FRANKLIN RESOURCES INC Form DEF 14A January 25, 2011 Table of Contents

## **UNITED STATES**

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

# **SCHEDULE 14A**

**Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a)** 

of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

(Amendment No. )

Filed by the Registrant x

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant "

Check the appropriate box:

Preliminary Proxy Statement

Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))

- x Definitive Proxy Statement
- " Definitive Additional Materials
- " Soliciting Material Pursuant to Section 240.14a-12

# FRANKLIN RESOURCES, INC.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if Other Than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

x	No fee required.					
	Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.					
	1)	Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:				
	2)	Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:				
	3)	Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):				
	4)	Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:				
	5)	Total fee paid:				
	Fee 1	paid previously with preliminary materials.				
	Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.					
	1)	Amount Previously Paid:				
	2)	Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:				

3) Filing Party:

4) Date Filed: "

#### FRANKLIN RESOURCES, INC.

#### NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

#### DEAR STOCKHOLDER:

The Board of Directors of Franklin Resources, Inc. (the Company) invites you to attend the 2011 annual meeting of stockholders (the Annual Meeting) to be held on Tuesday, March 15, 2011 at 10:00 a.m., Pacific Time, in the H. L. Jamieson Auditorium, at One Franklin Parkway, Building 920, San Mateo, California, for the following purposes:

- 1. To elect 12 directors to the Board of Directors to hold office until the next annual meeting of stockholders or until that person s successor is elected and qualified or until his or her earlier death, resignation, retirement, disqualification or removal.
- 2. To ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as the Company s independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011.
- 3. To approve an amendment and restatement of the Franklin Resources, Inc. 2002 Universal Stock Incentive Plan (the USIP ) to increase the number of authorized shares of common stock available for issuance by 10,000,000 shares.
- 4. To hold an advisory vote on the compensation of the Company s executive officers.
- 5. To hold an advisory vote on the frequency with which to hold an advisory vote on the compensation of the Company s executive officers.
- 6. To transact such other business that may properly be raised at the Annual Meeting or any adjournments or postponements of the Annual Meeting.

We are primarily furnishing proxy materials to our stockholders on the Internet rather than mailing paper copies of the materials to each stockholder. As a result, some of you will receive a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials and others will receive paper copies of the Proxy Statement and our Annual Report. The Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials contains instructions on how to access the Proxy Statement and the Annual Report over the Internet, instructions on how to vote your shares, as well as instructions on how to request a paper copy of our proxy materials, if you so desire. Electronic delivery is designed to expedite the receipt of materials, significantly lower costs and help to conserve natural resources.

Whether you received the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials or paper copies of our proxy materials, the Proxy Statement, the Proxy Card, the Annual Report, and any amendments to the foregoing materials that are required to be furnished to stockholders are available for you to review online at www.proxyvote.com.

The Company s Board of Directors has fixed the close of business on January 18, 2011 as the record date for the determination of stockholders entitled to receive notice of, and to vote on, all matters presented at the Annual Meeting or any adjournments thereof. Your vote is very important. Even if you think that you will attend the Annual Meeting, we ask you to please cast your vote. You may vote your shares via the Internet, by telephone, by mail or in person at the Annual Meeting.

By order of the Board of Directors,

MARIA GRAY

**SECRETARY** 

JANUARY 25, 2011

SAN MATEO, CALIFORNIA

## Your vote is important.

Please vote via the Internet, by telephone, by mail or in person at the Annual Meeting.

SE	CТ	Т	O	N

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS	PAGE
PROXY STATEMENT	1
IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS	1
VOTING INFORMATION	1
PROPOSAL NO. 1 ELECTION OF DIRECTORS	5
<u>GENERAL</u>	5
<u>DIRECTORS AND NOMINEES</u>	6
<u>CORPORATE GOVERNANCE</u>	12
INFORMATION ABOUT THE BOARD AND ITS COMMITTEES	16
<u>DIRECTOR FEES</u>	22
SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF PRINCIPAL STOCKHOLDERS	25
SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF MANAGEMENT	26
EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION	28
COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS	28
COMPENSATION COMMITTEE REPORT	41
SUMMARY COMPENSATION TABLE	42
GRANTS OF PLAN-BASED AWARDS (FISCAL YEAR 2010)	44
OUTSTANDING EQUITY AWARDS AT 2010 FISCAL YEAR-END	45
OPTION EXERCISES AND STOCK VESTED (FISCAL YEAR 2010)	46
POTENTIAL PAYMENTS UPON TERMINATION OR CHANGE IN CONTROL	47
COMPENSATION COMMITTEE INTERLOCKS AND INSIDER PARTICIPATION  ENTERLOCKS AND INSIDER PARTICIPATION	51
EQUITY COMPENSATION PLAN INFORMATION	51
REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE	52
FEES PAID TO INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM	53
CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS  SECTION 16(1) PENERGIAL ONNERGHAD PEROPETRIC GOMBILIANCE	55
SECTION 16(a) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTING COMPLIANCE	58
PROPOSAL NO. 2 RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM	59
	37
PROPOSAL NO. 3 APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT AND RESTATEMENT OF THE FRANKLIN RESOURCES, INC. 2002 UNIVERSAL STOCK INCENTIVE PLAN	60
PROPOSAL NO. 4 ADVISORY VOTE ON THE COMPENSATION OF THE COMPANY S EXECUTIVE OFFICERS	68
PROPOSAL NO. 5 ADVISORY VOTE ON THE FREQUENCY WITH WHICH TO HOLD AN ADVISORY VOTE ON	
THE COMPENSATION OF THE COMPANY S EXECUTIVE OFFICERS	69
	09
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	
STOCKHOLDER PROPOSALS AND NOMINATIONS OF DIRECTORS AT 2012 ANNUAL MEETING	70
CONTACT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS	70
ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO PROXY MATERIALS AND DIRECTIONS	71
HOUSEHOLDING OF PROXY MATERIALS	71
THE ANNUAL REPORT	72
ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10-K	72
APPENDIX A: AUDIT COMMITTEE CHARTER	A-1
APPENDIX B: CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE CHARTER	B-1
APPENDIX C: FRANKLIN RESOURCES, INC. 2002 UNIVERSAL STOCK INCENTIVE PLAN, AS AMENDED AND	
<u>RESTATED</u>	C-1

#### FRANKLIN RESOURCES, INC.

**One Franklin Parkway** 

San Mateo, California 94403-1906

#### PROXY STATEMENT

January 25, 2011

This Proxy Statement and the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders are furnished in connection with the solicitation by the Board of Directors of Franklin Resources, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the Company), of the accompanying proxy to be voted at the 2011 annual meeting of stockholders (the Annual Meeting), which will be held on Tuesday, March 15, 2011, at 10:00 a.m., Pacific Time, in the H. L. Jamieson Auditorium, One Franklin Parkway, Building 920, San Mateo, California, the Company s principal executive offices. We expect that this Proxy Statement and the enclosed proxy will be mailed and/or made available to each stockholder entitled to vote on or about January 25, 2011.

All materials filed by the Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) can be obtained at the SEC s Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549 or through the SEC s website at <a href="https://www.sec.gov">www.sec.gov</a>. You may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling 1-800-SEC-0330.

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS

Under the rules adopted by the SEC, we are furnishing proxy materials to our stockholders primarily over the Internet. We believe that this process should expedite stockholders receipt of proxy materials, lower the costs of our Annual Meeting and help to conserve natural resources. On or about January 25, 2011, we mailed to each of our stockholders (other than those who previously requested electronic or paper delivery and participants in the Franklin Templeton 401(k) Retirement Plan (the 401(k) Plan )), a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials containing instructions on how to access and review the proxy materials, including this Proxy Statement and our Annual Report, on the Internet and how to access a proxy card to vote on the Internet or by telephone. The Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials also contains instructions on how to receive a paper copy of the proxy materials. If you received a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials by mail, you will not receive a printed copy of the proxy materials unless you request one. If you received paper copies of our proxy materials, you may also view these materials at www.proxyvote.com.

#### VOTING INFORMATION

#### WHO CAN VOTE?

Holders of the Company's common stock, par value \$0.10 per share (the common stock), at the close of business on January 18, 2011 (the Record Date) are entitled to one vote for each share owned on that date on each matter presented at the Annual Meeting. As of December 31, 2010, the Company had 223,429,244 shares of common stock outstanding. If your shares are held in a stock brokerage account or by a bank or other holder of record, you are considered the beneficial owner of shares held in street name. The Notice of Internet Availability of this Proxy Statement has been forwarded to you by your broker, bank or other holder of record who is considered, with respect to those shares, the stockholder of record. As the beneficial owner, you have the right to direct your broker, bank or other holder of record on how to vote your shares by using the voting instruction form included in the mailing or by following their instructions for voting by telephone or on the Internet.

### WHAT MATTERS ARE TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE MEETING?

At the Annual Meeting, stockholders will be asked to consider and vote upon the: (1) election of 12 directors to the Company s Board of Directors (the Board of Directors or Board ) to hold office until the next

annual meeting of stockholders or until that person s successor is elected and qualified or until his or her earlier death, resignation, retirement, disqualification or removal; (Proposal No. 1); (2) ratification of the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as the Company s independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011 (fiscal year 2011) (Proposal No. 2); (3) approval of an amendment and restatement of the USIP to increase the number of authorized shares of common stock available for issuance by 10,000,000 shares (Proposal No. 3); (4) approval, on an advisory basis, of the compensation of the Company s executive officers (Proposal No. 4); and (5) selection, on an advisory basis, of the frequency with which to hold an advisory vote on the compensation of the Company s executive officers (Proposal No. 5).

The Board of Directors does not know of any other matter to be brought before the Annual Meeting. If any other matters properly come before the meeting, the persons named in the form of proxy or their substitutes will vote in accordance with their best judgment on such matters.

#### HOW MANY VOTES ARE NEEDED TO HOLD THE MEETING?

In order to take any action at the Annual Meeting, a majority of the Company s outstanding shares as of the Record Date must be present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote at the meeting. This is called a quorum.

#### WHO COUNTS THE VOTES?

The final voting results will be tallied by Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. and the Inspector of Elections, and reported on a Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC within four business days following the meeting.

#### WHAT IS A PROXY?

A proxy allows someone else (the proxy holder ) to vote your shares on your behalf. The Board of Directors is asking you to allow any of the persons named on the proxy card (Charles B. Johnson, Chairman of the Board; Gregory E. Johnson, President and Chief Executive Officer; and Maria Gray, Vice President and Secretary) to vote your shares at the Annual Meeting.

#### HOW DO I VOTE?

Whether you hold shares directly as a stockholder of record or beneficially in street name, you may vote your shares without attending the Annual Meeting. You may vote by granting a proxy or, for shares held in street name, by submitting voting instructions to your bank, broker or other holder of record. You may also vote by telephone, using the Internet or by mail as outlined in the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials or on your proxy card. Except for certain stockholders described below, the deadline for voting by telephone or by using the Internet is 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time (ET), on Monday, March 14, 2011. Please see the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials, your proxy card or the information your bank, broker, or other holder of record provided to you for more information on these options.

The persons named as your proxy holders on the proxy card will vote the shares represented by your proxy in accordance with the specifications you make. For stockholders of record that return their proxy card but do not provide instructions on how to vote, the persons named as your proxy holders on the proxy card will vote the shares represented by the proxy FOR all nominees to the Board of Directors (Proposal No. 1), FOR the ratification of the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as the Company s independent registered public accounting firm (the independent auditors) for fiscal year 2011 (Proposal No. 2), FOR the approval of an amendment and restatement of the USIP to increase the number of authorized shares of common stock available for issuance by 10,000,000 shares (Proposal No. 3), FOR the approval, on an advisory basis, of the compensation of the Company s executive officers (Proposal No. 4), and FOR the approval, on an advisory basis, of once every three years as the frequency with which to hold an advisory vote on the compensation of the Company s

#### **Table of Contents**

executive officers (Proposal No. 5). For beneficial holders that return their voting instructions but do not provide instructions on how to vote, your bank, broker or other holder of record will only have the discretion to vote on the ratification of the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as the Company s independent auditors for fiscal 2011 (Proposal No. 2). Additionally, unless you specify otherwise on your proxy card, if any other matters come before the Annual Meeting to be voted on, the persons named as your proxy holders on the proxy card will vote, act and consent on those matters in their discretion.

For participants in the Franklin Templeton 401(k) Retirement Plan (the 401(k) Plan ), your shares will be voted as you specify on your proxy card. If you do not vote, your shares will be voted by the independent fiduciary for and against the proposals in the same proportion as shares for which directions are received by the independent fiduciary unless the independent fiduciary decides that the law requires that the independent fiduciary vote them differently. (This also means that the way you vote will also affect how the independent fiduciary will vote the shares of participants who do not vote.) If you wish to abstain from voting on any matter, you must indicate this on your proxy card. You cannot vote your 401(k) Plan shares in person at the meeting. To allow sufficient time for your shares to be voted as you instruct, the trustee must receive your vote by no later than 2:00 p.m. ET on Thursday, March 10, 2011.

For participants in the Franklin Resources, Inc. amended and restated 1998 Employee Stock Investment Plan (the ESIP), each of whom have accounts established at BNY Mellon Shareowner Services (BNY Mellon), your shares will be voted by BNY Mellon as you specify on your proxy card. If you do not designate how your shares should be voted, BNY Mellon will only have the discretion to vote on the ratification of the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as the Company s independent auditors for fiscal year 2011 (Proposal No. 2). You cannot vote your ESIP shares in person at the meeting. To allow sufficient time for voting, BNY Mellon must receive your vote by no later than 2:00 p.m. ET on Thursday, March 10, 2011.

#### CAN I CHANGE OR REVOKE MY VOTE AFTER I RETURN MY PROXY CARD?

Yes. Whether your vote is submitted via the mail, the Internet or by telephone, you may change or revoke your proxy at any time before it is voted. A proxy, including an Internet or telephone vote, may be changed or revoked by submitting another proxy with a later date at any time prior to the beginning of the Annual Meeting. You may also revoke your proxy by attending the Annual Meeting and voting in person. Participants in the 401(k) Plan and those holding shares purchased through the ESIP, which are held in accounts with BNY Mellon, may revoke their proxy by no later than 2:00 p.m. ET on Thursday, March 10, 2011.

#### CAN I VOTE IN PERSON AT THE ANNUAL MEETING INSTEAD OF VOTING BY PROXY?

Yes. However, we encourage you to complete and return the enclosed proxy card to ensure that your shares are represented and voted. Participants in the 401(k) Plan and those holding shares purchased through the ESIP, which are held in accounts with BNY Mellon must vote by no later than 2:00 p.m. ET on Thursday, March 10, 2011.

#### HOW ARE VOTES COUNTED?

To be counted as represented, a proxy card must have been returned for those shares, the stockholder must have voted the shares by telephone or over the Internet, or the stockholder must be present at the meeting. Votes will be tabulated by the Inspector of Elections appointed for the meeting, who will separately tabulate affirmative, negative, one year, two year and three year votes, abstentions and broker non-votes.

#### WHAT IS A BROKER NON-VOTE?

A broker non-vote occurs when a bank, broker or other holder of record holding shares for a beneficial owner does not vote on a particular proposal because the nominee does not have authority to vote on that

3

particular proposal without receiving voting instructions from the beneficial owner. Under New York Stock Exchange ( NYSE ) rules, the ratification of the selection of an independent registered public accounting firm (Proposal No. 2), is considered a routine matter, and brokers generally may vote on behalf of beneficial owners who have not furnished voting instructions, subject to the rules of the NYSE concerning transmission of proxy materials to beneficial owners, and subject to any proxy voting policies and procedures of those brokerage firms. Brokers may not vote on the other proposals contained in this Proxy Statement, which are considered non-routine proposals, unless they have received voting instructions from the beneficial owner, and to the extent that they have not received voting instructions, brokers report such number of shares as non-votes .

#### WHAT IS THE VOTING REQUIREMENT TO APPROVE EACH OF THE PROPOSALS?

The election of directors (Proposal No. 1) requires that each director receive a majority of the votes cast with respect to that director at the Annual Meeting. This means that the number of shares of stock voted FOR a director must exceed the number of votes cast AGAINST that director. Abstentions and broker non-votes will not have any effect on the election of directors.

The affirmative vote of the holders of shares of common stock, having a majority of the votes present in person or represented by proxy at the Annual Meeting and entitled to vote on the matter, are necessary to ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (Proposal No. 2). Abstentions will have the same effect as a vote against this proposal.

The affirmative vote of the holders of shares of common stock, having a majority of the votes present in person or represented by proxy at the Annual Meeting and entitled to vote on the matter, are necessary to approve an amendment and restatement of the USIP to increase the number of authorized shares of common stock available for issuance by 10,000,000 shares (Proposal No. 3). Abstentions will have the same effect as a vote against this proposal. Broker non-votes will not have any effect on the outcome of this proposal.

The approval of the compensation of the Company s executive officers (Proposal No. 4) requires a majority of the votes cast with respect to this matter. This means that the number of shares of stock voted FOR approval of the compensation of the Company s executive directors must exceed the number of votes cast AGAINST the proposal. The vote on Proposal No. 4 is advisory and therefore not binding on the Company. Abstentions and broker non-votes will not have any effect on the approval of this proposal.

The approval of a frequency selection with regard to how often shareholders should be offered an advisory vote on the compensation of the Company's executive officers (Proposal No. 5) will be determined by which option, ONE YEAR, TWO YEARS, or THREE YEARS receives a plurality of the votes cast with respect to this matter. The vote on Proposal No. 5 is advisory and therefore not binding on the Company. Abstentions and broker non-votes will not have any effect on the approval of this proposal.

Shares that are voted in person or by proxy are treated as being present at the meeting for purposes of establishing a quorum, and will be included in determining the number of shares represented and voted at the Annual Meeting with respect to such matter. Broker non-votes will be counted for purposes of determining the presence or absence of a quorum for the transaction of business. If the persons present or represented by proxy at the Annual Meeting constitute the holders of less than a majority of the outstanding shares of common stock as of the record date, the Annual Meeting may be adjourned to a subsequent date for the purpose of obtaining a quorum.

#### WHO PAYS FOR THIS PROXY SOLICITATION?

Your proxy is being solicited by the Board on behalf of the Company. The Company pays the cost of soliciting your proxy and reimburses brokerage costs and other fees for forwarding proxy materials to you.

4

#### PROPOSAL NO. 1

#### **ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

#### GENERAL

The Corporate Governance Committee of the Board recommended and nominated, and the Board approved, the nominees named below for election as members of the Board. With the exceptions of Messrs. Mark C. Pigott and Geoffrey Y. Yang who were each recommended to the Board by the Corporate Governance Committee and who are standing for election for the first time, each director nominee was elected by the Company s stockholders at the Company s last annual meeting of stockholders and, accordingly, is standing for re-election. Mr. Pigott was initially recommended to the Corporate Governance Committee by one of the Company s independent directors and Mr. Yang was recommended by our Chief Executive Officer. One current director, Thomas H. Kean, who has been a member of the Board since 2003, will not be standing for re-election at the meeting since under our Corporate Governance Guidelines he is not eligible to be recommended for nomination as a director due to his age.

The Corporate Governance Committee and the Board believe that the nominees have the requisite experience, qualifications, attributes and skills to provide the Company with effective oversight of a global investment management organization. The Corporate Governance Committee and the Board believe that there are general requirements and skills that are required of each director and other skills and experience that should be represented on the Board as a whole but not necessarily by each director. The Board believes that, consistent with these requirements, each nominee displays a high degree of personal and professional integrity, an ability to exercise sound business judgment on a broad range of issues, sufficient experience and background to have an appreciation of the issues facing our Company, a willingness to devote the necessary time to board duties, a commitment to representing the best interest of the Company and its stockholders and a dedication to enhancing stockholder value. The Board seeks to assemble a group of directors that, as a whole, represents a mix of experiences and skills that allows appropriate deliberation on all issues that the Board might be likely to consider. The Corporate Governance Committee s Policy Regarding Nominations and Qualifications of Directors described below outlines the qualities that the Corporate Governance Committee and the Board seek in director nominees.

If elected, each nominee will serve until the next annual meeting of stockholders or until that person s successor is elected and qualified or until his or her earlier death, resignation, retirement, disqualification or removal.

In accordance with the Company s Director Independence Standards, described more fully below, and the rules of the NYSE, the Board has affirmatively determined that it is currently composed of a majority of independent directors, and that the following director nominees are independent and do not have a material relationship with the Company: Samuel H. Armacost; Charles Crocker; Joseph R. Hardiman; Mark C. Pigott; Chutta Ratnathicam; Laura Stein; Anne M. Tatlock; and Geoffrey Y. Yang. In addition, Thomas H. Kean, who will continue to be a member of the Board until his expected retirement at the Annual Meeting, is an independent director.

#### MAJORITY VOTING FOR DIRECTORS

The Company s Amended and Restated Bylaws provide for majority voting in the election of directors. This means that, in uncontested elections, directors are elected by a majority of the votes cast. Consequently, the number of shares voted for a director must exceed the number of shares voted against that director. In a contested election (a situation in which the number of nominees exceeds the number of directors to be elected), the standard for election of directors will be a plurality of the shares represented in person or by proxy at any such meeting and entitled to vote on the election of directors.

5

The Company s Corporate Governance Guidelines require the Corporate Governance Committee to establish procedures to implement a director resignation policy in situations where a director fails to receive a majority of votes cast in his or her election. The Company s Corporate Governance Guidelines provide that, in the event a director fails to be elected, the Corporate Governance Committee will then make a recommendation to the Board on whether to accept or reject the resignation, or whether other action should be taken. The Board will act on the Corporate Governance Committee s recommendation within 90 days following certification of the election results. In determining whether or not to recommend that the Board accept any resignation offer, the Corporate Governance Committee may consider all factors believed relevant by such committee s members. Unless applicable to all directors, the director whose resignation is under consideration is expected to recuse himself or herself from the Board vote. The Board will promptly disclose its decision regarding the director s resignation offer (including the reason(s) for rejecting the resignation offer, if applicable) in a Form 8-K filed with the SEC. If the Board accepts a director s resignation pursuant to this process, the Corporate Governance Committee will recommend to the Board whether to fill the vacancy created or reduce the size of the Board.

#### RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD

The Board recommends a vote **FOR** the election to the Board of each of the nominees listed below. The voting requirements for this proposal are described in the Voting Information section above.

#### DIRECTORS AND NOMINEES

Listed below are the names, ages as of December 31, 2010, and principal occupations and membership on public boards for the past five years of each director and nominee. In addition, we have also provided information concerning the particular experience, qualification, attributes and/or skills that the Corporate Governance Committee and the Board considered as relevant to each director and nominee that led to the conclusion that he or she should serve as a director.

#### Samuel H. Armacost

Age 71

Nominee, Director Since 2004

Chairman Emeritus and Director of the Board of SRI International (formerly Stanford Research Institute), an independent nonprofit technology research and development organization since March, 2010. A member of SRI International s Board of Directors since 1981, Chairman of the Board from 1998 until March, 2010. Managing Director, Weiss, Peck & Greer LLC, an investment management and venture capital firm, from 1990 until 1998 and Merrill Lynch Capital Markets from 1987 until 1990. President, Director and Chief Executive Officer, BankAmerica Corporation from 1981 until 1986. Director, Chevron Corporation, Del Monte Foods Company, Exponent, Inc. and Callaway Golf Company.

Key Attributes, Experience and Skills:

Mr. Armacost has long-term experience and wide-ranging expertise in the Company s two business segments, investment management and banking/finance. Having held various positions for over 22 years with Bank of America and BankAmerica Corporation, including Chief Financial Officer and President and Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Armacost brings strong leadership skills and a valuable perspective on financial, operational and strategic matters to the Board. As a Partner and Managing Director for eight years of Weiss, Peck & Greer LLC, Mr. Armacost was closely involved in the management, sales, and marketing of institutional asset management accounts and various mutual funds. Through his Bank of America service and his participation on the boards of a number of multinational public companies, Mr. Armacost brings a deep understanding of issues associated with our operations in multiple jurisdictions.

6

#### **Charles Crocker**

Age 71

Nominee, Director Since 2003

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Crocker Capital; a private venture capital firm, formerly Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and a director from October 1997 to March 2006 of BEI Technologies, Inc., a manufacturer of electronic sensors and motion control products and a subsidiary of Schneider Electric SA; President of BEI Technologies, Inc., a diversified technology company, from October 1997 to May 2000. Director, Teledyne Technologies Incorporated, Conmed Healthcare Management, Fiduciary Trust Company International, a subsidiary of the Company, and Pope & Talbot, Inc. (former).

Key Attributes, Experience and Skills:

Mr. Crocker s experience as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Crocker Capital provides valuable financial and management expertise as well as knowledge of the capital markets to the Board. As an entrepreneur, Mr. Crocker founded and built two companies, enabling him to provide strategic direction and growth expertise to the Company. Through his service in leadership roles in major not-for-profit institutions, he provides valuable business, leadership and client service perspectives to the Board. Mr. Crocker has a deep understanding of compensation and finance matters gained through his current and prior service on the audit and compensation committees of public and private companies, including ours.

#### Joseph R. Hardiman

Age 73

Nominee, Director Since 2005

Formerly, President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. (predecessor to FINRA), and its wholly owned subsidiary, The Nasdaq Stock Market, Inc., from September 1987 through January 1997; from 1975 through September 1987, held various positions at Alex. Brown & Sons, an investment bank, including Managing Director and Chief Operating Officer; previously, served on the boards of the Deutsche Scudder Funds, Soundview Technology Group, and the Depository Trust Company. Director, Brown Investment Advisory & Trust Company, Broadwing Corporation (former), ISI Funds (former), and Nevis Fund (former).

Key Attributes, Experience and Skills:

Mr. Hardiman brings extensive financial, regulatory, broker-dealer, compliance and leadership experience to the Board having served as a President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. and the NASDAQ Stock Market. Mr. Hardiman has expertise in investment banking, capital markets and securities distribution from, among other things, his tenure with Alex. Brown & Sons and Soundview Technology Group, and extensive knowledge of the investment management business through his work on the boards of the Deutsche Scudder Funds and ISI Funds. Mr. Hardiman brings to the Board valuable perspectives on corporate governance from these leadership roles and from his extensive experience on the boards of public and private companies.

#### Charles B. Johnson

Age 77

Nominee, Director Since 1969

Chairman of the Board of the Company since December 1999; formerly, Chief Executive Officer of the Company; officer and/or director of certain subsidiaries of the Company; officer and/or director or trustee of various investment companies managed or advised by subsidiaries of the Company.

7

Key Attributes, Experience and Skills:

Mr. C. B. Johnson is widely regarded as a distinguished leader in the asset management industry. He has been with the Company for over 50 years, having grown the Company from one with assets under management of \$2.5 million to one with assets under management of over \$670 billion at the end of December 2010. As Chairman of the Board and a former Chief Executive Officer of the Company and an officer, director or trustee of various subsidiaries and Franklin Templeton mutual funds, Mr. Johnson brings to the Board an incomparable knowledge of and experience with the Company and its business as well as valuable leadership and management experience. Under his stewardship, the Company acquired the Mutual Series and Templeton organizations, strategic decisions that have been critical components of the Company s growth and entry into international markets. In his role as Chairman of the Board for more than a decade, he has guided the Board in performing its oversight functions and has provided a critical link between management and the Board. In addition, through his prior service as the Chairman of the National Association of Securities Dealers (the NASD, currently known as FINRA), various committees and the board of the NASD, and on the Board of Governors of the Investment Company Institute, Mr. Johnson brings significant insights on the regulatory and policy issues that companies in our industry face. Mr. Johnson is a member of the Board of Overseers of the Hoover Institution and several civic and cultural institutions. Having Mr. C. B. Johnson as Chairman of the Board provides our Company with ethical, decisive and effective leadership.

#### Gregory E. Johnson

Age 49

Nominee, Director Since 2007

President of the Company since December 1999 and Chief Executive Officer of the Company since January 2004; officer and/or director of certain subsidiaries of the Company.

Key Attributes, Experience and Skills:

Mr. G. Johnson brings leadership and extensive business and operating experience, as well as significant knowledge of our Company and the global fund management industry, to the Board. Mr. G. Johnson is a certified public accountant and prior to joining the Company, was a senior accountant with Coopers & Lybrand. Over his 24-year tenure with the Company, Mr. G. Johnson has held officer and director positions with various subsidiaries of the Company, hands-on experience that provides him with in-depth knowledge of the Company s operations. Mr. G. Johnson s presence on the Board provides a crucial link between the Board and management and also provides the Board with management s current perspectives on the Company s business and strategic vision for the Company. Mr. G. Johnson s service on various boards of industry organizations including the Investment Company Institute s Board of Governors also provides the Board with the benefit of additional perspectives on industry developments, including regulatory and policy issues.

#### Rupert H. Johnson, Jr.

Age 70

Nominee, Director Since 1969

Vice Chairman of the Company since December 1999; officer and/or director of certain subsidiaries of the Company; officer and/or director or trustee of various investment companies managed or advised by subsidiaries of the Company.

Key Attributes, Experience and Skills:

Mr. R. Johnson's service as Vice Chairman of the Company and as an officer, director or trustee of various subsidiaries of the Company and Franklin Templeton mutual funds since its inception provide the Board with significant knowledge of and insights into the Company and the global fund management industry in which we operate. His fundamental knowledge of the Company gained over 45 years give him an important perspective on

the Company and provides significant leadership, business and operational expertise to the Board. Mr. Johnson has served on various industry boards and committees addressing investment company issues including the Board of Governors of the Investment Company Institute. In his capacity with the Company, he has served as Director of Research and is a portfolio manager for one of its funds. He provides the Board with a unique perspective on critical components of the Company s business.

#### Mark C. Pigott

Age 56

Nominee

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of PACCAR Inc, a global technology company in the capital goods and financial services industries, since January 1997. Formerly, Vice Chairman from January 1995 to December 1996, Executive Vice President from December 1993 to January 1995, Senior Vice President from January 1990 to December 1993, and Vice President from October 1988 to December 1989, of PACCAR. Director, PACCAR Inc.

Key Attributes, Experience and Skills:

Mr. Pigott s experience as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of PACCAR Inc, a Fortune 200 company, would provide the Board with valuable perspectives on financial, operational and strategic matters. Mr. Pigott has been recognized several times as one of the 10 Best CEOs by *Forbes* magazine. Under his leadership, PACCAR has generated superior long term shareholder returns and received 30 J.D. Power Customer Satisfaction Awards. He would bring substantial expertise in the areas of client service and customer satisfaction. As the leader of a major global company, Mr. Pigott has a deep understanding of issues associated with operating in multiple jurisdictions. His service on several boards including the Business Council, the Royal Shakespeare Company America, the PACCAR Foundation as well as his service on the board of PACCAR, would provide our Board with the benefit of his views on business, corporate governance and citizenship, finance and compensation matters.

#### Chutta Ratnathicam

Age 63

Nominee, Director Since 2003

Retired Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of CNF Inc., a freight transportation, logistics, supply chain management and trailer manufacturing company, from 1997 to March 2005; formerly, Chief Executive Officer of the Emery Worldwide reporting segment of CNF from September 2000 to December 2001.

Key Attributes, Experience and Skills:

Mr. Ratnathicam s experience of over 27 years in various accounting, finance and executive management roles, including as the Chief Financial Officer at CNF, Inc., provides the Board with significant expertise in the areas of finance, accounting, strategic planning and auditing. Mr. Ratnathicam has held finance and other management positions internationally, and has a keen understanding of the issues facing a multinational business such as the Company. He is on the Advisory Board of the California State University East Bay School of Business and Namaste Direct, a micro finance organization, and qualifies as an audit committee financial expert under the rules and regulations of the SEC.

#### Peter M. Sacerdote

Age 73

Nominee, Director Since 1993

Chairman, Whale Rock Capital Management, LLC, a hedge fund management company, since April, 2006. Formerly, Advisory Director and Chairman of the Investment Committee of the Principal Investment Area of Goldman, Sachs & Co., a global investment banking, securities and investment management firm, from May 1999 to 2006, and a general partner and then a limited partner of The Goldman Sachs Group, L.P.

Key Attributes, Experience and Skills:

Mr. Sacerdote brings significant business, financial and private investment experience as the Chairman of Whale Rock Capital Management LLC. During his tenure over several decades with Goldman, Sachs & Co., and Goldman, Sachs Group, L.P., where he served as chairman of the Investment Committee of its Principal Investment Area, he developed a deep understanding of investing and wide-ranging management expertise. Mr. Sacerdote has significant expertise with respect to financial statements, corporate finance, accounting and capital markets. His 17-year tenure on the Board gives him an important perspective on the Company s business, strategy and culture.

#### Laura Stein

Age 49

Nominee, Director Since 2005

Senior Vice President General Counsel of The Clorox Company, a leading marketer and manufacturer of consumer products, since January 2005; formerly, Senior Vice President and General Counsel of H.J. Heinz Company, a global marketer and manufacturer of branded food products, from January 2000 to January 2005.

Key Attributes, Experience and Skills:

As general counsel of two multinational corporations, with responsibility for legal, compliance, corporate governance, risk management and internal audit, among other matters, Ms. Stein brings expertise in these critical areas to the Board. Ms. Stein speaks six languages and has lived in non-US jurisdictions, bringing a global perspective and experience. She has a deep understanding of financial statements, corporate finance, and accounting. In addition, Ms. Stein s leadership and service on the boards of non-profit organizations including Corporate Pro Bono, the ABA Task Force on the Preservation of Justice and the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity also provide the Board with the benefit of additional perspectives on diversity and corporate citizenship.

#### Anne M. Tatlock

Age 71

Nominee, Director Since December 21, 2004; Previously, Director from 2001 to Early December 2004

Vice Chairman of the Company from 2001 to 2007; Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer from 2000 to 2006 and a director of Fiduciary Trust Company International, a subsidiary of the Company; formerly, President of Fiduciary Trust Company International and director of other subsidiaries of the Company. Director, Fortune Brands, Inc. and Merck & Co., Inc.

Key Attributes, Experience Skills:

As a former Vice Chairman of the Company and the former Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Fiduciary Trust Company International, a bank subsidiary of the Company, Ms. Tatlock brings strong leadership skills and a wealth of knowledge of and experience with our Company to the Board, including valuable insights on the complex regulatory and banking issues the Company faces. She is a respected investment advisor and heads the investment committees of numerous entities, including the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, American Ballet Theatre, the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, the Mayo Clinic and the National September 11 Memorial & Museum at the World Trade Center. She is the Chairman of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Ms. Tatlock provides the Board the benefit of her substantial expertise in the areas of executive compensation and corporate governance from her tenure on the boards and various committees of Fortune Brands, Inc. and Merck & Co., Inc. as well as several non-profit organizations.

10

#### Geoffrey Y. Yang

Age 51

Nominee

Managing Director and Founding Partner of Redpoint Ventures, a private equity and venture capital firm, since 1999. Formerly, General Partner with Institutional Venture Partners from 1987 to 1999. Director, BigBand Networks.

Key Attributes, Experience and Skills:

Mr. Yang s experience as a Founding Partner and Managing Director of Redpoint Ventures would provide the Board with valuable perspectives on financial and strategic matters as well as expertise in the capital markets. Since joining the venture capital business in 1985, Mr. Yang has helped start many media and infrastructure companies, including Ask Jeeves, MySpace, Foundry Networks, and Juniper Networks. This experience would provide strategic direction, growth and technology expertise to the Company. Mr. Yang s current and prior service on the boards of several private and public companies as well as with non-profit organizations including the Advisory Council for the Stanford Graduate School of Business and the U.S. Golf Association would provide our Board with the benefit of his perspectives on business, corporate governance and citizenship, and finance.

#### Thomas H. Kean

Age 75

Director Since 2003

Chairman, The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, a health and healthcare philanthropic foundation, since April 2005 and a member of the board of trustees of the foundation since July 1990; formerly, President of Drew University from February 1990 to June 2005; formerly, Governor of the State of New Jersey from 1982 to 1990. Director, Hess Corporation, Aramark Corporation (former), CIT Group Inc. (former), Fiduciary Trust Company International, a subsidiary of the Company (former), UnitedHealth Group Incorporation (former) and The Pepsi Bottling Group, Inc. (former).

Key Attributes, Experience and Skills:

Gov. Kean has had a wide-ranging career of public service. Having served as President of Drew University for 15 years, as a two-term Governor of the state of New Jersey and the head of several national committees and commissions including the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks upon the United States, he brings abundant leadership and management skills to the Board. Gov. Kean s service on the boards of numerous not-for-profit organizations and corporations including The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Carnegie Corporation of New York and the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, enables him to bring valuable insights and seasoned perspectives on the multi-faceted issues faced by the Company. His service on the Council on Foreign Relations, the National Security Preparedness Group and the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations demonstrates his deep understanding of international and risk issues.

Family Relations. Charles B. Johnson, the Chairman of the Board and a director of the Company, and Rupert H. Johnson, Jr., Vice Chairman and a director of the Company, are brothers. Peter M. Sacerdote, a director of the Company, is a brother-in-law of Charles B. Johnson and Rupert H. Johnson, Jr. Gregory E. Johnson, the President and Chief Executive Officer and a director of the Company, is the son of Charles B. Johnson, the nephew of Rupert H. Johnson, Jr. and Peter M. Sacerdote and the brother of Jennifer M. Johnson, the Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. Jennifer M. Johnson is the daughter of Charles B. Johnson, the niece of Rupert H. Johnson, Jr. and Peter M. Sacerdote and the sister of Gregory E. Johnson.

11

#### CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The Company regularly monitors regulatory developments and reviews its policies, processes and procedures in the area of corporate governance to respond to such developments. As part of those efforts, we review federal laws affecting corporate governance, as well as corporate governance-related rules adopted by the SEC and the NYSE.

Corporate Governance Guidelines. The Board has adopted Corporate Governance Guidelines, which are posted in the corporate governance section of the Company s website at <a href="https://www.franklinresources.com">www.franklinresources.com</a> (the Company s website ). The Corporate Governance Guidelines set forth the practices the Board follows with respect to, among other things, the composition of the Board, director responsibilities, Board committees, director access to officers, employees and independent advisors, director compensation, director orientation and continuing education, management succession and performance evaluation of the Board.

Code of Ethics and Business Conduct. The Board has adopted a Code of Ethics and Business Conduct, which is applicable to all employees, directors and officers of the Company and its subsidiaries and affiliates. The Code of Ethics and Business Conduct is posted in the corporate governance section of the Company s website. The Company also has a Compliance and Ethics Hotline, where employees can report a violation of the Code of Ethics and Business Conduct or anonymously submit a complaint concerning auditing or accounting matters. We intend to satisfy the disclosure requirement regarding any amendment to, or a waiver of, a provision of the Code of Ethics and Business Conduct for the Company s principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer and controller, or persons performing similar functions, by posting such information on the Company s website.

Director Independence Standards. The Board has adopted guidelines for determining whether a director is independent, which are available on the Company s website. The Board will monitor and review as necessary, but at least once annually, commercial, charitable, family and other relationships that directors have with the Company to determine whether the Company s directors are independent.

For a director to be considered independent, the Board must determine affirmatively that the director does not have material relationships with the Company either directly or as a partner, stockholder or officer of an organization that has a relationship with the Company. Such determination will be made and disclosed pursuant to applicable NYSE or other applicable rules. A material relationship can include, but is not limited to, commercial, industrial, banking, consulting, legal, accounting, charitable and family relationships. The Board has established the following guidelines to assist it in determining whether a director does not have material relationships and thereby qualifies as independent:

- A. A director will not be independent if, at any time within the preceding three years (unless otherwise specified below):
- 1. (a) the director was employed by the Company; or (b) an immediate family member<sup>1</sup> of the director was employed by the Company as an executive officer<sup>2</sup> of the Company;
  - 2. the director (or an immediate family member of the director who in the capacity of an executive officer of the Company) received direct compensation from the Company (other than for prior service as a director, or as pension or deferred compensation) of more than \$120,000 in any 12-month period;
- An immediate family member includes a spouse, parent, child, sibling, father- and mother-in-law, son- and daughter-in-law, brother- and sister-in-law and anyone (other than a domestic employee) sharing the director s home.
- <sup>2</sup> An executive officer means a Section 16 reporting person under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

12

#### **Table of Contents**

- 3. (a) the director or an immediate family member of the director is currently a partner of the Company s internal auditor or external independent auditor;
- (b) the director is currently employed by the Company s internal auditor or external independent auditor;
- (c) an immediate family member of the director is currently employed by the Company s internal auditor or external independent auditor and personally works on the Company s audit; or
- (d) the director or an immediate family member of the director was formerly employed by or a partner of the Company s internal auditor or external independent auditor and personally worked on the Company s audit within that time;
  - 4. the director or an immediate family member of the director was employed by another company and an executive officer of the Company served on the compensation committee of such other company; or
- 5. (a) the director is an employee of a company that made payments to or received payments from the Company for property or services, in any single fiscal year, of more than the greater of \$1.0 million or 2% of the other company s consolidated gross revenues; (b) an immediate family member of the director is an executive officer of a company that made payments to or received payments from the Company for property or services, in any single fiscal year, of more than the greater of \$1.0 million or 2% of the Company s consolidated gross revenues; or
- (c) the director or an immediate family member of the director serves as an officer, director or trustee of a tax exempt organization, and the Company's contributions to the organization, in any single fiscal year, are more than the greater of \$3.0 million or 5% of that organization is consolidated gross revenues.
- B. The following relationships are not by themselves considered to be material and would not by themselves impair a director s independence:
  - 1. a director (or an immediate family member of the director) serves as an executive officer, employee, partner or significant owner (more than 10%) of a company that made payments to or received payments from the Company, in any single fiscal year, of less than the greater of \$1.0 million or 2% of the consolidated gross revenues of the other entity;
  - 2. a director is an executive officer of another company, which is indebted to the Company, or to which the Company is indebted, and the total amount of either company s indebtedness to the other, in any single fiscal year, is less than 2% of the total consolidated assets of the other company;
  - 3. a director (or an immediate family member of a director) serves as an officer, director or trustee of a tax exempt organization, and the Company s contributions to the organization, in any single fiscal year, are more than the greater of \$1.0 million or 2% of that organization s consolidated gross revenues, provided that such contributions do not exceed the limits set forth in Paragraph A.5(c) above and that disclosure is made in the Company s annual proxy statement;
  - 4. a director serves or served as a director of a subsidiary, which is a privately held, wholly-owned, direct or indirect subsidiary of the Company;

- 5. a director or an immediate family member of a director has entered into a transaction(s) with the Company or any affiliate of the Company in which the transaction(s) involves services as a bank depositary of funds, transfer agent, registrar, trustee under a trust indenture or similar services, provided the terms of such transaction(s) are not preferential to the terms for similar transactions by the Company or affiliate of the Company in the ordinary course;
- 6. a director or an immediate family member of a director maintains a banking, trading, investment management, custody or other account with an affiliate of the Company, provided the terms of such account are generally the same as or similar to accounts offered by the affiliate of the Company in the ordinary course; or

13

#### **Table of Contents**

- 7. the Company or any affiliate of the Company extends or maintains credit, arranges for the extension of credit, or renews an extension of credit, in the form of a personal home improvement or manufactured home loan, consumer credit, any extension of credit under an open end credit plan or a charge card to a director or an immediate family member of a director, if such loan, consumer credit, extension of credit or charge card otherwise is permitted to such director or immediate family member of a director under the terms of Section 402 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, which was codified as Section 13(k) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.
- C. For all relationships not specifically and clearly addressed by the guidelines above, the determination of whether or not a director has a material relationship, and therefore whether or not the director qualifies as independent or not, shall be made by the Board based on the totality of circumstances.