



## **11<sup>th</sup> CONFERENCE ON PROFESSIONAL ASSET MANAGEMENT**

**Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University**

**and**

**EDHEC Business School**

**18-19 June 2026**

**Venue: EDHEC Business School  
393 Promenade des Anglais,  
Nice, France**

After 10 highly successful editions in Rotterdam, the Professional Asset Management Conference will, for the first time, be hosted in Nice, at EDHEC Business School. The academic conference on professional asset management is jointly organized by Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University and EDHEC Business School. The main objective of the conference is to present and discuss recent advances in academic research on mutual funds, hedge funds, pension funds, and other forms of delegated portfolio management.

### **Keynote speaker:**

**Martijn Cremers** (Mendoza College of Business, University of Notre Dame)

### **Programme committee:**

Vikas Agarwal (Georgia State University), Nick Bollen (Vanderbilt University), Nicole Boyson (Northeastern University), Egemen Genc (University of Illinois at Chicago), Mila Getmansky Sherman (University of Massachusetts Amherst), Diane Del Guercio (University of Oregon), Zoran Ivkovich (Michigan State University), Hao Jiang (Michigan State University), Bige Kahraman Alper (Oxford University), Yigitcan Karabulut (Frankfurt School of Finance and Management), Veronika Krepely Pool (Vanderbilt University), Bing Liang (University of Massachusetts at Amherst), Pedro Matos (University of Virginia), Alexandra Niessen-Ruenzi (University of Mannheim), Melissa Porras Prado (NOVA School of Business and Economics), Jonathan Reuter (Boston College), Stefan Ruenzi (University of Mannheim), Ashish Tiwari (University of Iowa), Raman Uppal (EDHEC Business School), Florian Weigert (University of Neuchâtel), Russ Wermers (University of Maryland)

### **Local arrangements:**

Olga Molodilo, email: [olga.molodilo@edhec.edu](mailto:olga.molodilo@edhec.edu)

## Conference Programme

### Thursday 18 June

9:00 - 9:30 Registration and welcome

9:30 - 11:00 **Session I: Retail Investors**  
*Chair: Teodor Dyakov* (EDHEC Business School)

#### **Rethinking Mutual Fund Performance: From Traditional Alpha to Achievable Alpha**

*Victor DeMiguel, Alberto Martin-Utrera, Raman Uppal*

Presenter: **Raman Uppal** (EDHEC Business School)

Discussant: **Mathijs Cosemans** (Rotterdam School of Management)

#### **On the Menu: Mutual Fund Tournaments in Intermediated Distribution**

*Yu Sung Ha, Byoung Uk Kang*

Presenter: **Byoung Uk Kang** (Hong Kong Polytechnic University)

Discussant: **Egemen Genc** (University of Illinois Chicago)

11:00 - 11:30 **Coffee break**

11:30 - 12:30 **Session II: Keynote**  
*Chair: Marno Verbeek* (Rotterdam School of Management)

#### **Passive and Active Management of Equity and Bonds**

Presenter: **Martijn Cremers** (University of Notre Dame)

12:30- 14:00 **Lunch for all participants**

14:00 - 15:30

**Session II: Artificial Intelligence**

**Chair: Egemen Genc** (University of Illinois Chicago)

**AI Automation and Effort Allocation: Evidence from Sophisticated Investors**

*Yuan Gao*

Presenter: **Yuan Gao** (University of Arizona)

Discussant: **Pedro Matos** (University of Virginia)

**Mimicking Finance**

*Lauren Cohen, Yiwon Lu, Quoc Nguyen*

Presenter: **Quoc Nguyen** (DePaul University)

Discussant: **Xuemin (Sterling) Yan** (Lehigh University)

17:30 – 19:00 **Cocktail for speakers and discussants**

***Negresco La Plage***

37, Promenade des Anglais

Nice

19:00 - 22:30

**Dinner for speakers and discussants**

***Negresco La Plage***

37, Promenade des Anglais

Nice

## Friday 19 June

9:15 - 10:45

### **Session III: Risk Taking**

**Chair: Guillermo Baquero** (ESMT Berlin)

#### **Picking Safer Bets: The Value of Consultant Recommendations in Hedge Funds**

*Juha Joenväärä, Mikko Kauppila, Juuso Nissinen, Christian Lundbland*

Presenter: **Juha Joenväärä** (Aalto University)

Discussant: **Huacheng Zhang** (University of Edinburgh Business School)

#### **On the Origins of Risk Taking in Asset Management**

*Gianpaolo Parise*

Presenter: **Gianpaolo Parise** (Tilburg University)

Discussant: **David Schumacher** (McGill University)

10:45 - 11:15

Coffee break

11:15 - 12:45

### **Session IV: FinTech**

**Chair: Natalia Rostova** (EDHEC Business School)

#### **Set it and Forget it: Engineering Investment Habits with FinTech**

*Antonio Gargano, Alberto Rossi*

Presenter: **Antonio Gargano** (University of Houston, Texas)

Discussant: **Avi Wohl** (Tel Aviv University,)

#### **The Mechanical Disposition Effect**

*Qinglin Ouyang, Shumiao Ouyang*

Presenter: **Qinglin Ouyang** (Stockholm University)

Discussant: **Matti Suominen** (Aalto University)

12:45 - 13:45

**Lunch for all participants**

13:45 - 15:15

**Session V: Other Funds**

*Chair: Prof's NAME* (School)

**Democratizing Illiquid Assets: Liquidity Transformation and Performance in Interval Funds**

*Stefano Pegoraro, Sophie Shive, Rafael Zambrana*

Presenter: **Rafael Zambrana** (University of Notre Dame)

Discussant: **Mirco Rubin** (EDHEC Business School)

**Target Allocation Funds, Strategic Complementarities, and Market Fragility**

*Chuck Fang, Itay Goldstein*

Presenter: **Chuck Fang** (Drexel University)

Discussant: **Ferhat Akbas** (University of Illinois at Chicago)

15:15

**Closure**

## **Registration**

Conference participation is free for discussants and PhD students. There are limited additional seats available. The conference fee is 100 euro for speakers, 150 euro for other academics, and 300 euro for industry representatives.

Use the following site for registration: <https://my.weezevent.com/11th-conference-on-professional-asset-management>

For more information, please send an e-mail to [olga.molodilo@edhec.edu](mailto:olga.molodilo@edhec.edu) and [pam@rsm.nl](mailto:pam@rsm.nl).

## **The location**

The conference will take place on the campus of EDHEC Business School in Nice, France: 393 Promenade des Anglais, Nice 06202, France

## **About the conference**

The inaugural edition of this conference took place in 2007. With the 5<sup>th</sup> edition, in 2011, it became a two-day event. Over the years, it featured invited speakers such as Vikas Agarwal, Jonathan Berk, Nick Bollen, Keith Brown, Stephen Brown, Lauren Cohen, Susan Christoffersen, Mark Grinblatt, Martin Gruber, Harrison Hong, Narasimhan Jegadeesh, Robert Kosowski, Massimo Massa, Lilian Ng, Lubos Pastor, Clemens Sialm, Matthew Spiegel, Laura Starks, Russ Wermers, and Lu Zheng. The conference is now on a two-year clock, alternating with the Erasmus Liquidity Conference. This year, for the first time, the conference is co-organized by EDHEC Business School.

More information can be found on: [www.rsm.nl/finance](http://www.rsm.nl/finance)

### About the keynote speaker



**Martijn Cremers** is the Martin J. Gillen Dean and Bernard J. Hank Professor of Finance at the Mendoza College of Business, University of Notre Dame. He is a leading authority in asset management and corporate governance. His work has had a profound impact on both academic research and industry practice, most notably through the development of the “Active Share” measure, which has become a cornerstone in the evaluation of active portfolio management worldwide.

Professor Cremers has published in the top finance journals, including the Journal of Finance, Review of Financial Studies, and Journal of Financial Economics. His research is widely cited and has shaped the academic and policy debate on institutional investors, stewardship, and long-term value creation. His contributions have also had a significant influence on industry practice, with Active Share being incorporated into major platforms such as Morningstar Direct and FactSet.