



Bowden Investment Group

Faculty Advisors:

Dr. Brandy Hadley
Mr. Shawn Poole, CPA

BIG Members:

Click the hyperlinks to
add us on LinkedIn.

[Donovan Arnold](#)

[Cooper Bumgarner](#)

[Katie Cole](#)

[Sam Crouse](#)

[Olivia Guillebeau](#)

[Sean James](#)

[Sam King](#)

[Karlee Lakin](#)

[Bradley Lovelace](#)

[Obi Ludwig](#)

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Letter From the Advisors—

While this semester is unlike any other in the past in many aspects, we are excited to be back in the classroom with this year’s group. The twelve new BIG members are an exceptional group of students and it is an honor to welcome them to the Bowden Investment Group. Their resilience and positivity in the face of many obstacles is commendable and makes us proud! While they began Bowden virtually with interviews and initial meetings in the spring and summer held through Zoom, it is wonderful to finally be together in person for the first time.

Despite the virtual context, the group worked diligently throughout the summer on extensive BIG work requirements, online internships, and other enriching summer experiences. After the busy summer, we began the year with the 10th Annual BIG Day, though the first online. While the students missed the requisite Windsor knot inspections from Dr. Goff, they received Zoom background assessments from him instead.

We regret that many of the “normal” BIG activities have been impacted by COVID this year. Our traditional trips have also been postponed but we remain hopeful for the spring. However, we have found creative ways to cultivate socially distanced team building and look forward to more interesting activities. One BIG addition is an inaugural mentorship program that is intended to provide this class with networking opportunities and career development support.

Finally, we want to acknowledge the tremendous support we have from Mr. David Thompson and Dr. Delbert Goff. Dr. Goff has dedicated his career to developing BIG into the transformative, premier educational experience it is today and he remains highly connected to the program. His mentorship and guidance are invaluable to us.

Thank you for your continued support of the Bowden Investment Group!

Sincerely,

Brandy Hadley, Ph.D.

Shawn Poole, CPA



Meet the New BIG



Left to right: Bradley, Cooper, Sam C., Karlee, Sean, Nkhosinathi, Katie, Obi, Zach, Olivia, Donovan, Sam K.

The New BIG—

After not coming back to campus beyond spring break last semester, we are thrilled to be back together while maintaining proper social distancing. We spent our summers completing internships and working part- and full-time jobs all while dedicating time to completing our Wall Street Prep and Bowden assignments. On August 21st, we were able to come together via Zoom for the annual BIG day where we focused on professional development. Although we are unable to make the annual Charlotte and New York visits, we are hoping to meet with Bowden supporters via Zoom throughout the semester so that we are still able to benefit from the industry exposure Bowden provides. Though this is a very unique year for all of us, and Bowden as a whole, we are eager to use the challenges presented by COVID-19 as a way to develop professionally and find new ways to come together as one.

—The COVID Classroom



Classes on campus are interesting, to say the least. We are currently meeting in IG Greer instead of the College of Business where we are able to be together while also sitting six feet apart. We are required to wear masks throughout the entire class. There are wipes and hand sanitizer in each classroom to maintain safe work areas and to further decrease the risk of spreading the virus. The hallways have been vacant due to restrictions on congregating. All furniture and water fountains are wrapped in plastic to prevent them from being used. We have

been lucky enough to sit outside for the second half of most classes so that we are able to get fresh air. For now, Appalachian seems to be going strong in the continuation of in person classes and we hope that this persists throughout the semester. We will continue meeting in person, as long as the University determines it is safe to do so.

YTD Returns

BIF	21.01%
S&P 500	9.75%

August Returns

Ticker	Return
ALGN	0.61%
AMZN	6.89%
FB	15.69%
GOOGL	9.21%
HD	7.91%
LHX	4.67%
LMT	2.75%
NKE	15.98%
NVDA	27.10%
SHOP	0.37%
SYK	1.49%
V	9.38%
IVV	7.60%

Total BIF Value

\$247,717

For an up-to-date view of the BIF, [click here](#)

Portfolio Analysis and Looking Forward

Year to date, the Bowden Investment Fund (BIF) has appreciated 21.01%. The S&P 500, our benchmark, has only appreciated 9.75%. During the month of August, the BIF increased by 8.24% while the S&P 500 increased by 7.19%. Strong performances from Shopify (+184%YTD), Nvidia (+134% YTD), Amazon (+89% YTD), and Facebook (+44% YTD) have propelled the portfolio to beat its benchmark. Currently, the main laggards are L3Harris Technologies (-9.4% YTD) and Stryker (-6.4%). The portfolio has performed extremely well given the volatile markets and uncertain economic conditions.

Heading into the new school year, we are keeping an eye on numerous events. First, we will closely monitor the Coronavirus pandemic. If lock downs are reimplemented, equities such as Amazon and Home Depot may see another breakout. Furthermore, we will pay attention to catalysts that may cause market corrections. The

upcoming election cycle, interest rates, job reports, and manufacturing production will come to the forefront as we digest and analyze the overall health of the economy and make the necessary modifications to the portfolio. (See chart below for current weightings.)

