxford Health Plans, PPOM, Vivra, and several others. Mr. Coslet also serves on the Harvard Business School Advisory Board for the West Coast and the Finance Committee of the Lucille Packard Children’s Hospital at Stanford.

Peter Rappoport is Managing Director in Global Strategy Research at J.P.Morgan. Mr. Rappoport has also served as Head of the Quantitative Strategies Group and Head of Portfolio Research at J.P. Morgan. Prior to joining JP Morgan, Mr. Rappoport taught economics at Rutgers University and at New York University. He also worked in the Economics Research Department of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. Mr. Rappoport has published in academic journals and is a leading expert on collateralized debt markets. He received a B.A. from Oxford University and a Ph.D in economics from the University of California, Berkeley.