# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, DC 20549

# **FORM 10-Q**

(Mark One)

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2011

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from

to

Commission File No. 000-29961

# ALLIANCE BERNSTEIN L.P.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware** 

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

13-4064930

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

1345 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10105

(Address of principal executive offices)
(Zip Code)

(212) 969-1000

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes T No o

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files).

Yes T No o

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See definition of "accelerated filer," "large accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer T Accelerated filer o

Non-accelerated filer o (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Smaller reporting company o

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Yes o No T

The number of units of limited partnership interest outstanding as of March 31, 2011 was 277,952,865.

# ALLIANCEBERNSTEIN L.P.

Index to Form 10-Q

Page Part I FINANCIAL INFORMATION Financial Statements Item 1. **Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition** 1 **Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income** 2 **Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows** 3 Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements 4-21 Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm 22 Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Item 2. 23-39 Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk 40 **Controls and Procedures** 40 Item 4. Part II OTHER INFORMATION Item 1. **Legal Proceedings** 41 **Risk Factors** 41 Item 1A. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds Item 2. 41 Item 3. **Defaults Upon Senior Securities** 41 (Removed and Reserved) Item 4. 41 Other Information Item 5. 41 Item 6. **Exhibits** 42 **SIGNATURE** 43

# FINANCIAL INFORMATION

# **Item 1. Financial Statements**

# ALLIANCEBERNSTEIN L.P. AND SUBSIDIARIES

# **Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition**

(in thousands, except unit amounts)

		March 31, 2011 (unaudited)		•		2011		2011 20		ember 31, 2010
	(-	aaarca)								
ASSETS										
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	412,562	\$	650,191						
Cash and securities segregated, at fair value (cost: \$1,328,520 and \$1,109,785)		1,328,701		1,109,891						
Receivables, net:										
Brokers and dealers		286,266		299,314						
Brokerage clients		705,577		747,049						
Fees		336,061		343,473						
Investments:										
Deferred compensation-related		267,593		298,705						
Other		619,766		457,850						
Furniture, equipment and leasehold improvements, net		289,530		300,442						
Goodwill		2,939,170		2,939,170						
Intangible assets, net		200,342		205,862						
Deferred sales commissions, net		71,304		76,156						
Other assets		164,157		151,284						
Total assets	\$	7,621,029	\$	7,579,387						
LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL										
Liabilities:										
Payables:	ф	100,400	ф	224 250						
Brokers and dealers	\$	169,439	\$	221,370						
Securities sold not yet purchased		97,638		50,539						
Brokerage clients		1,771,342		1,750,737						
AllianceBernstein mutual funds		98,247		77,179						
Accounts payable and accrued expenses  Accrued compensation and benefits		427,364 331,566		422,860 338,560						
Debt		265,998		224,991						
			_							
Total liabilities	<u> </u>	3,161,594		3,086,236						
Commitments and contingencies (See Note 8)										
Capital:										
General Partner		48,996		48,964						
Limited partners: 277,952,865 and 278,115,232 units issued and outstanding		4,905,353		4,902,854						
Capital contributions receivable from General Partner		(15,285)		(15,973)						
Holding Units held for deferred compensation plans		(545,140)		(535,410)						
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)		(18,026)		(31,801)						
Partners' capital attributable to AllianceBernstein Unitholders		4,375,898		4,368,634						
Non-controlling interests in consolidated entities		83,537		124,517						
Total capital		4,459,435	_	4,493,151						
Total liabilities and capital	<u></u>	7,621,029	\$	7,579,387						
Total Adolitics and capital	Ψ	7,021,023	Ψ	1,010,001						

See Accompanying Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

1

**Diluted** 

# ALLIANCEBERNSTEIN L.P. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## **Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income**

(in thousands, except per unit amounts) (unaudited)

**Three Months Ended** March 31, 2011 2010 **Revenues:** Investment advisory and services fees 514,992 512,252 Bernstein research services 119,624 110,752 Distribution revenues 88,827 80,349 Dividend and interest income 5,092 3,911 Investment gains (losses) 976 (8,020)26,855 Other revenues 26,562 756,366 725,806 Total revenues Less: Interest expense 976 720 755,390 725,086 Net revenues **Expenses:** Employee compensation and benefits 339,501 319,425 Promotion and servicing: Distribution-related payments 74,756 66,750 Amortization of deferred sales commissions 10,326 12,121 Other 53,342 42,828 General and administrative: General and administrative 132,891 126,065 Real estate charges 18 11,983 Interest on borrowings 686 555 Amortization of intangible assets 5,435 5,377 Total expenses 616,955 585,104 **Operating income** 138,435 139,982 Non-operating income 4,515 **Income before income taxes** 138,435 144,497 Income taxes 10,009 13,004 Net income 128,426 131,493 Net loss of consolidated entities attributable to non-controlling interests 8,046 16,773 Net income attributable to AllianceBernstein Unitholders 136,472 148,266 Net income per AllianceBernstein Unit: **Basic** 0.49 0.53

See Accompanying Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

0.48

0.53

# ALLIANCEBERNSTEIN L.P. AND SUBSIDIARIES

# **Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows**

(in thousands) (unaudited)

**Three Months Ended** March 31, 2011 2010 Cash flows from operating activities: Net income 128,426 131,493 Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash (used in) provided by operating activities: Amortization of deferred sales commissions 10,326 12,121 Amortization of non-cash deferred compensation 42,757 25,765 21,060 Depreciation and other amortization 20,592 Unrealized (gains) on deferred compensation-related investments (13,012)(23,887)Unrealized loss on consolidated venture capital fund 6,997 20,598 Real estate asset write-off charges 5,196 1,084 Other, net 127 Changes in assets and liabilities: (Increase) in segregated cash and securities (218,810)(19,510)Decrease (increase) in receivables 75,768 (162, 196)(Increase) in investments (126,647)(606)(Increase) in deferred sales commissions (5,474)(8,963)(Increase) in other assets (12,967)(23,905)Increase in payables 23,033 181,370 Increase in accounts payable and accrued expenses 8,311 34,031 (Decrease) increase in accrued compensation and benefits (7,689)25,399 (67,305)218,093 Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities Cash flows from investing activities: Purchases of investments (13)(63)Proceeds from sales of investments 2,322 31 Additions to furniture, equipment and leasehold improvements, net (3,690)(469)Purchase of Australian joint venture (21,384)Net cash used in investing activities (22,765)(501)Cash flows from financing activities: Issuance (repayment) of commercial paper, net 40,820 (43,090)(Decrease) increase in overdrafts payable (4,642)24,025 Distributions to General Partner and unitholders (136,718)(194,343)Distributions to non-controlling interests in consolidated entities (550)(1,565)Capital contributions from General Partner 926 897 Additional investment by Holding with proceeds from exercise of compensatory options to buy Holding Units 449 5,251 Purchases of Holding Units to fund deferred compensation plan awards, net (49,823)(23,754)Purchases of AllianceBernstein Units (4,273)Other (19)(16)Net cash used in financing activities (153,830)(232,595)6,271 (14,720)Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents Net (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents (237,629)(29,723)

See Accompanying Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

650,191

412,562

614,216

584,493

Cash and cash equivalents as of beginning of the period

Cash and cash equivalents as of end of the period

# ALLIANCEBERNSTEIN L.P. AND SUBSIDIARIES

# Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements March 31, 2011

(unaudited)

The words "we" and "our" refer collectively to AllianceBernstein Holding L.P. ("Holding") and AllianceBernstein L.P. and its subsidiaries ("AllianceBernstein"), or to their officers and employees. Similarly, the word "company" refers to both Holding and AllianceBernstein. Where the context requires distinguishing between Holding and AllianceBernstein, we identify which of them is being discussed. Cross-references are in italics.

These statements should be read in conjunction with AllianceBernstein's audited consolidated financial statements included in AllianceBernstein's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010.

## 1. Business Description and Organization

We provide research, diversified investment management and related services globally to a broad range of clients. Our principal services include:

- Institutional Services servicing our institutional clients, including unaffiliated corporate and public employee pension funds, endowment funds, domestic and foreign institutions and governments, and affiliates such as AXA and certain of its insurance company subsidiaries, by means of separately-managed accounts, sub-advisory relationships, structured products, collective investment trusts, mutual funds, hedge funds and other investment vehicles.
- Retail Services servicing our retail clients, primarily by means of retail mutual funds sponsored by AllianceBernstein or an affiliated company, sub-advisory relationships with mutual funds sponsored by third parties, separately-managed account programs sponsored by financial intermediaries worldwide and other investment vehicles.
- Private Client Services servicing our private clients, including high-net-worth individuals, trusts and estates, charitable foundations, partnerships, private and family corporations, and other entities, by means of separately-managed accounts, hedge funds, mutual funds and other investment vehicles.
- Bernstein Research Services servicing institutional investors seeking high-quality research, portfolio analysis and brokerage-related services, and issuers of publicly-traded securities seeking equity capital markets services.

We also provide distribution, shareholder servicing and administrative services to the mutual funds we sponsor.

Our high-quality, in-depth research is the foundation of our business. Our research disciplines include fundamental research, quantitative research, economic research and currency forecasting. In addition, we have created several specialized research initiatives, including research examining global strategic changes that can affect multiple industries and geographies.

We provide a broad range of investment services with expertise in:

- · Value equities, generally targeting stocks that are out of favor and considered undervalued;
- Growth equities, generally targeting stocks with under-appreciated growth potential;
- Fixed income securities, including taxable and tax-exempt securities;
- · Blend strategies, combining style-pure investment components with systematic rebalancing;
- · Passive management, including index and enhanced index strategies;
- Alternative investments, including hedge funds, fund of funds, currency management strategies and private capital (e.g., direct real estate investing); and
- Asset allocation services, by which we offer strategies specifically-tailored for our clients (*e.g.*, customized target-date fund retirement services for defined contribution plan sponsors and our Dynamic Asset Allocation service, which is designed to mitigate the effects of extreme market volatility on a portfolio in order to deliver more consistent returns).

We provide these services using various investment disciplines, including market capitalization (*e.g.*, large-, mid- and small-cap equities), term (*e.g.*, long-, intermediate- and short-duration debt securities), and geographic location (*e.g.*, U.S., international, global and emerging markets), as well as local and regional disciplines in major markets around the world.

We market and distribute alternative investment products globally to high-net-worth clients and institutional investors. In October 2010, we acquired SunAmerica's alternative investments group, a team that manages a portfolio of hedge fund and private equity fund investments. Additionally, in October 2010, we launched a real estate fund focused on opportunistic real estate investments. These initiatives have helped us expand our alternative investment capabilities.

In 2008, we created an initiative called AllianceBernstein Defined Contribution Investments ("ABDC") focused on expanding our capabilities in the defined contribution market. ABDC seeks to provide the most effective defined contribution investment solutions in the industry, as measured by product features, reliability, cost and flexibility, to meet specialized client needs by integrating research and investment design, product strategy, strategic partnerships (e.g., record-keeper partnerships and operations collaboration), and client implementation and service. In November 2010, we introduced Secure Retirement Strategies ("SRS"), a multi-manager target-date solution. SRS provides guaranteed lifetime retirement income backed by multiple insurers to participants of large defined contribution plans.

During 2009, we were selected by the U.S. Treasury Department as one of only three firms to manage its portfolio of assets issued by banks and other institutions taking part in the Capital Purchase Program of the Troubled Assets Relief Program. In addition, we were selected by the U.S. Treasury Department as one of nine pre-qualified fund managers under the Public-Private Investment Program and, during the fourth quarter of 2009, we were one of five firms that closed an initial Public-Private Investment Fund ("PPIF") of at least \$500 million. In April 2010, we closed our PPIF with over \$1.1 billion raised.

As of March 31, 2011, AXA, a *société anonyme* organized under the laws of France and the holding company for an international group of insurance and related financial services companies, through certain of its subsidiaries ("AXA and its subsidiaries") owned approximately 1.4% of the issued and outstanding units representing assignments of beneficial ownership of limited partnership interests in Holding ("Holding Units").

As of March 31, 2011, the ownership structure of AllianceBernstein, expressed as a percentage of general and limited partnership interests, was as follows:

AXA and its subsidiaries	60.9%
Holding	37.4
Unaffiliated holders	1.7
	100.0%

AllianceBernstein Corporation (an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of AXA, "General Partner") is the general partner of both Holding and AllianceBernstein. AllianceBernstein Corporation owns 100,000 general partnership units in Holding and a 1% general partnership interest in AllianceBernstein. Including both the general partnership and limited partnership interests in Holding and AllianceBernstein, AXA and its subsidiaries had an approximate 62.0% economic interest in AllianceBernstein as of March 31, 2011.

# 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

# **Basis of Presentation**

The interim condensed consolidated financial statements of AllianceBernstein included herein have been prepared in accordance with the instructions to Form 10-Q pursuant to the rules and regulations of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). In the opinion of management, all adjustments, consisting only of normal recurring adjustments, necessary for a fair statement of the interim results, have been made. The preparation of the condensed consolidated financial statements requires management to make certain estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the dates of the condensed consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the interim reporting periods. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The December 31, 2010 condensed consolidated statement of financial condition was derived from audited financial statements but does not include all disclosures required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

# **Principles of Consolidation**

The condensed consolidated financial statements include AllianceBernstein and its majority-owned and/or controlled subsidiaries. All significant intercompany transactions and balances among the consolidated entities have been eliminated.

## Reclassifications

The following prior period amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation: (i) certain distribution services expenses, previously included in other promotion and servicing expenses in the condensed consolidated statements of income, have been reclassified to distribution-related payments and (ii) real estate asset write-off charges, previously included in other adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities in the condensed consolidated statement of cash flow, is currently shown separately.

#### Cash Distributions

AllianceBernstein is required to distribute all of its Available Cash Flow, as defined in the Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of AllianceBernstein ("AllianceBernstein Partnership Agreement"), to its unitholders and to the General Partner. Available Cash Flow can be summarized as the cash flow received by AllianceBernstein from operations minus such amounts as the General Partner determines, in its sole discretion, should be retained by AllianceBernstein for use in its business.

The General Partner computes cash flow received from operations by determining the sum of:

- · net cash provided by operating activities of AllianceBernstein,
- · proceeds from borrowings and from sales or other dispositions of assets in the ordinary course of business, and
- income from investments in marketable securities, liquid investments and other financial instruments that are acquired for investment purposes and that have a value that may be readily established,

and then subtracting from this amount the sum of:

- payments in respect of the principal of borrowings, and
- amounts expended for the purchase of assets in the ordinary course of business.

On May 2, 2011, the General Partner declared a distribution of \$134.8 million, or \$0.48 per AllianceBernstein Unit, representing a distribution of Available Cash Flow for the three months ended March 31, 2011. The General Partner, as a result of its 1% general partnership interest, is entitled to receive 1% of each distribution. The distribution is payable on May 26, 2011 to holders of record on May 13, 2011.

## Fees Receivable, Net

Fees receivable are shown net of allowances. An allowance for doubtful accounts related to investment advisory and services fees is determined through an analysis of the aging of receivables, assessments of collectibility based on historical trends and other qualitative and quantitative factors, including the following: our relationship with the client, the financial health (or ability to pay) of the client, current economic conditions and whether the account is closed or active.

# Investments

Investments include United States Treasury Bills, unconsolidated mutual funds and limited partnership hedge funds we sponsor and manage, various separately-managed portfolios comprised of equity and fixed income securities, exchange-traded options and investments owned by a consolidated venture capital fund in which we own a controlling interest as the general partner and in which we hold a 10% limited partnership interest.

Investments in United States Treasury Bills, mutual funds, and equity and fixed income securities are classified as either trading or available-for-sale securities. Trading investments are stated at fair value with unrealized gains and losses reported in net income. Available-for-sale investments are stated at fair value with unrealized gains and losses reported as a separate component of accumulated other comprehensive income in partners' capital. Realized gains and losses on the sale of investments are included in income in the current period. Average cost is used to determine the realized gain or loss on investments sold.

We use the equity method of accounting for investments in limited partnership hedge funds. The equity in earnings of our limited partnership hedge fund investments is included in investment gains and losses on the condensed consolidated statements of income.

The investments owned by our consolidated venture capital fund are generally illiquid and are initially valued at cost. These investments are adjusted to fair value to reflect the occurrence of "significant developments" (*i.e.*, capital transactions or business, economic or market events). Adjustments to fair value are included in investment gains and losses on the condensed consolidated statements of income. There are three private equity investments that we own directly outside of our consolidated venture capital fund. Two of the investments are accounted for using the cost method.

See Note 7 for a description of how we measure the fair value of our investments.

#### Goodwill

In 2000, AllianceBernstein acquired the business and assets of SCB Inc., an investment research and management company formerly known as Sanford C. Bernstein Inc. ("Bernstein"), and assumed the liabilities of Bernstein ("Bernstein Transaction"). The purchase price consisted of a cash payment of approximately \$1.5 billion and 40.8 million newly-issued AllianceBernstein Units. The Bernstein Transaction was accounted for under the purchase method and the cost of the acquisition was allocated on the basis of the estimated fair value of the assets acquired and the liabilities assumed. The excess of the purchase price over the fair value of identifiable assets acquired, net of liabilities assumed, resulted in the recognition of goodwill of approximately \$3.0 billion.

As of March 31, 2011, goodwill of \$2.9 billion on the condensed consolidated statement of financial condition is composed of \$2.8 billion as a result of the Bernstein Transaction and \$139 million in regard to various smaller acquisitions.

We test our goodwill annually, as of September 30, for impairment. The carrying value of goodwill is also reviewed if facts and circumstances, such as significant declines in assets under management, revenues, earnings or the Holding Unit price, occur, suggesting possible impairment. As of September 30, 2010, the impairment test indicated that goodwill was not impaired.

To the extent that securities valuations are depressed for prolonged periods of time, our assets under management, revenues, profitability and unit price may be adversely affected. As a result, subsequent impairment tests may be based upon different assumptions and future cash flow projections, which may result in an impairment of this asset. Any impairment could reduce materially the recorded amount of goodwill with a corresponding charge to our earnings.

# Intangible Assets, Net

Intangible assets consist primarily of costs assigned to acquired investment management contracts of SCB Inc. based on their estimated fair value at the time of acquisition, less accumulated amortization. Intangible assets are recognized at fair value and are amortized on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful life of approximately 20 years. The gross carrying amount and accumulated amortization of intangible assets subject to amortization totaled \$419.0 million and \$218.7 million, respectively, as of March 31, 2011 and \$419.2 million and \$213.3 million, respectively, as of December 31, 2010. Amortization expense was \$5.4 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011 and 2010 and estimated annual amortization expense for each of the next five years is approximately \$22 million.

We periodically review intangible assets for impairment as events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. If the carrying value exceeds fair value, additional impairment tests are performed to measure the amount of the impairment loss, if any.

# **Deferred Sales Commissions, Net**

We pay commissions to financial intermediaries in connection with the sale of shares of open-end company-sponsored mutual funds sold without a front-end sales charge ("back-end load shares"). These commissions are capitalized as deferred sales commissions and amortized over periods not exceeding five and one-half years for U.S. fund shares and four years for non-U.S. fund shares, the periods of time during which deferred sales commissions are generally recovered. We recover these commissions from distribution services fees received from those funds and from contingent deferred sales commissions ("CDSC") received from shareholders of those funds upon the redemption of their shares. CDSC cash recoveries are recorded as reductions of unamortized deferred sales commissions when received. Since January 31, 2009, our U.S. mutual funds have not offered back-end load shares to new investors.

We periodically review the deferred sales commission asset for impairment as events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. If the carrying value exceeds fair value, additional impairment tests are performed to measure the amount of the impairment loss, if any.

# Loss Contingencies

With respect to all significant litigation matters, we consider the likelihood of a negative outcome. If we determine the likelihood of a negative outcome is probable, and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated, we record an estimated loss for the expected outcome of the litigation. If the likelihood of a negative outcome is reasonably possible and we are able to determine an estimate of the possible loss or range of loss, we disclose that fact together with the estimate of the possible loss or range of loss. However, it is difficult to predict the outcome or estimate a possible loss or range of loss because litigation is subject to inherent uncertainties, particularly when plaintiffs allege substantial or indeterminate damages, or when the litigation is highly complex or broad in scope. In such cases, we disclose that we are unable to predict the outcome or estimate a possible loss or range of loss.

# **Revenue Recognition**

Investment advisory and services fees, generally calculated as a percentage of assets under management ("AUM"), are recorded as revenue as the related services are performed. Certain investment advisory contracts, including those associated with hedge funds or other alternative investments, provide for a performance-based fee, in addition to or in lieu of a base fee, which is calculated as either a percentage of absolute investment results or a percentage of investment results in excess of a stated benchmark over a specified period of time. Performance-based fees are recorded as a component of revenue at the end of each contract's measurement period.

We calculate AUM using established fair valuation methodologies, including market-based valuation methods and fair valuation methods. Market-based valuation methods include: last sale/settle prices from an exchange for actively-traded listed equities, options and futures; evaluated bid prices from recognized pricing vendors for fixed income, asset-backed or mortgage-backed issues; mid prices from recognized pricing vendors and brokers for credit default swaps; and quoted bids or spreads from pricing vendors and brokers for other derivative products. Fair valuation methods include discounted cash flow models, evaluation of assets versus liabilities or any other methodology that is validated and approved by our Valuation Committee. Fair valuation methods are used only where AUM cannot be valued using market-based valuation methods, such as in the case of private equity or illiquid securities. Investments utilizing fair valuation methods typically make up less than 1% of our total AUM. Recent market volatility has not had a significant effect on our ability to acquire market data and, accordingly, our ability to use market-based valuation methods.

The Valuation Committee, which is composed of senior officers and employees, is responsible for overseeing the pricing and valuation of all investments held in client and AllianceBernstein portfolios. The Valuation Committee has adopted a Statement of Pricing Policies describing principles and policies that apply to pricing and valuing investments held in client and AllianceBernstein portfolios. We have also established a Pricing Group, which reports to the Valuation Committee. The Valuation Committee has delegated to the Pricing Group responsibility for overseeing the pricing process for all investments.

Bernstein Research Services revenue consists primarily of brokerage transaction charges received by Sanford C. Bernstein & Co., LLC ("SCB LLC") and Sanford C. Bernstein Limited ("SCBL"), each a wholly-owned subsidiary of AllianceBernstein, for research and brokerage-related services provided to institutional investors. Brokerage transaction charges earned and related expenses are recorded on a trade-date basis. Bernstein Research Services also consists of underwriting fees, management fees, payments for research services and/or selling concessions from equity capital markets activities, which are recognized as the related services are performed.

Distribution revenues, shareholder servicing fees, and dividend and interest income are accrued as earned.

#### **Deferred Compensation Plans**

We maintain several unfunded, non-qualified deferred compensation plans under which annual awards to employees are generally made in the fourth quarter. For awards made before 2009, participants were permitted to allocate their awards: (i) among notional investments in Holding Units, certain of the investment services we provide to our clients, and a money market fund, (ii) restricted Holding Units or (iii) under certain circumstances, in options to buy Holding Units. Awards in 2010 and 2009 consisted of restricted Holding Units and, under limited circumstances, deferred cash. We typically make investments in our services that are notionally elected by the participants and maintain them in a consolidated rabbi trust or separate custodial account. Awards generally vest over four years but can vest more quickly depending on the terms of the individual award, the age of the participant, or the terms of participant's employment, separation or retirement agreement. Upon vesting, awards are distributed to participants unless they have made a voluntary long-term election to defer receipt. Quarterly cash distributions on unvested Holding Units or restricted Holding Units for which a long-term deferral election has not been made are paid currently to participants. For awards made prior to December 2009, quarterly cash distributions on notional investments in Holding Units and income credited on notional investments in our investment services or the money market fund for which a long-term deferral election has been made are reinvested and distributed as elected by participants. For awards made in December 2010 and 2009, quarterly cash distributions on vested and unvested restricted Holding Units for which a long-term deferral election has been made are paid currently to participants.

Compensation expense for awards under the plans, including changes in participant account balances resulting from gains and losses on related investments (other than in Holding Units and options to buy Holding Units), is recognized on a straight-line basis over the applicable vesting periods. Mark-to-market gains or losses on investments made to fund deferred compensation obligations (other than in Holding Units and options to buy Holding Units) are recognized currently as investment gains (losses) in the condensed consolidated statements of income. In addition, our equity in the earnings of investments in limited partnership hedge funds made to fund deferred compensation obligations is recognized currently as investment gains (losses) in the condensed consolidated statements of income.

# Compensatory Unit Awards and Option Plans

We recognize compensation expense related to grants of restricted Holding Units and options to buy Holding Units in the financial statements using the fair value method. Under the fair value method, compensation expense is measured at the grant date based on the estimated fair value of the award and is recognized over the vesting period. Fair value of restricted Holding Unit awards is the closing price of a Holding Unit on the grant date; fair value of options is determined using the Black-Scholes option valuation model.

We fund our restricted Holding Unit awards to employees either by purchasing newly-issued Holding Units from Holding or purchasing Holding Units on the open market, all of which are held in a consolidated rabbi trust until they are distributed to employees upon vesting. In accordance with the AllianceBernstein Partnership Agreement, when Holding issues Holding Units to AllianceBernstein, Holding is required to use the proceeds it receives from AllianceBernstein to purchase the equivalent number of newly-issued AllianceBernstein Units, thus increasing its percentage ownership interest in AllianceBernstein. Holding Units held in the consolidated rabbi trust are corporate assets in the name of the trust and available to the general creditors of AllianceBernstein.

We engage in open-market purchases of Holding Units to help fund anticipated obligations under our incentive compensation award program and purchase Holding Units from employees to allow them to fulfill statutory tax withholding requirements on distribution of long-term incentive compensation awards. During the first quarter of 2011, we purchased approximately 2.2 million Holding Units for \$49.8 million, reflecting open-market purchases of 2.1 million Holding Units for \$47.7 million and the remainder primarily relating to employee tax withholding purchases. We intend to continue to engage in open-market purchases of Holding Units, from time to time, to help fund anticipated obligations under our incentive compensation award program.

We granted approximately 100,000 restricted Holding Unit awards to employees during the first quarter of 2011. To fund these awards, we allocated previously repurchased Holding Units that had been held in the consolidated rabbi trust. There were approximately 2.7 million unallocated Holding Units remaining in the consolidated rabbi trust as of March 31, 2011.

New Holding Units are also issued upon exercise of options. Proceeds received by Holding upon exercise of options are used to acquire newly-issued AllianceBernstein Units, increasing Holding's percentage ownership interest in AllianceBernstein.

On July 26, 2010, the Amended and Restated 1997 Long Term Incentive Plan ("1997 Plan") expired. Effective as of July 1, 2010, we established the 2010 Long Term Incentive Plan ("2010 Plan"), which was adopted by Holding Unitholders at a special meeting held on June 30, 2010. The following forms of awards may be granted to employees and independent directors of the General Partner under the 2010 Plan: (i) restricted Holding Units or phantom restricted Holding Units (a "phantom" award is a contractual right to receive Holding Units at a later date or upon a specified event); (ii) options to buy Holding Units; and (iii) other Holding Unit-based awards (including, without limitation, Holding Unit appreciation rights and performance awards). The 2010 Plan will expire on June 30, 2020, and no awards under the 2010 Plan will be made after that date. Under the 2010 Plan, the number of newly-issued Holding Units with respect to which awards may be granted is 30 million. The 2010 Plan also permits us to award an additional 30 million Holding Units if we acquire the Holding Units on the open market or through private purchases. As of March 31, 2011, we have granted 12.2 million Holding Units awards, net of forfeitures, under the 2010 Plan. As of March 31, 2011, 27.1 million newly-issued Holding Units and 20.7 million repurchased Holding Units were available for grant.

# Variable Interest Entities

In accordance with Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") 2009-17, *Consolidations (Topic 810) – Improvements to Financial Reporting by Enterprises Involved with Variable Interest Entities*, the determination of whether a company is required to consolidate an entity is based on, among other things, an entity's purpose and design, a company's ability to direct the activities of the entity that most significantly impact the entity's economic performance, and whether a company is obligated to absorb losses or receive benefits that could potentially be significant to the entity. The standard also requires ongoing assessments of whether a company is the primary beneficiary of a variable interest entity ("VIE"). The provisions of this standard became effective January 1, 2010. In January 2010, the FASB deferred portions of ASU 2009-17 that relate to asset managers. We determined that all entities for which we are a sponsor and/or investment manager, other than collateralized debt obligations and collateralized loan obligations (collectively "CDOs"), qualify for the scope deferral and will continue to be assessed for consolidation under prior accounting guidance for consolidation of variable interest entities.

As of March 31, 2011, we are the investment manager for seven CDOs that meet the definition of a VIE due primarily to the lack of unilateral decision making authority of the equity holders. The CDOs are alternative investment vehicles created for the sole purpose of issuing collateralized debt instruments that offer investors the opportunity for returns that vary with the risk level of their investment. Our management fee structure for these CDOs will typically include a senior management fee, and may also include subordinated and incentive management fees. We hold no equity interest in any of these CDOs. For each of the CDOs, we evaluated the management fee structure, the current and expected economic performance of the entities and other provisions included in the governing documents of the CDOs that might restrict or guarantee an expected loss or residual return. In accordance with ASC 810, we concluded that our investment management contract does not represent a variable interest in five of the seven CDOs. As such, we are not required to consolidate these entities.

#### Index

For the two remaining CDOs, we concluded our collateral management agreement represented a variable interest primarily due to the level of subordinated fees. We evaluated whether we possessed both of the following characteristics of a controlling financial interest: (1) the power to direct the activities of the VIE that most significantly impacts the entity's economic performance, and (2) the obligation to absorb losses of the entity or the right to receive benefits from the entity that could potentially be significant to the VIE. In both instances, we determined that we possessed the decision-making power noted in criteria (1) above.

In evaluating criteria (2) above, we considered all facts regarding the design, terms and characteristics of the CDOs and concluded that we do not meet the criteria. Our conclusion was based on the following quantitative and qualitative factors: (a) we have no involvement with the CDOs beyond providing investment management services, (b) we hold no equity or debt interests in the CDOs, (c) we are not a transferor of any of the assets of the CDOs, (d) our expected aggregate fees in future periods are insignificant relative to the expected cash flows of the CDOs, (e) the variability of our expected fees in relation to the expected cash flows of the CDOs is insignificant, (f) our maximum exposure to loss for these CDOs is our investment management fee, which is based upon the fair value of the CDOs' assets, (g) the CDOs have no recourse against us for any losses sustained in the CDO structure, (h) we have not provided, nor expect to provide, any financial or other support to the CDOs, and (i) there are no liquidity arrangements, guarantees and/or other commitments by third parties that would impact our variable interest in the CDOs. As such, we do not have a controlling financial interest in either of the two CDOs and we should not consolidate the CDOs into our consolidated financial statements.

The cash, collateral investments (at fair value) and notes payable (at amortized cost) as of March 31, 2011 of these two unconsolidated CDOs are \$13.7 million, \$344.6 million and \$343.5 million, respectively.

For the entities that meet the scope deferral, management reviews its agreements quarterly and its investments in, and other financial arrangements with, certain entities that hold client AUM to determine the variable interest entities that the company is required to consolidate. These entities include certain mutual fund products, hedge funds, structured products, group trusts, collective investment trusts and limited partnerships. We earn investment management fees on client assets under management of these entities, but we derive no other benefit from these assets and cannot use them in our operations.

As of March 31, 2011, we have significant variable interests in certain structured products and hedge funds with approximately \$27.1 million in AUM. However, these variable interest entities do not require consolidation because management has determined that we are not the primary beneficiary of the expected losses or expected residual returns of these entities. Our maximum exposure to loss is limited to our aggregate investments of \$0.1 million.

## **Real Estate Charges**

During 2010, we performed a comprehensive review of our real estate requirements in New York in connection with our workforce reductions since 2008. As a result, during 2010 we decided to sub-lease over 380,000 square feet in New York (approximately half of which has occurred) and largely consolidate our New York-based employees into two office locations from three. We recorded pre-tax real estate charges of \$101.7 million in 2010 that reflected the net present value of the difference between the amount of our on-going contractual operating lease obligations for this space and our estimate of current market rental rates (\$76.2 million), as well as the write-off of leasehold improvements, furniture and equipment related to this space (\$25.5 million). We periodically review our assumptions and estimates used in recording this charge. During the first quarter of 2011, no adjustments were made to the real estate liability. The following table summarizes the activity in the liability account relating to this charge for the following periods:

	arch 31, 2011	*	
	(in tho	usands	)
Balance as of January 1,	\$ 89,793	\$	_
Expense incurred	_		76,177
Deferred rent reclassification	_		22,954
Payments made	(6,575)		(9,814)
Interest accretion	410		476
Balance as of end of period	\$ 83,628	\$	89,793

# 3. Cash and Securities Segregated Under Federal Regulations and Other Requirements

As of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, \$1.3 billion and \$1.1 billion, respectively, of United States Treasury Bills were segregated in a special reserve bank custody account for the exclusive benefit of brokerage customers of SCB LLC under Rule 15c3-3 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended ("Exchange Act").

AllianceBernstein Investments, Inc. ("AllianceBernstein Investments"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of AllianceBernstein and the distributor of company-sponsored mutual funds, maintains several special bank accounts for the exclusive benefit of customers. As of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, \$39.1 million and \$25.3 million, respectively, of cash were segregated in these bank accounts.

#### 4. Net Income Per Unit

Basic net income per unit is derived by reducing net income for the 1% general partnership interest and dividing the remaining 99% by the basic weighted average number of units outstanding for each period. Diluted net income per unit is derived by reducing net income for the 1% general partnership interest and dividing the remaining 99% by the total of the basic weighted average number of units outstanding and the dilutive unit equivalents resulting from outstanding compensatory options to buy Holding Units as follows:

	Three Months Ended March 31,					
	2011			2010		
	(in	thousands,	excep	t per unit		
		unts)				
Net income attributable to AllianceBernstein Unitholders	\$	136,472	\$	148,266		
Weighted average units outstanding – basic		278,089		274,908		
Dilutive effect of compensatory options to buy Holding Units		803		1,828		
Weighted average units outstanding – diluted		278,892		276,736		
Basic net income per AllianceBernstein Unit	\$	0.49	\$	0.53		
Diluted net income per AllianceBernstein Unit	\$	0.48	\$	0.53		

As of March 31, 2011 and 2010, we excluded 4,692,640 and 5,550,726, respectively, out-of-the-money options (*i.e.*, options with an exercise price greater than the weighted average closing price of a unit for the relevant period) from the diluted net income per unit computation due to their anti-dilutive effect.

#### 5. Investments

Investments consist of:

	M	March 31, 2011		ember 31, 2010
		(in tho	usands	)
Available-for-sale	\$	14,555	\$	16 500
	Ф	14,555	Ф	16,588
Trading:				
Deferred compensation-related		223,641		239,787
United States Treasury Bills		34,996		52,975
Seed money		151,864		177,589
Other		134,847		35,259
Investments in limited partnership hedge funds:				
Deferred compensation-related		43,952		58,918
Seed money/other		158,954		47,735
Consolidated private equity fund		91,730		101,360
Private equity		24,052		17,803
Other		8,768		8,541
Total investments	\$	887,359	\$	756,555

Total investments related to deferred compensation obligations of \$267.6 million and \$298.7 million as of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, respectively, consist of company-sponsored mutual funds and limited partnership hedge funds. We typically make investments in our services that are notionally elected by deferred compensation plan participants and maintain them in a consolidated rabbi trust or separate custodial account. The rabbi trust and custodial account enable us to hold such investments separate from our other assets for the purpose of settling our obligations to participants. The investments held in the rabbi trust and custodial account remain available to the general creditors of AllianceBernstein.

The underlying investments of the limited partnership hedge funds in which we invest include long and short positions in equity securities, fixed income securities (including various agency and non-agency asset-based securities), currencies, commodities and derivatives (including various swaps and forward contracts). These investments are valued at quoted market prices or, where quoted market prices are not available, are fair valued based on the pricing policies and procedures of the Valuation Committee.

United States Treasury Bills are held by SCB LLC in their investment account, the majority of which are pledged as collateral with clearing organizations.

We provide seed money to our investment teams to develop new products and services for our clients.

# 6. Derivative Instruments

We enter into various futures, forwards and swaps to economically hedge our seed money investments. In addition, we have currency forwards that (i) represent seed money that our investment teams are using to develop new products and services for our clients (which was liquidated during the first quarter of 2011), (ii) economically hedge certain cash accounts, and (iii) economically hedge certain foreign investment advisory fees. We do not hold any derivatives designated in a formal hedge relationship under ASC 815-10, *Derivatives and Hedging*.

The following tables present the notional value and fair value as of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010 for derivative instruments not designated as hedging instruments:

				Asset Derivatives (in thousands)		iability rivatives
March 31, 2011:						
Exchange-traded futures	\$	36,969	\$	2	\$	965
Currency forwards		102,701		552		734
Interest rate swaps		24,800		668		52
Credit default swaps		34,265		182		419
Total return swaps		27,367		53		1,141
Total derivatives	\$	226,102	\$	1,457	\$	3,311

December 31, 2010:	N	Votional Value	Asset Derivatives (in thousands)		Derivatives Deri	
,	\$	16,973	ď	16	φ	318
Exchange-traded futures	Ф	,	Ф	10	Ф	
Currency forwards		133,471		249		1,000
Interest rate swaps		43,210		1,197		239
Credit default swaps		74,915		182		1,036
Total return swaps		28,975				960
Total derivatives	\$	297,544	\$	1,644	\$	3,553

The derivative assets and liabilities are included in both receivables and payables to brokers and dealers on our condensed consolidated statement of financial condition.

The following table presents the gains and losses recognized in investment gains (losses) in the condensed consolidated statements of income:

	 Three Months Ended March 31,				
	 2011	2010			
	 (in thousands)				
Exchange-traded futures	\$ (784) \$	(1,300)			
Currency forwards	152	(272)			
Interest rate swaps	128	_			
Credit default swaps	118	(538)			
Total return swaps	(374)	_			
Total	\$ (760) \$	(2,110)			

We may be exposed to credit-related losses in the event of nonperformance by counterparties to derivative financial instruments. We take steps to minimize our counterparty exposure through a credit review and approval process. In addition, we executed various collateral arrangements with counterparties to the over-the-counter derivative transactions that require both pledging and accepting collateral in the form of cash. As of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, we held \$1.6 million and \$6.9 million, respectively, of cash collateral payable to trade counterparties. This obligation to return cash is reported in payables to brokers and dealers in our condensed consolidated statement of financial condition.

Although notional amount is the most commonly used measure of volume in the derivative market, it is not used as a measure of credit risk. Generally, the current credit exposure of our derivative contracts is limited to the net positive estimated fair value of derivative contracts at the reporting date after taking into consideration the existence of netting agreements and any collateral received. A derivative with positive value (a derivative asset) indicates existence of credit risk because the counterparty would owe us if the contract were closed. Alternatively, a derivative contract with negative value (a derivative liability) indicates we would owe money to the counterparty if the contract were closed. Generally if there is more than one derivative transaction with a single counterparty, a master netting arrangement exists with respect to derivative transactions with that counterparty to provide for aggregate net settlement.

Certain of our standardized contracts for over-the-counter derivative transactions ("ISDA Master Agreements") contain credit risk related contingent provisions related to the counterparties' credit rating. In some ISDA Master Agreements, if the counterparties' credit rating (or in some agreements, our assets under management) falls below a specified threshold, either a default or a termination event permitting the counterparty to terminate the ISDA Master Agreement would be triggered. In all agreements that provide for collateralization, various levels of collateralization of net liability positions are applicable, depending upon the credit rating of the counterparty. As of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, we delivered \$8.9 million and \$9.3 million, respectively, of cash collateral into brokerage accounts, which is reported in cash and cash equivalents in our condensed consolidated statement of financial condition.

# 7. Fair Value

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability (*i.e.*, the "exit price") in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The three broad levels of fair value hierarchy are as follows:

- Level 1 Quoted prices in active markets are available for identical assets or liabilities as of the reported date.
- Level 2 Quoted prices in markets that are not active or other pricing inputs that are either directly or indirectly observable as of the reported date.
- Level 3 Prices or valuation techniques that are both significant to the fair value measurement and unobservable as of the reported date. These financial instruments do not have two-way markets and are measured using management's best estimate of fair value, where the inputs into the determination of fair value require significant management judgment or estimation.

# Assets and Liabilities Measured at Fair Value on a Recurring Basis

The following tables summarize the valuation of our financial instruments by pricing observability levels as of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010:

	1	Level 1	Level 2		Level 3 thousands)		 Total
March 31, 2011:				(iii iii)	Jusa	inds)	
Money markets	\$	134,962	\$	_	\$	_	\$ 134,962
U.S. Treasury bills		_		1,324,573		_	1,324,573
U.K. Treasury bills		_		8,110		_	8,110
Equity securities							
Growth		104,748		18		_	104,766
Value		68,620		_			68,620
Blend		86,488		_		_	86,488
Other <sup>(1)</sup>		127,685		791		_	128,476
Fixed Income securities							
Taxable <sup>(2)</sup>		90,787		21,780		_	112,567
Tax-exempt <sup>(3)</sup>		9,320		575		_	9,895
Other		18		_			18
Derivatives		2		1,455		_	1,457
Long exchange-traded options		14,077		_		_	14,077
Private equity		15,809		24,616		60,188	100,613
Total assets measured at fair value	\$	652,516	\$	1,381,918	\$	60,188	\$ 2,094,622
Securities sold not yet purchased							
Short equities – corporate	\$	76,864	\$	_	\$	_	\$ 76,864
Short exchange-traded options		20,416		_		_	20,416
Other		358		_		_	358
Derivatives		965		2,346		_	3,311
Total liabilities measured at fair value	\$	98,603	\$	2,346	\$	_	\$ 100,949

	 Level 1	_	Level 2	21162	Level 3	 Total
December 31, 2010:			(III UII	Jusa	iius)	
Money markets	\$ 323,104	\$	_	\$	_	\$ 323,104
U.S. Treasury bills			1,137,578		_	1,137,578
U.K. Treasury bills	_		7,911		_	7,911
Equity securities						
Growth	97,161		188		69	97,418
Value	73,579		_		_	73,579
Blend	93,590		_		_	93,590
Other <sup>(1)</sup>	28,868		5,051		_	33,919
Fixed Income securities						
Taxable <sup>(2)</sup>	130,122		21,491		_	151,613
Tax-exempt <sup>(3)</sup>	9,310		750		_	10,060
Other	17		_		_	17
Derivatives	16		1,628		_	1,644
Long exchange-traded options	9,027		_		_	9,027
Private equity	 24,432		23,811		59,345	107,588
Total assets measured at fair value	\$ 789,226	\$	1,198,408	\$	59,414	\$ 2,047,048
Securities sold not yet purchased						
Short equities – corporate	\$ 42,914	\$	_	\$	_	\$ 42,914
Short exchange-traded options	7,622		_		_	7,622
Other	3		_		_	3
Derivatives	318		3,235		_	3,553
Total liabilities measured at fair value	\$ 50,857	\$	3,235	\$		\$ 54,092

- (1) Primarily long positions in corporate equities traded through our options desk.
- (2) Primarily corporate and government securities.
- (3) Primarily municipal bonds.

Following is a description of the fair value methodologies used for instruments measured at fair value, as well as the general classification of such instruments pursuant to the valuation hierarchy:

- <u>Money markets</u>: We invest excess cash in various money market funds that are valued based on quoted prices in active markets; these are included in Level 1 of the valuation hierarchy.
- <u>Treasury bills</u>: We hold United States Treasury Bills, which are segregated in a special reserve bank custody account as required by Rule 15c3-3 of the Exchange Act. We also hold United Kingdom Treasury Bills. These securities are valued based on quoted yields in secondary markets and are included in Level 2 of the valuation hierarchy.
- <u>Equity and fixed income securities</u>: Our equity and fixed income securities consist principally of company-sponsored mutual funds with exchange listed net asset values and various separately-managed portfolios consisting primarily of equity and fixed income securities with quoted prices in active markets, which are included in Level 1 of the valuation hierarchy. In addition, some securities are valued based on observable inputs from recognized pricing vendors, which are included in Level 2 of the valuation hierarchy. Also, as of December 31, 2010 an insignificant amount of securities are included in Level 3 of the valuation hierarchy.
- <u>Derivatives</u>: We hold exchange-traded futures with counterparties that are included in Level 1 of the valuation hierarchy. In addition, we also hold currency forward contracts, interest rate swaps, credit default swaps and total return swaps with counterparties that are included in Level 2 of the valuation hierarchy.
- <u>Options</u>: We hold long exchange-traded options that are included in Level 1 of the valuation hierarchy.
- Private equity: The valuation of non-public private equity investments owned by our consolidated venture capital fund requires significant management judgment due to the absence of quoted market prices, inherent lack of liquidity and the long-term nature of such investments. Private equity investments are valued initially at cost. The carrying values of private equity investments are adjusted either up or down from cost to reflect expected exit values as evidenced by financing and sale transactions with third parties, or when determination of a valuation adjustment is confirmed through ongoing review in accordance with our valuation policies and procedures. A variety of factors are reviewed and monitored to assess positive and negative changes in valuation including, but not limited to, current operating performance and future expectations of investee companies, industry valuations of comparable public companies, changes in market outlooks and the third party financing environment over time. In determining valuation adjustments resulting from the investment review process, particular emphasis is placed on current company performance and market conditions. Non-public equity investments are included in Level 3 of the valuation hierarchy because they trade infrequently and, therefore, their fair value is unobservable. Publicly-traded equity investments owned by our consolidated venture capital fund are included in Level 1 of the valuation hierarchy. If they contain trading restrictions, publicly-traded equity investments are included in Level 2 of the valuation hierarchy. One of our private securities went public in the first quarter of 2011 and due to a trading restriction period \$3.6 million was transferred from a Level 3 classification to a Level 2 classification.

<u>Securities sold not yet purchased</u>: Securities sold not yet purchased, primarily reflecting short positions in equities and exchange-traded options, are included in Level 1 of the valuation hierarchy.

Effective January 1, 2011, we adopted the second part of ASU 2010-06, *Improving Disclosures about Fair Value Measurements*, which requires purchases, sales, issuances and settlements presented separately within the Level 3 reconciliation. The following table summarizes the change in carrying value associated with Level 3 financial instruments carried at fair value:

	 Three Months Ended March 31,					
	2011		2010			
	(in thousands)					
Balance as of beginning of period	\$ 59,414	\$	98,559			
Transfers (out) in, net	(3,588)		(81)			
Purchases	4,647		2,722			
Sales	(213)		(375)			
Realized gains (losses), net	(2,860)		52			
Unrealized gains (losses), net	2,788		1,379			
Balance as of end of period	\$ 60,188	\$	102,256			

Transfers into and out of all levels of the fair value hierarchy are reflected at end-of-period fair values. Realized and unrealized gains and losses on Level 3 financial instruments are recorded in investment gains and losses in the condensed consolidated statements of income. Substantially all of the Level 3 investments are private equity investments owned by our consolidated venture capital fund, of which we own 10% and non-controlling interests own 90%.

# Assets Measured at Fair Value on a Nonrecurring Basis

There were no impairments recognized for goodwill, intangible assets or other long-lived assets as of March 31, 2011.

# 8. Commitments and Contingencies

# **Legal Proceedings**

On October 2, 2003, a purported class action complaint entitled *Hindo*, *et al.* v. *AllianceBernstein Growth & Income Fund*, *et al.* ("Hindo Complaint") was filed against, among others, AllianceBernstein, Holding and the General Partner. The Hindo Complaint alleges that certain defendants failed to disclose that they improperly allowed certain hedge funds and other unidentified parties to engage in "late trading" and "market timing" of certain of our U.S. mutual fund securities, violating various securities laws.

Following October 2, 2003, additional lawsuits making factual allegations generally similar to those in the Hindo Complaint were filed in various federal and state courts against AllianceBernstein and certain other defendants. On September 29, 2004, plaintiffs filed consolidated amended complaints with respect to four claim types: mutual fund shareholder claims; mutual fund derivative claims; derivative claims brought on behalf of Holding; and claims brought under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA") by participants in the Profit Sharing Plan for Employees of AllianceBernstein.

On April 21, 2006, AllianceBernstein and attorneys for the plaintiffs in the mutual fund shareholder claims, mutual fund derivative claims and ERISA claims entered into a confidential memorandum of understanding containing their agreement to settle these claims. The agreement was documented by a stipulation of settlement, which has been approved by the court. The settlement amount (\$30 million), which we previously expensed and disclosed, has been disbursed.

#### Index

The derivative claim, which was brought by Holding unitholders against the officers and directors of AllianceBernstein and in which plaintiffs sought an unspecified amount of damages, has been resolved pursuant to a stipulation of settlement with plaintiffs and the recovery of insurance proceeds totaling \$23 million from relevant carriers. The stipulation of settlement has been submitted to the court for preliminary approval and, if approved by the court, will result in the settlement proceeds, after payment of plaintiffs' legal fees, being disbursed to AllianceBernstein.

We are involved in various other matters, including regulatory inquiries, administrative proceedings and litigation, some of which allege significant damages. While any inquiry, proceeding or litigation has the element of uncertainty, management believes that the outcome of any one of the other regulatory inquiries, administrative proceedings, lawsuits or claims that is pending or threatened, or all of them combined, will not have a material adverse effect on our results of operations or financial condition.

#### Other

During 2009, we entered into a subscription agreement under which we committed to invest up to \$40 million in a venture capital fund over a six-year period. As of March 31, 2011, we had funded \$10.2 million of this commitment.

Also during 2009, we were selected by the U.S. Treasury Department as one of nine pre-qualified investment managers under the Public-Private Investment Program. As part of the program, each investment manager is required to invest a minimum of \$20 million in the Public-Private Investment Fund they manage. As of March 31, 2011, we funded \$17.0 million of this commitment.

# 9. Qualified Employee Benefit Plans

We maintain a qualified profit sharing plan covering U.S. employees and certain foreign employees. Employer contributions are discretionary and generally limited to the maximum amount deductible for federal income tax purposes.

We maintain several defined contribution plans for foreign employees in our subsidiaries in the United Kingdom, Australia, Japan and other foreign entities. Employer contributions are generally consistent with regulatory requirements and tax limits. Defined contribution expense for foreign entities was \$2.1 million and \$1.8 million during the three months ended March 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

We maintain a qualified, noncontributory, defined benefit retirement plan ("Retirement Plan") covering current and former employees who were employed by AllianceBernstein in the United States prior to October 2, 2000. Benefits are based on years of credited service, average final base salary (as defined in the Retirement Plan), and primary Social Security benefits. Service and compensation after December 31, 2008 are not taken into account in determining participants' retirement benefits.

Our policy is to satisfy our funding obligation for each year in an amount not less than the minimum required by ERISA and not greater than the maximum amount we can deduct for federal income tax purposes. Through April 2011, we have made no contributions to the Retirement Plan and currently intend to contribute \$6.9 million to the Retirement Plan later this year. Contribution estimates, which are subject to change, are based on regulatory requirements, future market conditions and assumptions used for actuarial computations of the Retirement Plan's obligations and assets. Management, at the present time, has not determined the amount, if any, of additional future contributions that may be required.

Net (benefit) expense under the Retirement Plan consisted of:

	 Three Months Ended March 31,					
	2011		2010			
	 (in thou	ısand	;)			
Interest cost on projected benefit obligations	\$ 1,180	\$	1,139			
Expected return on plan assets	(1,294)		(1,129)			
Recognized actuarial loss	108		56			
Amortization of transition asset	(36)		(36)			
Net pension (benefit) charge	\$ (42)	\$	30			

## 10. Units Outstanding

Changes in AllianceBernstein Units outstanding during the three-month period ended March 31, 2011 were as follows:

Outstanding as of December 31, 2010	278,115,232
Options exercised	26,358
Units issued	_
Units retired	(188,725)
Units forfeited	
Outstanding as of March 31, 2011	277,952,865

In accordance with the Holding Partnership Agreement, when Holding issues Holding Units to AllianceBernstein, Holding is required to use the proceeds it receives from AllianceBernstein to purchase the equivalent number of newly-issued AllianceBernstein Units. Holding Units issued pertain to Holding Units newly issued under the 2010 Plan and could include: (i) restricted Holding Unit awards to independent members of the Board of Directors of the General Partner, (ii) restricted Holding Unit awards to eligible employees, (iii) restricted Holding Unit awards for recruitment, and (iv) restricted Holding Unit issuances in connection with certain employee separation agreements.

During March 2011, we purchased 188,725 AllianceBernstein Units in private transactions and retired them.

## 11. Income Taxes

AllianceBernstein is a private partnership for federal income tax purposes and, accordingly, is not subject to federal or state corporate income taxes. However, AllianceBernstein is subject to the 4.0% New York City unincorporated business tax ("UBT"). Domestic corporate subsidiaries of AllianceBernstein, which are subject to federal, state and local income taxes, are generally included in the filing of a consolidated federal income tax return with separate state and local income tax returns being filed. Foreign corporate subsidiaries are generally subject to taxes in the foreign jurisdictions where they are located.

In order to preserve AllianceBernstein's status as a private partnership for federal income tax purposes, AllianceBernstein Units must not be considered publicly traded. The AllianceBernstein Partnership Agreement provides that all transfers of AllianceBernstein Units must be approved by AXA Equitable and the General Partner; AXA Equitable and the General Partner approve only those transfers permitted pursuant to one or more of the safe harbors contained in relevant treasury regulations. If AllianceBernstein Units were considered readily tradable, AllianceBernstein's net income would be subject to federal and state corporate income tax. Furthermore, should AllianceBernstein enter into a substantial new line of business, Holding, by virtue of its ownership of AllianceBernstein, would lose its status as a "grandfathered" publicly-traded partnership and would become subject to corporate income tax, which would reduce materially Holding's net income and its quarterly distributions to Holding Unitholders.

# 12. Debt

At March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, AllianceBernstein had \$266.0 million and \$225.0 million, respectively, in commercial paper outstanding with weighted average interest rates of approximately 0.2% and 0.3%, respectively. The fair value of commercial paper and amounts outstanding under the 2010 credit facility described below are short-term in nature, and as such, recorded value is estimated to approximate fair value. Average daily borrowings of commercial paper during the first quarter of 2011 and the full-year 2010 were \$297.5 million and \$104.2 million, respectively, with weighted average interest rates of approximately 0.3% and 0.2%, respectively.

On December 9, 2010, AllianceBernstein entered into a committed, unsecured three-year senior revolving credit facility (the "2010 Credit Facility") with a group of commercial banks and other lenders in an original principal amount of \$1.0 billion with SCB LLC as an additional borrower.

The 2010 Credit Facility replaced AllianceBernstein's existing \$1.95 billion of committed credit lines (comprised of two separate lines – a \$1.0 billion committed, unsecured revolving credit facility in the name of AllianceBernstein, which had a scheduled expiration date of February 17, 2011, and SCB LLC's \$950 million committed, unsecured revolving credit facility, which had a scheduled expiration date of January 25, 2011), both of which were terminated upon the effectiveness of the 2010 Credit Facility. AllianceBernstein has agreed to guarantee the obligations of SCB LLC under the 2010 Credit Facility.

The 2010 Credit Facility will be available for AllianceBernstein's and SCB LLC's business purposes, including the support of AllianceBernstein's \$1.0 billion commercial paper program. Both AllianceBernstein and SCB LLC can draw directly under the 2010 Credit Facility and management expects to draw on the 2010 Credit Facility from time to time.

The 2010 Credit Facility contains affirmative, negative and financial covenants, which are customary for facilities of this type, including, among other things, restrictions on dispositions of assets, restrictions on liens, a minimum interest coverage ratio and a maximum leverage ratio. We are in compliance with these covenants. The 2010 Credit Facility also includes customary events of default (with customary grace periods, as applicable), including provisions under which, upon the occurrence of an event of default, all outstanding loans may be accelerated and/or lender's commitments may be terminated. Also, under such provisions, upon the occurrence of certain insolvency or bankruptcy related events of default, all amounts payable under the 2010 Credit Facility would automatically become immediately due and payable, and the lender's commitments would automatically terminate.

# <u>Index</u>

The 2010 Credit Facility provides for possible increases in principal amount by up to an aggregate incremental amount of \$250 million, any such increase being subject to the consent of the affected lenders. Amounts under the 2010 Credit Facility may be borrowed, repaid and re-borrowed by us from time to time until the maturity of the facility. Voluntary prepayments and commitment reductions requested by us are permitted at any time without fee (other than customary breakage costs relating to the prepayment of any drawn loans) upon proper notice and subject to a minimum dollar requirement. Borrowings under the 2010 Credit Facility bear interest at a rate per annum, which will be, at our option, a rate equal to an applicable margin, which is subject to adjustment based on the credit ratings of AllianceBernstein, plus one of the following indexes: London Interbank Offered Rate; a floating base rate; or the Federal Funds rate.

As of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, we had no amounts outstanding under the 2010 Credit Facility. Average daily borrowings under the revolving credit facility outstanding during the first quarter of 2011 and full-year 2010 were \$0.4 million and \$65.6 million, respectively, with weighted average interest rates of approximately 1.3% and 0.3%, respectively.

In addition, SCB LLC has five uncommitted lines of credit with four financial institutions. Two of these lines of credit permit us to borrow up to an aggregate of approximately \$150.0 million while three lines have no stated limit.

# 13. Comprehensive Income

Comprehensive income consisted of:

	 Three Mor Marc		
	2011		2010
	(in tho	usand	s)
Net income	\$ 128,426	\$	131,493
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax:			
Unrealized gains on investments	386		358
Foreign currency translation adjustments	6,129		(18,216)
Changes in employee benefit related items	 (41)		20
Comprehensive income	134,900		113,655
Comprehensive loss in consolidated entities attributable to non-controlling interests	8,329		16,146
Comprehensive income attributable to AllianceBernstein Unitholders	\$ 143,229	\$	129,801

# 14. Changes in Capital

Changes in capital as of March 31, 2011 consisted of:

	Attı Allia	ners' Capital ributable to nceBernstein nitholders	Con Inte Cons E	Non- atrolling crests In solidated ntities usands)	To	tal Capital		
Balance as of December 31, 2010	\$	4,368,634	\$	124,517	\$	4,493,151		
Comprehensive income (loss):								
Net income (loss)		136,472		(8,046)		128,426		
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax:								
Unrealized gains on investments		353		33		386		
Foreign currency translation adjustment		6,445		(316)		6,129		
Changes in employee benefit related items		(41)				(41)		
Comprehensive income (loss)		143,229		(8,329)		134,900		
Cash distributions to General Partner and unitholders		(136,718)		_		(136,718)		
Capital contributions (distributions)		926		(550)		376		
Purchase of Australian joint venture		10,717		(32,101)	(32,101) $(21,$			
Purchase of AllianceBernstein Units		(4,273)		_		(4,273)		
Compensation-related transactions	(6,617) —					(6,617)		
Balance as of March 31, 2011	\$	4,375,898	\$	83,537	\$	4,459,435		

Changes in capital as of March 31, 2010 consisted of:

	Attı Allia	ners' Capital ributable to nceBernstein nitholders	In Co	Non- ontrolling iterests In insolidated Entities ousands)	Tot	al Capital
Balance as of December 31, 2009	\$	4,530,362	\$	171,593	\$	4,701,955
Comprehensive income (loss):						
Net income (loss)		148,266		(16,773)		131,493
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax:						
Unrealized gains on investments		111		247		358
Foreign currency translation adjustment		(18,596)		380		(18,216)
Changes in employee benefit related items		20		_		20
Comprehensive income (loss)		129,801		(16,146)		113,655
Cash distributions to General Partner and unitholders		(194,343)				(194,343)
Capital contributions (distributions)		897		(1,565)	(668)	
Compensation-related transactions	7,262 —					7,262
Balance as of March 31, 2010	\$ 4,473,979 \$ 153,882					4,627,861

# 15. Acquisitions

On October 1, 2010, we acquired SunAmerica's alternative investment group, an experienced team that manages a portfolio of hedge fund and private equity fund investments. The purchase price of this acquisition, accounted for under ASC 805, *Business Combinations*, was \$49.0 million, consisting of \$14.3 million of cash payments, \$2.5 million of assumed deferred compensation liabilities and \$32.2 million of net contingent consideration payable. The net contingent consideration payable consists of the net present value of three annual payments of \$1.5 million to SunAmerica based on its assets under management transferred to us in the acquisition and the net present value of projected revenue sharing payments of \$35.5 million based on projected newly-raised assets under management by the acquired group. This contingent consideration payable was offset by \$4.1 million of performance-based fees earned in 2010 determined to be pre-acquisition consideration. The excess of the purchase price over the fair value of identifiable assets acquired resulted in the recognition of \$46.1 million of goodwill. During the first quarter of 2011, no adjustments were made to the contingent consideration payable.

During the first quarter of 2011, AXA sold its 50% interest in our consolidated Australian joint venture to an unaffiliated third party as part of a larger transaction. On March 31, 2011, we purchased that 50% interest from the unaffiliated third party, making our Australian entity a wholly-owned subsidiary. We purchased this remaining 50% interest for \$21.4 million. As a result, we eliminated \$32.1 million of non-controlling interests in consolidated entities and increased partner's capital attributable to AllianceBernstein unitholders by \$10.7 million.

## <u>Index</u>

# 16. Accounting Pronouncements

As of March 31, 2011, there are no new accounting pronouncements issued but not yet effective that would have a material impact on our condensed consolidated financial statements.

# 17. Subsequent Event

On April 5, 2011, we entered into a Purchase Agreement with Pyrander Capital Management, LLC ("Pyrander"), Kurt Feuerman and Caxton Associates LP pursuant to which, subject to various closing conditions, on or shortly after May 31, 2011 we will acquire Pyrander. In so doing, we will assume the role of investment manager and trading advisor for the following investment vehicles managed by Mr. Feuerman: Equity Growth, a long/short strategy, and Alpha Equity, a long-only strategy. Also, on or shortly after May 31, 2011, Mr. Feuerman will join our equity investment-management team as Senior Vice President and Portfolio Manager, U.S. Equities.

# Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the General Partner and Unitholders AllianceBernstein L.P.

We have reviewed the accompanying condensed consolidated statement of financial condition of AllianceBernstein L.P. ("AllianceBernstein") as of March 31, 2011, and the related condensed consolidated statements of income for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2011 and 2010, and the condensed consolidated statements of cash flows for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2011 and 2010. These interim financial statements are the responsibility of the management of AllianceBernstein Corporation, the General Partner.

We conducted our review in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). A review of interim financial information consists principally of applying analytical procedures and making inquiries of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters. It is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements taken as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying condensed consolidated interim financial statements for them to be in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We previously audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated statement of financial condition as of December 31, 2010, and the related consolidated statements of income, of changes in partners' capital and comprehensive income, and of cash flows for the year then ended (not presented herein), and in our report dated February 10, 2011, we expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements. In our opinion, the information set forth in the accompanying condensed consolidated statement of financial condition as of December 31, 2010 is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the consolidated statement of financial condition from which it has been derived.

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

New York, New York May 2, 2011

# Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

#### **Executive Overview**

We are off to a solid start in 2011 as gross sales increased by double-digit percentages in each of our distribution channels compared to the fourth quarter of 2010. Net outflows, although significant, declined substantially from the fourth quarter of 2010, particularly in the Institutions channel.

Our total assets under management ("AUM") as of March 31, 2011 were \$477.3 billion, down \$0.7 billion, or 0.2%, compared to December 31, 2010, and down \$15.0 billion, or 3.1%, compared to March 31, 2010. During the first quarter of 2011, AUM decreased as a result of net outflows of \$14.4 billion (primarily in the Institutions channel), substantially offset by market appreciation of \$13.7 billion. During the twelve month period ended March 31, 2011 AUM decreased as a result of net outflows of \$64.0 billion, partly offset by market appreciation of \$41.0 billion and an additional inflow of \$8.0 billion in October 2010 from the acquisition of an alternative investments group.

Institutional AUM decreased \$6.1 billion, or 2.3%, to \$266.8 billion during the first quarter of 2011, due to net outflows of \$12.9 billion, partly offset by market appreciation of \$6.8 billion. Net outflows declined to \$12.9 billion from \$22.4 billion in the fourth quarter of 2010 primarily due to a decrease in terminations and redemptions and a 49% increase in gross sales to \$5.2 billion in the current quarter. The pipeline of won but unfunded institutional mandates decreased to \$4.0 billion as of March 31, 2011 from \$6.4 billion as of December 31, 2010, largely due to the funding of two large customized retirement services mandates during the quarter.

Retail AUM increased \$4.0 billion, or 3.1%, to \$131.0 billion during the first quarter of 2011 as a result of market appreciation of \$4.8 billion, partly offset by net outflows of \$0.8 billion. Net outflows of \$0.8 billion decreased from \$6.0 billion in the fourth quarter of 2010 due to a decrease in terminations and redemptions and an increase in gross sales from \$6.7 billion to \$8.2 billion during the first quarter of 2011, with particular strength in mutual fund sales.

Private Client AUM increased \$1.4 billion, or 1.9%, to \$79.5 billion during the first quarter of 2011 compared to the fourth quarter of 2010 as a result of market appreciation of \$2.1 billion, partly offset by net outflows of \$0.7 billion. Gross sales increased sequentially from \$1.9 billion to \$2.3 billion during the first quarter of 2011 and were particularly strong in March 2011.

Bernstein Research Services revenue for the first quarter of 2011 was \$119.6 million, up \$8.9 million, or 8.0%, compared to the first quarter of 2010, driven by strength in both the U.S. and Europe. Once again, a recently issued independent annual survey of U.S. institutional investors ranked Bernstein Research number one across several key metrics of research quality.

Net revenues for the first quarter of 2011 increased \$30.3 million, or 4.2%, to \$755.4 million from \$725.1 million in the first quarter of 2010 led by higher Bernstein Research Services revenues, higher distribution revenues, most notably from non-U.S. and global fixed income products, and lower investment losses in our consolidated private equity fund. Operating expenses for the first quarter of 2011 increased \$31.9 million, or 5.4%, to \$617.0 million from \$585.1 million in the first quarter of 2010 as a result of higher employee compensation and benefits due to annual merit increases and a higher incentive compensation accrual, and higher promotion and servicing expenses associated with increased business activity and new product launches. These increases were slightly offset by a \$12.0 million real estate charge in the first quarter of 2010. We are exploring ways to reduce infrastructure costs.

Operating income for the first quarter of 2011 declined \$1.6 million, or 1.1%, to \$138.4 million compared to the first quarter of 2010, and our operating margin decreased to 19.4% from 21.6% for the first quarter of 2010, primarily due to higher compensation expense, higher promotion and servicing expenses and the inclusion of lower net losses attributable to non-controlling interests.

We are pleased with the progress we continued to make in the first quarter of 2011 against our key long-term strategic objectives. Our investment performance is improving across a number of our investment strategies and our new products continue to gather assets and momentum. We are also building on our presence in Alternatives and are constantly extending our global reach, most notably in our Retail and sell-side businesses. We are confident that as we continue to implement our long-term strategy for restoring our performance track record and introducing innovative new products and services, outflows will continue to decline and ultimately translate to positive net flows and better operating results.

# Assets Under Management

Assets under management by distribution channel were as follows:

		As of M	arch :	31,					
	2011		2010		2011 2010		\$ Change		% Change
			(ir	n billions)					
Institutions <sup>(1)</sup>	\$	266.8	\$	288.0	\$	(21.2)	(7.4)%		
Retail		131.0		127.8		3.2	2.5		
Private Client		79.5		76.5		3.0	3.9		
Total	\$	477.3	\$	492.3	\$	(15.0)	(3.1)		

Previously reported assets under management for March 31, 2010 have been adjusted by removing from our AUM an affiliated account for which we serve in an advisory capacity and do not have discretionary trading authority.

Assets under management by investment service were as follows:

		As of M					
	2011			010 illions)	_	\$ Change	% Change
Equity			(111 )	11110115)			
Value:							
U.S.	\$	37.0	\$	44.8	\$	(7.8)	(17.5)%
Global & international		100.4		124.6		(24.2)	(19.4)
		137.4	<u> </u>	169.4		(32.0)	(18.9)
Growth:							
U.S.		30.4		37.5		(7.1)	(18.7)
Global & international		41.0		53.7		(12.7)	(23.7)
		71.4		91.2		(19.8)	(21.7)
Total Equity		208.8		260.6		(51.8)	(19.9)
Fixed Income:							
U.S.		120.2		115.1		5.1	4.4
Global & international		89.8		77.2		12.6	16.4
		210.0		192.3		17.7	9.2
Other <sup>(1)(2)</sup> :							
U.S.		30.1		27.1		3.0	11.1
Global & international		28.4		12.3		16.1	130.5
		58.5		39.4		19.1	48.4
Total:							
U.S.		217.7		224.5		(6.8)	(3.0)
Global & international		259.6		267.8		(8.2)	(3.1)
Total	\$	477.3	\$	492.3	\$	(15.0)	(3.1)

<sup>(1)</sup> Previously reported assets under management for March 31, 2010 have been adjusted by removing from our AUM an affiliated account for which we serve in an advisory capacity and do not have discretionary trading authority.

<sup>(2)</sup> Includes index, structured, asset allocation services and certain other alternative investments.

Changes in assets under management for the three-month and twelve-month period ended March 31, 2011 were as follows:

		]	Dist	ribution	Ch	annel	Investment Service											
	Inst	itutions	_]	Retail		rivate Client		Total (	E	Value Equity illions)		rowth quity		Fixed Icome	Ot	her <sup>(2)</sup>	_	Total
Balance as of December 31, 2010	\$	272.9	\$	127.0	\$	78.1	\$	478.0	\$	144.3	\$	74.3	\$	206.2	\$	53.2	\$	478.0
Long-term flows:																		
Sales/new accounts		5.2		8.2		2.3		15.7		2.4		1.5		8.9		2.9		15.7
Redemptions/terminations		(13.9)		(7.7)		(1.8)		(23.4)		(11.2)		(6.2)		(5.8)		(0.2)		(23.4)
Cash flow/unreinvested dividends		(4.2)		(1.3)		(1.2)		(6.7)		(4.0)		(1.5)		(1.5)		0.3		(6.7)
Net long-term (outflows) inflows		(12.9)		(8.0)		(0.7)		(14.4)		(12.8)		(6.2)		1.6		3.0		(14.4)
Market appreciation		6.8		4.8		2.1		13.7		5.9		3.3		2.2		2.3		13.7
Net change		(6.1)		4.0		1.4		(0.7)		(6.9)		(2.9)		3.8		5.3		(0.7)
Balance as of March 31, 2011	\$	266.8	\$	131.0	\$	<b>79.</b> 5	\$	477.3	\$	137.4	\$	71.4	\$	210.0	\$	58.5	\$	477.3

	Distribution Channel						Investment Service										
	Inst	itutions	]	Retail		rivate Elient	 <b>Total</b> (i	E	Value Equity illions)		rowth quity		Fixed ncome	Ot	her <sup>(1)</sup>	_	Total
Balance as of March 31, 2010	\$	288.0	\$	127.8	\$	76.5	\$ 492.3	\$	169.4	\$	91.2	\$	192.3	\$	39.4	\$	492.3
Long-term flows:																	
Sales/new accounts		21.0		30.8		7.9	59.7		11.2		4.6		37.8		6.1		59.7
Redemptions/terminations		(56.1)		(33.7)		(6.3)	(96.1)		(42.9)		(26.4)		(24.7)		(2.1)		(96.1)
Cash flow/unreinvested dividends		(15.9)		(7.9)		(3.8)	(27.6)		(13.6)		(7.4)		(7.7)		1.1		(27.6)
Net long-term (outflows) inflows		(51.0)		(10.8)		(2.2)	(64.0)		(45.3)		(29.2)		5.4		5.1		(64.0)
Transfers		(0.2)		_		0.2	_		_		_		_		_		_
Acquisition		8.0		_		_	8.0		_		_		_		8.0		8.0
Market appreciation		22.0		14.0		5.0	41.0		13.3		9.4		12.3		6.0		41.0
Net change		(21.2)		3.2		3.0	(15.0)		(32.0)		(19.8)		17.7		19.1		(15.0)
Balance as of March 31, 2011	\$	266.8	\$	131.0	\$	<b>79.</b> 5	\$ 477.3	\$	137.4	\$	71.4	\$	210.0	\$	58.5	\$	477.3

<sup>(1)</sup> Previously reported assets under management for March 31, 2010 have been adjusted by removing from our AUM an affiliated account for which we serve in an advisory capacity and do not have discretionary trading authority.

Average assets under management by distribution channel and investment service were as follows:

	 Three Mor					
	 2011	2010		9	Change	% Change
	 	(in	billions)			
Distribution Channel:						
Institutions <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 272.6	\$	284.8	\$	(12.2)	(4.3)%
Retail	129.5		121.5		8.0	6.5
Private Client	 79.0		74.4	_	4.6	6.3
Total	\$ 481.1	\$	480.7	\$	0.4	0.1
Investment Service:						
Value Equity	\$ 143.0	\$	165.4	\$	(22.4)	(13.6)
Growth Equity	73.4		89.6		(16.2)	(18.1)
Fixed Income	208.2		188.4		19.8	10.5
Other <sup>(1)(2)</sup>	 56.5		37.3		19.2	51.3
Total	\$ 481.1	\$	480.7	\$	0.4	0.1

<sup>(1)</sup> Previously reported assets under management for March 31, 2010 have been adjusted by removing from our AUM an affiliated account for which we serve in an advisory capacity and do not have discretionary trading authority.

<sup>(2)</sup> Includes index, structured, asset allocation services and certain other alternative investments.

<sup>(2)</sup> Includes index, structured, asset allocation services and certain other alternative investments.

#### <u>Index</u>

Our Institutions channel AUM began the first quarter of 2010 at \$291.2 billion but declined noticeably during January 2010, resulting in a drop in AUM to \$279.9 billion at January 31, 2010. The decline during January 2010 was driven by market depreciation of \$7.3 billion and net outflows of \$4.0 billion. Both market depreciation and net outflows occurred primarily within Growth Equity and Value Equity services. From there, AUM increased to \$288.0 billion at March 31, 2010, resulting in average AUM of \$284.8 billion for the first quarter of 2010. Our Institutions channel AUM began the first quarter of 2011 at \$272.9 billion and increased slightly during the first two months of 2011 to \$275.7 billion at February 28, 2011. However, during the month of March 2011 AUM declined to \$266.8 billion driven by net outflows of \$7.5 billion (occurring primarily within Value Equity and Growth Equity services), and by market depreciation of \$1.4 billion (occurring primarily within Value Equity services). This resulted in average AUM of \$272.6 billion for the first quarter of 2011. The \$6.1 billion decrease in Institutional AUM during the first quarter of 2011 was due to net outflows of \$12.9 billion, partly offset by market appreciation of \$6.8 billion occurring across all services. The net outflows occurred across all services except Other services.

Our Retail channel AUM began the first quarter of 2010 at \$120.7 billion and decreased to \$117.1 billion at January 31, 2010. The decline during January 2010 was driven by market depreciation of \$3.2 billion and net outflows of \$0.4 billion. Both market depreciation and net outflows occurred across all services except Fixed Income services. From there, AUM increased to \$127.8 billion at March 31, 2010, resulting in average AUM of \$121.5 billion for the first quarter of 2010. Our Retail channel AUM began the first quarter of 2011 at \$127.0 billion and ended the quarter at \$131.0 billion, resulting in an average AUM of \$129.5 billion. The \$4.0 billion increase in Retail AUM during the first quarter of 2011 was due to market appreciation of \$4.8 billion (occurring across all services), partly offset by net outflows of \$0.8 billion. The net outflows occurred within Value Equity and Growth Equity services and were partly offset by net inflows within Fixed Income and Other services.

Our Private Client AUM began the first quarter of 2010 at \$74.8 billion and decreased to \$72.6 billion during January 2010. This decline was due to market depreciation of \$1.8 billion and net outflows of \$0.4 billion. Both market depreciation and net outflows occurred primarily within Growth Equity and Value Equity services, partly offset by market appreciation and net inflows within Fixed Income services. From there, AUM increased to \$76.5 billion at March 31, 2010, resulting in average AUM of \$74.4 billion for the first quarter of 2010. Our Private Client channel AUM began the first quarter of 2011 at \$78.1 billion and ended the quarter at \$79.5 billion, resulting in an average AUM of \$79.0 billion. The \$1.4 billion increase in Private Client AUM during the first quarter of 2011 was due to market appreciation of \$2.1 billion (occurring across all services), partly offset by net outflows of \$0.7 billion. The net outflows occurred within Value Equity and Growth Equity services and were partly offset by net inflows within Other and Fixed Income services.

# <u>Index</u>

Absolute investment composite returns and relative performance compared to benchmarks for certain representative Value, Growth, Blend and Fixed Income services were as follows for the three months ended March 31:

	2011	2010
Global Value		
Absolute return	4.6%	2.0%
Relative return (vs. MSCI World Index – net)	(0.2)	(1.2)
International Value	(** )	( ' )
Absolute return	2.4	0.6
Relative return (vs. MSCI EAFE Index – net)	(1.0)	(0.3)
Japan Value	( /	(111)
Absolute return	(3.0)	10.2
Relative return (vs. TOPIX)	(0.8)	1.4
U.S. Diversified Value	· ·	
Absolute return	6.4	7.5
Relative return (vs. Russell 1000 Value Index)	0.0	0.7
Global Research Growth		
Absolute return	3.5	1.6
Relative return (vs. MSCI World Index – net)	(1.3)	(1.6)
Global Thematic Research Growth	` '	
Absolute return	2.5	1.9
Relative return (vs. MCSI ACWI – net)	(1.9)	(1.2)
International Large Cap Growth	,	( )
Absolute return	(1.1)	(0.4)
Relative return (vs. MSCI EAFE Index – net)	(4.5)	(1.3)
U.S. Large Cap Growth	` '	
Absolute return	6.9	2.6
Relative return (vs. Russell 1000 Growth Index)	0.9	(2.0)
Global Blend		
Absolute return	4.2	1.8
Relative return (vs. MSCI World Index – net)	(0.6)	(1.4)
International Blend		
Absolute return	0.8	0.3
Relative return (vs. MSCI EAFE Index – net)	(2.6)	(0.6)
Emerging Market Blend	· ·	, ,
Absolute return	2.1	1.8
Relative return (vs. MSCI EM Index – net)	0.1	(0.6)
Strategic Core Plus (fixed income)		
Absolute return	1.1	3.0
Relative return (vs. Custom Index)	0.6	1.2
Global Plus (fixed income)		
Absolute return	1.6	0.8
Relative return (vs. Barclays Global Aggregate)	0.3	1.0
Emerging Market Debt (fixed income)		
Absolute return	1.0	5.0
Relative return (vs. JMP EMBI Global)	0.0	0.8
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		

## **Consolidated Results of Operations**

Three	Moı	ıth	ıs	Ended
,			_	

		Marc	ch 31,				
	2011		2	2010		Change	% Change
		(in millio	ons, exce	amount	rs)		
Net revenues	\$	755.4	\$	725.1	\$	30.3	4.2%
Expenses		617.0		585.1		31.9	5.4
Operating income		138.4		140.0		(1.6)	(1.1)
Non-operating income				4.5		(4.5)	(100.0)
Income before income taxes		138.4		144.5		(6.1)	(4.2)
Income taxes		10.0		13.0		(3.0)	(23.0)
Net income		128.4		131.5		(3.1)	(2.3)
Net loss of consolidated entities attributable to non-controlling interests		8.1		16.8		(8.7)	(52.0)
Net income attributable to AllianceBernstein Unitholders	\$	136.5	\$	148.3	\$	(11.8)	(8.0)
Diluted net income per AllianceBernstein Unit	\$	0.48	\$	0.53	\$	(0.05)	(9.4)
Distributions per AllianceBernstein Unit	\$	0.48	\$	0.53	\$	(0.05)	(9.4)
Operating margin <sup>(1)</sup>		19.4%		21.6%	)		

<sup>(1)</sup> Operating income excluding net loss attributable to non-controlling interests as a percentage of net revenues.

Net income attributable to AllianceBernstein Unitholders for the three months ended March 31, 2011 decreased \$11.8 million, or 8.0%, from the three months ended March 31, 2010. The decrease was primarily due to (in millions):

\$ (12.4) Higher salaries
(4.8) Higher travel and entertainment
(4.7) Higher commissions
(4.5) Lower non-operating income
(3.1) Higher incentive compensation
12.0 Lower real estate charges
8.9 Higher Bernstein research services revenues
(3.2) Other
\$ (11.8)

# **Real Estate Charges**

During 2010, we performed a comprehensive review of our real estate requirements in New York in connection with our workforce reductions since 2008. As a result, during 2010 we decided to sub-lease over 380,000 square feet in New York (approximately half of which has occurred) and largely consolidate our New York-based employees into two office locations from three. We therefore recorded a pre-tax real estate charge of \$89.6 million in the third quarter of 2010 that reflected the net present value of the difference between the amount of our on-going contractual operating lease obligations for this space and our estimate of current market rental rates, as well as the write-off of leasehold improvements, furniture and equipment related to this space. Based on existing sub-leases, our current assumptions of when we can sub-lease the remaining space and current market rental rates, we estimate that this charge will lower our occupancy costs on real estate commitments at the time of the charge by approximately \$21 million in 2011 and approximately \$23 million in 2012 and subsequent years. These lower costs will be partially offset by additional property rentals entered into since the third quarter of 2010. We also recorded a real estate charge of \$12.0 million in the first quarter of 2010. For additional information, see "Cautions Regarding Forward-Looking Statements".

## Non-GAAP Measures

We are providing the non-GAAP measures "adjusted net revenues", "adjusted operating income" and "adjusted operating margin" which we believe are useful to investors. These non-GAAP measures are the principle metrics management uses in evaluating and comparing period-to-period operating performance.

	Three Months Ended March 31,			
	2011		2010	
	 (in thou	ısandı	ands)	
Net revenues, GAAP basis	\$ 755,390	\$	725,086	
Exclude:				
Deferred compensation-related investment (gains)	(9,740)		(11,159)	
Deferred compensation-related dividends and interest	(632)		(800)	
90% of consolidated venture capital fund investment losses	8,054		16,849	
Distribution-related payments	(74,756)		(66,750)	
Amortization of deferred sales commissions	(10,326)		(12,121)	
Pass-through fees and expenses	(9,223)		(6,714)	
Adjusted net revenues	\$ 658,767	\$	644,391	
Operating income, GAAP basis	\$ 138,435	\$	139,982	
Exclude:				
Deferred compensation-related investment (gains)	(9,740)		(11,159)	
Deferred compensation-related dividends and interest	(632)		(800)	
Deferred compensation-related mark-to-market vesting expense	6,894		357	
Deferred compensation-related dividends and interest expense	1,480		682	
Net impact of deferred compensation-related investments	 (1,998)		(10,920)	
Real estate charges	18		11,983	
Net loss of consolidated entities attributable to non-controlling interests	8,046		16,773	
Adjusted operating income	\$ 144,501	\$	157,818	
Adjusted operating margin	21.9%		24.5%	

Adjusted operating income for the three months ended March 31, 2011 decreased \$13.3 million, or 8.4%, from the three months ended March 31, 2010, primarily as a result of higher employee compensation expense (excluding the impact of deferred compensation mark-to-market vesting expense and dividends and interest expense), higher travel and entertainment expense and higher other promotion and servicing expenses, partially offset by higher Bernstein research services revenues.

These non-GAAP measures are provided in addition to, and not as substitutes for, net revenues, operating income and operating margin, and they may not be comparable to non-GAAP measures presented by other companies. Management uses both the GAAP and non-GAAP measures in evaluating our financial performance. The non-GAAP measures alone may pose limitations because they do not include all of our revenues and expenses.

# Adjusted Net Revenues

Adjusted net revenues exclude investment gains and losses and dividends and interest on deferred compensation-related investments, and 90% of the investment gains and losses of our consolidated venture capital fund attributable to non-controlling interests. In addition, adjusted net revenues offset distribution-related payments to third parties as well as amortization of deferred sales commissions against distribution revenues. We believe the offset of distribution-related payments from net revenues is useful for our investors and other users of our financial statements because such presentation appropriately reflects the nature of these costs as pass-through payments to third parties who perform functions on behalf of our sponsored mutual funds and/or shareholders of these funds. Amortization of deferred sales commissions is offset against net revenues because such costs, over time, essentially offset distribution revenues earned by the company. Beginning in the first quarter of 2011, we also exclude additional pass-through expenses we incur (primarily through our transfer agency) that are reimbursed and recorded as fees in revenues. These fees have no impact on operating income, but they do have an impact on our operating margin. As such, we exclude these fees from adjusted net revenues.

#### Index

# **Adjusted Operating Income**

Adjusted operating income represents operating income on a GAAP basis (1) excluding the impact on net revenues and compensation expense of the mark-to-market gains and losses (as well as the dividends and interest) associated with employee deferred compensation-related investments, (2) excluding real estate charges, and (3) excluding the net loss or income of consolidated entities attributable to non-controlling interests.

Prior to 2009, a large proportion of employee compensation was in the form of deferred awards that were notionally invested in AllianceBernstein investment services and generally vested over a period of four years. AllianceBernstein has economically hedged the exposure to market movements by purchasing and holding these investments on its balance sheet. The full value of the investments' appreciation (depreciation) is recorded within investment gains and losses on the income statement in the current period. U.S. GAAP requires the appreciation (depreciation) in the compensation liability to be expensed over the award vesting period in proportion to the vested amount of the award as part of compensation expense. This creates a timing difference between the recognition of the compensation expense and the investment gain or loss impacting operating income, which will fluctuate over the life of the award and net to zero at the end of the multi-year vesting period. Although during periods of high market volatility these timing differences have an impact on operating income and operating margin, over the life of the award any impact is ultimately offset. Because these plans are economically hedged, management believes it is useful to reflect the offset ultimately achieved from hedging the investments' market exposure in the calculation of adjusted operating income, adjusted operating margin and adjusted diluted net income per Holding Unit, which will produce core operating results from period to period. The non-GAAP measures exclude gains and losses and dividends and interest on deferred compensation-related investments included in revenues and compensation expense, thus eliminating the timing differences created by different treatment under U.S. GAAP of the market movement on the expense and the investments.

Real estate charges have been excluded because they are not considered part of our core operating results when comparing financial results from period to period and to industry peers.

Most of the net income or loss of consolidated entities attributable to non-controlling interests relates to the 90% limited partner interests held by third parties in our consolidated venture capital fund. We own a 10% limited partner interest in the fund. Because we are the general partner of the venture capital fund and are deemed to have a controlling interest, U.S. GAAP requires us to consolidate the financial results of the fund. However, recognizing 100% of the gains or losses in operating income while only retaining 10% is not reflective of our underlying financial results at the operating income level. As a result, we are excluding the 90% limited partner interests we do not own from our adjusted operating income. Similarly, net income of joint ventures attributable to non-controlling interests, although not significant, is excluded because it does not reflect the economic interest attributable to AllianceBernstein.

# **Adjusted Operating Margin**

Adjusted operating margin allows us to monitor our financial performance and efficiency from period to period and to compare our performance to industry peers without the volatility noted above in our discussion of adjusted operating income. Adjusted operating margin is derived by dividing adjusted operating income by adjusted net revenues.

# **Units Outstanding**

AllianceBernstein engages in open-market purchases of Holding Units to help fund anticipated obligations under its incentive compensation award program and purchases of Holding Units from employees to allow them to fulfill statutory tax requirements at the time of distribution of long-term incentive compensation awards. During the first quarter of 2011, AllianceBernstein purchased approximately 2.2 million Holding Units for \$49.8 million, reflecting open-market purchases of 2.1 million Holding Units for \$47.7 million and the remainder primarily relating to employee tax withholding purchases. We intend to continue to engage in open-market purchases of Holding Units, from time to time, to help fund anticipated obligations under our incentive compensation award program.

We granted approximately 100,000 restricted Holding Unit awards to employees during the first quarter of 2011. To fund these awards, we allocated previously repurchased Holding Units that had been held in the consolidated rabbi trust. There were approximately 2.7 million unallocated Holding Units remaining in the consolidated rabbi trust as of March 31, 2011.

#### Net Revenues

The following table summarizes the components of net revenues:

# Three Months Ended

	March 31,							
		2011	2010		\$ Change		% Change	
			(in millions)					
Investment advisory and services fees:								
Institutions:								
Base fees	\$	173.2	\$	196.7	\$	(23.5)	(11.9)%	
Performance-based fees		4.7		2.7		2.0	77.3	
		177.9		199.4		(21.5)	(10.7)	
Retail:				,				
Base fees		165.9		151.8		14.1	9.3	
Performance-based fees		_		_		_	_	
		165.9		151.8		14.1	9.3	
Private Client:								
Base fees		170.8		161.1		9.7	6.0	
Performance-based fees		0.4		_		0.4	n/m	
		171.2		161.1		10.1	6.2	
Total:								
Base fees		509.9		509.6		0.3	0.1	
Performance-based fees		5.1		2.7		2.4	91.4	
		515.0		512.3		2.7	0.5	
Bernstein research services		119.6		110.7		8.9	8.0	
Distribution revenues		88.8		80.3		8.5	10.6	
Dividend and interest income		5.1		3.9		1.2	30.2	
Investment gains (losses)		1.0		(8.0)		9.0	n/m	
Other revenues		26.9		26.6		0.3	1.1	
Total revenues		756.4		725.8		30.6	4.2	
Less: interest expense		1.0		0.7		0.3	35.6	
Net revenues	\$	755.4	\$	725.1	\$	30.3	4.2	

# **Investment Advisory and Services Fees**

Investment advisory and services fees are the largest component of our revenues. These fees are generally calculated as a percentage of the value of AUM as of a specified date, or as a percentage of the value of average AUM for the applicable billing period, and vary with the type of investment service, the size of account and the total amount of assets we manage for a particular client. Accordingly, fee income generally increases or decreases as AUM increase or decrease and is therefore affected by market appreciation or depreciation, the addition of new client accounts or client contributions of additional assets to existing accounts, withdrawals of assets from and termination of client accounts, purchases and redemptions of mutual fund shares, shifts of assets between accounts or products with different fee structures and acquisitions. Our average basis points realized (investment advisory fees divided by average AUM) generally are between 50 to 70 basis points for equity services, 25 to 45 basis points for fixed income services and 5 to 15 basis points for index or passive services. As such, a shift of client assets from active equity services toward fixed income services and/or passive services would result in a decline in revenues just as a shift of assets toward active equity services would increase revenues.

We calculate AUM using established fair valuation methodologies, including market-based valuation methods and fair valuation methods. Market-based valuation methods include: last sale/settle prices from an exchange for actively-traded listed equities, options and futures; evaluated bid prices from recognized pricing vendors for fixed income, asset-backed or mortgage-backed issues; mid prices from recognized pricing vendors and brokers for credit default swaps; and quoted bids or spreads from pricing vendors and brokers for other derivative products. Fair valuation methods include discounted cash flow models, evaluation of assets versus liabilities or any other methodology that is validated and approved by our Valuation Committee. Fair valuation methods are used only where AUM cannot be valued using market-based valuation methods, such as in the case of private equity or illiquid securities. Investments utilizing fair value methods typically make up less than 1% of our total AUM. Market volatility has not had a significant effect on our ability to acquire market data and, accordingly, our ability to use market-based valuation methods.

#### <u>Index</u>

The Valuation Committee, which is composed of senior officers and employees, is responsible for overseeing the pricing and valuation of all investments held in client and AllianceBernstein portfolios. The Valuation Committee has adopted a Statement of Pricing Policies describing principles and policies that apply to pricing and valuing investments held in client and AllianceBernstein portfolios. We have also established a Pricing Group, which reports to the Valuation Committee. The Valuation Committee has delegated to the Pricing Group responsibility for overseeing the pricing process for all investments.

We sometimes charge our clients performance-based fees. In these situations, we charge a base advisory fee and are eligible to earn an additional performance-based fee or incentive allocation that is calculated as either a percentage of absolute investment results or a percentage of investment results in excess of a stated benchmark over a specified period of time. Some performance-based fees include a high-watermark provision, which generally provides that if a client account underperforms relative to its performance target (whether absolute or relative to a specified benchmark), it must gain back such underperformance before we can collect future performance-based fees. Therefore, if we fail to achieve our performance target for a particular period, we will not earn a performance-based fee for that period and, for accounts with a high-watermark provision, our ability to earn future performance-based fees will be impaired. We are eligible to earn performance-based fees on approximately 12% of the assets we manage for institutional clients and approximately 3% of the assets we manage for private clients (in total, approximately 7% of our company-wide AUM). If the percentage of our AUM subject to performance-based fees grows, seasonality and volatility of revenue and earnings are likely to become more significant. Approximately 73% of our hedge fund AUM is subject to high-watermarks and we ended the first quarter of 2011 with approximately 81% of this AUM below high-watermarks by 10% or more. Accordingly, it is very unlikely we will earn performance-based fees on these hedge funds in 2011.

For the three months ended March 31, 2011, our investment advisory and services fees increased by \$2.7 million, or 0.5%, from the first quarter of 2010, primarily due to an increase of \$2.4 million in performance fees.

Institutional investment advisory and services fees for the three months ended March 31, 2011 decreased by \$21.5 million, or 10.7%, from the three months ended March 31, 2010, primarily due to a shift in product mix from Equities to Fixed Income and Other services. Average AUM for Equity services decreased 22.1% while average AUM for Fixed Income and Other services increased 8.0% and 69.3%, respectively.

Retail investment advisory and services fees for the three months ended March 31, 2011 increased by \$14.1 million, or 9.3%, from the three months ended March 31, 2010, primarily due to a 6.5% increase in average AUM and the impact of significant net sales of long-term non-U.S. global fixed income mutual funds, which generally have higher fees as compared to long-term U.S. mutual funds.

Private client investment advisory and services fees for the three months ended March 31, 2011 increased by \$10.1 million, or 6.2%, from the three months ended March 31, 2010, primarily as a result of higher base fees of \$9.7 million, or 6.0%, reflecting an increase in billable AUM of 5.8%.

#### Bernstein Research Services

Bernstein Research Services revenue consists principally of equity commissions received for providing equity research and brokerage-related services to institutional investors. Bernstein Research Services also earns revenues in the form of underwriting fees, management fees, and/or selling concessions from issuers of publicly-traded securities to which we provide equity capital markets services.

Revenues from Bernstein Research Services for the three months ended March 31, 2011 increased \$8.9 million, or 8.0%, from the three months ended March 31, 2010. The increase was driven by growth in both the U.S. and Europe.

# Distribution Revenues

AllianceBernstein Investments and AllianceBernstein (Luxembourg) S.A. (each a wholly-owned subsidiary of AllianceBernstein) act as distributor and/or placing agent of company-sponsored mutual funds and receive distribution services fees from certain of those funds as partial reimbursement of the distribution expenses they incur. Period-over-period fluctuations of distribution revenues are typically in-line with fluctuations of Retail average AUM.

Distribution revenues for the three months ended March 31, 2011 increased \$8.5 million, or 10.6%, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2010, which is essentially in line with the 6.5% increase in Retail average AUM, but also reflects a higher increase in the Retail AUM in which we receive distribution fees compared to sub-advisory AUM in which we do not receive distribution fees.

The SEC has proposed a rule amendment that would significantly change and restrict the ability of U.S. mutual funds to pay distribution and servicing fees ("12b-1 fees") to financial services firms for distributing their shares. If rules are adopted as proposed, changes in existing 12b-1 fee arrangements for a number of share classes offered by company-sponsored mutual funds would be required, which would reduce the net fund distribution revenues we receive from company-sponsored mutual funds. The impact of this rule change, which we do not anticipate being material, is dependent upon the final rules adopted by the SEC, any phase-in or grandfathering period, and any other changes made with respect to share class distribution arrangements.

#### <u>Index</u>

## Dividend and Interest Income and Interest Expense

Dividend and interest income consists primarily of investment income and interest earned on customer margin balances and U.S. Treasury Bills. Interest expense principally reflects interest accrued on cash balances in customers' brokerage accounts. Dividend and interest income, net of interest expense, for the three months ended March 31, 2011 increased \$0.9 million from the three months ended March 31, 2010.

# **Investment Gains (Losses)**

Investment gains (losses) consist primarily of realized and unrealized investment gains or losses on deferred compensation-related investments and investments owned by our consolidated venture capital fund. Investment gains (losses) also include realized and unrealized gains or losses on U.S. Treasury Bills, broker-dealer over-the-counter trading, exchange-traded options, seed money investments and derivatives, realized gains or losses on the sale of seed money investments classified as available-for-sale securities, and equity in earnings of proprietary investments in limited partnership hedge funds that we sponsor and manage.

Investment gains (losses) are as follows:

	Three Months Ended March 31,		
	2011	2010	
	(in millions)		
Deferred compensation-related investments			
Realized gains (losses)	\$ (3.3)	\$ (12.7)	
Unrealized gains (losses)	13.0	23.9	
Consolidated private equity fund investments			
Realized gains (losses)	(1.9)	1.9	
Unrealized gains (losses)	(7.0)	(20.6)	
Seed capital and other investments			
Realized gains (losses)	0.3	(2.8)	
Unrealized gains (losses)	(0.1)	2.3	
	\$ 1.0	\$ (8.0)	

Realized gains or losses on deferred compensation-related investments typically occur in December of each year, as well as the first quarter, as award tranches vest and related investments are sold to provide cash for payments to employees. The realized losses during the first quarters of 2011 and 2010 primarily relate to the liquidation of hedge fund investments. The unrealized gains on deferred compensation-related investments during the first quarters of 2011 and 2010 reflect the favorable financial markets during those periods.

Our consolidated private equity fund during the first quarter of 2011 incurred lower mark-to-market losses relating to publicly-traded securities held by the fund and higher mark-to-market gains relating to privately held securities.

# Other Revenues, Net

Other revenues consist of fees earned for transfer agency services provided to company-sponsored mutual funds, fees earned for administration and recordkeeping services provided to company-sponsored mutual funds and the general accounts of AXA and its subsidiaries, and other miscellaneous revenues. Other revenues for the three months ended March 31, 2011 increased \$0.3 million from the three months ended March 31, 2010, due primarily to higher shareholder servicing fees.

## **Expenses**

The following table summarizes the components of expenses:

	 Three Months Ended March 31,					% Change
	 2011		2010		Change	
	 (in millions)					
Employee compensation and benefits	\$ 339.5	\$	319.4	\$	20.1	6.3%
Promotion and servicing:						
Distribution-related payments	74.8		66.8		8.0	12.0
Amortization of deferred sales commissions	10.3		12.1		(1.8)	(14.8)
Other	53.3		42.8		10.5	24.5
General and administrative:						
General and administrative	132.9		126.0		6.9	5.4
Real estate charges	_		12.0		(12.0)	(100.0)
Interest	0.7		0.6		0.1	23.6
Amortization of intangible assets	5.5		5.4		0.1	1.1
Total	\$ 617.0	\$	585.1	\$	31.9	5.4

# **Employee Compensation and Benefits**

We had 4,123 full-time employees at March 31, 2011 compared to 4,276 at March 31, 2010. Employee compensation and benefits consist of salaries (including severance), annual cash incentive awards, annual expense associated with the accrual of unvested deferred incentive compensation awards (net of forfeitures), commissions, fringe benefits and other employment costs (including recruitment, training, temporary help and meals).

Compensation expense as a percentage of net revenues was 44.9% and 44.1% for the three months ended March 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Compensation expense generally is determined on a discretionary basis and is primarily a function of our firm's financial performance. Amounts are awarded to help us achieve our goal of attracting, motivating and retaining top talent while also helping ensure that our firm's unitholders receive an appropriate return on their investment. Senior management, with the approval of the Compensation Committee of the Board, confirmed that the appropriate metric to consider in determining the amount of incentive compensation was the ratio of adjusted employee compensation and benefits expense to adjusted net revenues. During the first quarter of 2011, we made minor modifications to the adjusted compensation ratio calculation. Adjusted net revenues used in the adjusted compensation ratio are now the same as the adjusted net revenues presented as a non-GAAP measure (discussed earlier in this MD&A). Adjusted employee compensation and benefits expense minus other employment costs such as recruitment, meals, temporary help, training and seminars, and now also excludes the impact of mark-to-market vesting expense, as well as dividends and interest expense, associated with employee deferred compensation-related investments. Senior management, with the approval of the Compensation Committee, also established as an objective that adjusted employee compensation and benefits expense generally should not exceed 50% of our adjusted net revenues except in unexpected or unusual circumstances. Our ratios of adjusted compensation expense as a percentage of adjusted revenues were 49.0% and 48.4%, respectively, for the three months ended March 31, 2011 and 2010.

For the three months ended March 31, 2011, base compensation, fringe benefits and other employment costs increased \$12.3 million, or 8.7%, primarily due to higher salaries which resulted from annual merit increases. Commission expense increased \$4.7 million, or 9.7%, primarily due to higher private client revenues. Incentive compensation increased \$3.1 million, or 2.4%, reflecting a higher targeted adjusted compensation ratio in the first quarter of 2011 as compared to the first quarter of 2010.

Since 2009, deferred compensation awards to eligible employees, which typically vest ratably over four years, have been made in the form of restricted Holding Units or, under limited circumstances, deferred cash. Prior to 2009, employees receiving deferred compensation awards had the option to allocate a portion of their awards to notional investments in company-sponsored investment products (primarily mutual funds). Increases in the value of the notional investments in company-sponsored investment products increase the company's compensation liability to employees, while decreases in the value of the investments decrease the company's liability. The company generally purchased an amount of these investments equivalent to the notional investments and held them in a consolidated rabbi trust to economically hedge its exposure to valuation changes on its future obligations. Mark-to-market gains or losses on these investments are recognized in investment gains and losses as they occur. However, the impact of cumulative mark-to-market gains or losses is recognized as increases or decreases in compensation expense ratably over the remaining vesting period. As a result, there is not a direct correlation between current period deferred compensation-related investment gains or losses recognized in revenues and the amortization of cumulative mark-to-market investment gains or losses recognized in compensation expense. Although there can be significant volatility from period to period as the values of these investments change, if a participant remains employed by the company over the entire vesting period of the award, mark-to-market investment gains or losses recognized in revenues will, over that vesting period, equal mark-to-market investment gains or losses recognized in compensation expense.

The investment gains and losses on deferred compensation-related investments recognized in net revenues as compared to the amortization of deferred compensation awards notionally invested in company-sponsored investment products are as follows:

	Three Months Ended March 31,			
		2011	2010	
		(in millions)		
Investment gains (losses)	\$	9.7	\$	11.2
Amortization of awards notionally invested in company-sponsored investment products:				
Original award		19.1	3	31.7
Prior periods' mark-to-market		2.0		(3.5)
Current period mark-to-market		4.9		3.9
Total		26.0	3	32.1
Net operating income impact	\$	(16.3)	\$ (2	<u> 20.9</u> )

The amortization of the original awards will continue to decline due to deferred compensation awards being in the form of restricted Holding Units commencing in 2009. Current period mark-to-market amortization generally correlates (within a range) to the investment mark-to-market gains and losses for the applicable period.

## **Promotion and Servicing**

Promotion and servicing expenses include distribution-related payments to financial intermediaries for distribution of AllianceBernstein mutual funds and amortization of deferred sales commissions paid to financial intermediaries for the sale of back-end load shares of AllianceBernstein mutual funds. Also included in this expense category are costs related to travel and entertainment, advertising and promotional materials.

Promotion and servicing expenses increased \$16.7 million, or 13.7%, during the first three months of 2011 compared to the same period in 2010. The increase reflects higher distribution-related payments of \$8.0 million, an increase of 12.0%, which is generally in line with the 10.6% increase in distribution revenues. In addition, travel and entertainment increased \$4.8 million, transfers fees increased \$2.9 million and trade execution and clearing costs increased \$2.2 million, all attributable to increased business activity and new product launches. These increases were partially offset by a decrease in amortization of deferred sales commission of \$1.8 million.

## General and Administrative

General and administrative expenses include technology, professional fees, occupancy, communications and similar expenses. General and administrative expenses as a percentage of net revenues were 17.6% and 19.0% (17.4% excluding real estate charges) for the three months ended March 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. General and administrative expenses decreased \$5.1 million, or 3.7%, during the first three months of 2011 compared to the same period in 2010, primarily due to the first quarter of 2010 real estate charge of \$12.0 million, partially offset by higher portfolio services expenses (including market data services and sub-advisory fees) of \$3.1 million and higher professional fees of \$2.5 million.

## **Non-Operating Income**

Non-operating income consists of contingent purchase price payments earned from the disposition in 2005 of our cash management services. Non-operating income for the three months ended March 31, 2011 decreased \$4.5 million, due to the cessation of contingent payments during the second quarter of 2010 pursuant to our agreement with Federated Investors, Inc.

## Income Taxes

AllianceBernstein, a private limited partnership, is not subject to federal or state corporate income taxes. However, we are subject to the New York City unincorporated business tax. Our domestic corporate subsidiaries are subject to federal, state and local income taxes, and are generally included in the filing of a consolidated federal income tax return. Separate state and local income tax returns are also filed. Foreign corporate subsidiaries are generally subject to taxes in the foreign jurisdictions where they are located.

Income tax expense for the three months ended March 31, 2011 decreased \$3.0 million, or 23.0%, from the three months ended March 31, 2010. The decrease is primarily the result of lower pre-tax earnings and a lower effective tax rate in the current year quarter of 7.2% as compared to 9.0% in the comparable prior year quarter.

## Net (Income) Loss of Consolidated Entities Attributable to Non-Controlling Interests

Net (income) loss of consolidated entities attributable to non-controlling interests consists of limited partner interests owned by other investors representing 90% of the total limited partner interests in our consolidated venture capital fund and the 50% interest owned by AXA and its subsidiaries in our consolidated joint venture in Australia. On March 31, 2011, we purchased for \$21.4 million the remaining 50% interest in the Australian joint venture. During the first three months of 2011, we had an \$8.1 million net loss of consolidated entities attributable to non-controlling interests, due primarily to an \$8.5 million net loss attributable to non-controlling interests of our consolidated venture capital fund (as a result of \$8.9 million of net investment losses). During the first quarter of 2010, we had a \$16.8 million net loss of consolidated entities attributable to non-controlling interests, due primarily to a \$17.6 million net loss attributable to non-controlling interests of our consolidated venture capital fund (as a result of \$18.7 million of net investment losses).

## CAPITAL RESOURCES AND LIQUIDITY

During the first quarter of 2011, net cash used in operating activities was \$67.3 million compared to net cash provided by operating activities of \$218.1 million during the first quarter of 2010. The change was due to an increase in purchases of Treasury Bills and additional seed investments and a decrease in accrued compensation, offset by a decrease in broker dealer-related net receivables.

During the first quarter of 2011, net cash used in investing activities was \$22.8 million, compared to \$0.5 million during the first quarter of 2010. In the first quarter of 2011, we purchased the remaining 50% of our Australian joint venture for \$21.4 million.

During the first quarter of 2011, net cash used in financing activities was \$153.8 million, compared to \$232.6 million during the first quarter of 2010. The decrease reflects lower distributions to the General Partner and unitholders of \$57.6 million as a result of lower earnings (distributions on earnings are paid one quarter in arrears) and higher issuance of commercial paper (net of repayments) of \$83.9 million, offset by higher purchases of Holding Units to fund deferred compensation plans of \$26.1 million and a decrease of \$28.7 million in overdrafts payable.

## **Debt and Credit Facilities**

At March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, AllianceBernstein had \$266.0 million and \$225.0 million, respectively, in commercial paper outstanding with weighted average interest rates of approximately 0.2% and 0.3%, respectively. The fair value of commercial paper and amounts outstanding under the 2010 credit facility described below are short-term in nature, and as such, recorded value is estimated to approximate fair value. Average daily borrowings of commercial paper during the first quarter of 2011 and the full-year 2010 were \$297.5 million and \$104.2 million, respectively, with weighted average interest rates of approximately 0.3% and 0.2%, respectively.

On December 9, 2010, AllianceBernstein entered into a committed, unsecured three-year senior revolving credit facility (the "2010 Credit Facility") with a group of commercial banks and other lenders in an original principal amount of \$1.0 billion with SCB LLC as an additional borrower.

The 2010 Credit Facility replaced AllianceBernstein's existing \$1.95 billion of committed credit lines (comprised of two separate lines – a \$1.0 billion committed, unsecured revolving credit facility in the name of AllianceBernstein, which had a scheduled expiration date of February 17, 2011, and SCB LLC's \$950 million committed, unsecured revolving credit facility, which had a scheduled expiration date of January 25, 2011), both of which were terminated upon the effectiveness of the 2010 Credit Facility. AllianceBernstein has agreed to guarantee the obligations of SCB LLC under the 2010 Credit Facility.

The 2010 Credit Facility will be available for AllianceBernstein's and SCB LLC's business purposes, including the support of AllianceBernstein's \$1.0 billion commercial paper program. Both AllianceBernstein and SCB LLC can draw directly under the 2010 Credit Facility and management expects to draw on the 2010 Credit Facility from time to time.

The 2010 Credit Facility contains affirmative, negative and financial covenants, which are customary for facilities of this type, including, among other things, restrictions on dispositions of assets, restrictions on liens, a minimum interest coverage ratio and a maximum leverage ratio. We are in compliance with these covenants. The 2010 Credit Facility also includes customary events of default (with customary grace periods, as applicable), including provisions under which, upon the occurrence of an event of default, all outstanding loans may be accelerated and/or lender's commitments may be terminated. Also, under such provisions, upon the occurrence of certain insolvency or bankruptcy related events of default, all amounts payable under the 2010 Credit Facility would automatically become immediately due and payable, and the lender's commitments would automatically terminate.

The 2010 Credit Facility provides for possible increases in principal amount by up to an aggregate incremental amount of \$250 million, any such increase being subject to the consent of the affected lenders. Amounts under the 2010 Credit Facility may be borrowed, repaid and re-borrowed by us from time to time until the maturity of the facility. Voluntary prepayments and commitment reductions requested by us are permitted at any time without fee (other than customary breakage costs relating to the prepayment of any drawn loans) upon proper notice and subject to a minimum dollar requirement. Borrowings under the 2010 Credit Facility bear interest at a rate per annum, which will be, at our option, a rate equal to an applicable margin, which is subject to adjustment based on the credit ratings of AllianceBernstein, plus one of the following indexes: London Interbank Offered Rate; a floating base rate; or the Federal Funds rate.

As of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, we had no amounts outstanding under the 2010 Credit Facility. Average daily borrowings under the revolving credit facility outstanding during the first quarter of 2011 and the full-year 2010 were \$0.4 million and \$65.6 million, respectively, with weighted average interest rates of approximately 1.3% and 0.3%, respectively.

In addition, SCB LLC has five uncommitted lines of credit with four financial institutions. Two of these lines of credit permit us to borrow up to an aggregate of approximately \$150.0 million while three lines have no stated limit.

Our financial condition and access to public and private debt markets should provide adequate liquidity for our general business needs. Management believes that cash flow from operations and the issuance of debt and AllianceBernstein Units or Holding Units will provide us with the resources necessary to meet our financial obligations. See "Cautions Regarding Forward-Looking Statements".

## **COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES**

AllianceBernstein's capital commitments, which consist primarily of operating leases for office space, are generally funded from future operating cash flows.

#### CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES

The preparation of the condensed consolidated financial statements and notes to condensed consolidated financial statements requires management to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses. Management believes that the critical accounting policies and estimates discussed below involve significant management judgment due to the sensitivity of the methods and assumptions used.

## Variable Interest Entities

In June 2009, the FASB issued ASU 2009-17, Consolidations (Topic 810) – Improvements to Financial Reporting by Enterprises Involved with Variable Interest Entities, effective January 1, 2010. This standard changed how a company determines when an entity that is insufficiently capitalized or is not controlled through voting should be consolidated. The determination of whether a company is required to consolidate an entity is based on, among other things, an entity's purpose and design, a company's ability to direct the activities of the entity that most significantly impact the entity's economic performance, and whether a company is obligated to absorb losses or receive benefits that could potentially be significant to the entity. The standard also requires ongoing assessments of whether a company is the primary beneficiary of a VIE.

Significant judgment is required in the determination of whether we are the primary beneficiary of a VIE. If we, together with our related party relationships, are determined to be the primary beneficiary of a VIE, the entity will be consolidated within our consolidated financial statements. In order to determine whether we are the primary beneficiary of a VIE, management must make significant estimates and assumptions of probable future cash flows and assign probabilities to different cash flow scenarios. Assumptions made in such analyses include, but are not limited to, market prices of securities, market interest rates, potential credit defaults on individual securities or default rates on a portfolio of securities, gain realization, liquidity or marketability of certain securities, discount rates and the probability of certain other outcomes.

## Goodwill

We test goodwill annually, as of September 30, for impairment. The carrying value of goodwill is also reviewed if facts and circumstances, such as significant declines in assets under management, revenues, earnings or our Holding Unit price, occur, suggesting possible impairment. As of September 30, 2010, the impairment test indicated that goodwill was not impaired.

The impairment analysis is a two-step process. The first step involves determining whether the estimated fair value of AllianceBernstein, the reporting unit, exceeds its book value. If the fair value of the company exceeds its book value, goodwill is not impaired. However, if the book value exceeds the fair value of the company, goodwill may be impaired and additional analysis is required. The second step compares the fair value of the company to the aggregated fair values of its individual assets and liabilities to determine the amount of impairment, if any.

There are several methods of estimating AllianceBernstein's fair value, including valuation techniques such as discounted expected cash flows and market valuation (AllianceBernstein Units outstanding multiplied by Holding Unit price). Determining estimated fair value using a discounted cash flow valuation technique consists of applying business growth rate assumptions over the estimated life of the goodwill asset and then discounting the resulting expected cash flows to arrive at a present value amount that approximates fair value. In our tests, our discounted expected cash flow model uses management's current business plan, which factors in current market conditions and all material events that have impacted, or that we believed at the time could potentially impact, future expected cash flows for the first four years and a compounded annual growth rate thereafter.

To the extent that securities valuations are depressed for prolonged periods of time, our assets under management, revenues, profitability and unit price would likely be adversely affected. As a result, subsequent impairment tests may be based upon different assumptions and future cash flow projections, which may result in an impairment of this asset. Any impairment could reduce materially the recorded amount of goodwill with a corresponding charge to our earnings.

#### Retirement Plan

We maintain a qualified, noncontributory, defined benefit retirement plan covering current and former employees who were employed by the company in the United States prior to October 2, 2000. Service and compensation after December 31, 2008 are not taken into account in determining participants' retirement benefits. The amounts recognized in the consolidated financial statements related to the retirement plan are determined from actuarial valuations. Inherent in these valuations are assumptions including expected return on plan assets, discount rates at which liabilities could be settled and mortality rates. The assumptions are reviewed annually and may be updated to reflect the current environment. Key assumptions are *described in Note 15 to AllianceBernstein's consolidated financial statements in our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31*, 2010. In accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, actual results that differ from those assumed are accumulated and amortized over future periods and, therefore, affect expense recognized and liabilities recorded in future periods.

## Loss Contingencies

Management continuously reviews with legal counsel the status of regulatory matters and pending or threatened litigation. We evaluate the likelihood that a loss contingency exists and record a loss contingency if it is probable and reasonably estimable as of the date of the financial statements. See Note 8 to AllianceBernstein's condensed consolidated financial statements contained in Item 1.

## ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

See Note 16 to AllianceBernstein's condensed consolidated financial statements contained in Item 1.

## CAUTIONS REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements provided by management in this report are "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forward-looking statements are subject to risks, uncertainties and other factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from future results expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. The most significant of these factors include, but are not limited to, the following: the performance of financial markets, the investment performance of sponsored investment products and separately-managed accounts, general economic conditions, industry trends, future acquisitions, competitive conditions and government regulations, including changes in tax regulations and rates and the manner in which the earnings of publicly-traded partnerships are taxed. We caution readers to carefully consider such factors. Further, such forward-looking statements speak only as of the date on which such statements are made; we undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date of such statements. For further information regarding these forward-looking statements and the factors that could cause actual results to differ, see "Risk Factors" in Part I, Item 1A of our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010 and Part II, Item 1A in this Form 10-Q. Any or all of the forward-looking statements that we make in Form 10-K, this Form 10-Q, other documents we file with or furnish to the SEC, and any other public statements we issue, may turn out to be wrong. It is important to remember that other factors besides those listed in "Risk Factors" and those listed below could also adversely affect our financial condition, results of operations and business prospects.

The forward-looking statements referred to in the preceding paragraph include statements regarding:

• Our belief that the cash flow Holding realizes from its investment in AllianceBernstein will provide Holding with the resources necessary to meet its financial obligations: Holding's cash flow is dependent on the quarterly cash distributions it receives from AllianceBernstein. Accordingly, Holding's ability to meet its financial obligations is dependent on AllianceBernstein's cash flow from its operations, which is subject to the performance of the capital markets and other factors beyond our control.

#### Index

- Our financial condition and ability to issue public and private debt providing adequate liquidity for our general business needs: Our financial condition is dependent on our cash flow from operations, which is subject to the performance of the capital markets, our ability to maintain and grow client assets under management and other factors beyond our control. Our ability to issue public and private debt on reasonable terms, as well as the market for such debt or equity, may be limited by adverse market conditions, our profitability and changes in government regulations, including tax rates and interest rates.
- The possibility that prolonged weakness in the value of client assets under management may result in impairment of goodwill: To the extent that securities valuations are depressed for prolonged periods of time, client assets under management and our revenues, profitability and unit price may be adversely affected. As a result, subsequent impairment tests may be based upon different assumptions and future cash flow projections, which may result in an impairment of goodwill.
- The outcome of litigation: Litigation is inherently unpredictable, and excessive damage awards do occur. Though we have stated that we do not expect certain legal proceedings to have a material adverse effect on our results of operations or financial condition, any settlement or judgment with respect to a legal proceeding could be significant, and could have such an effect.
- <u>Our anticipation that the proposed 12b-1 fee-related rule changes will not have a material effect on us:</u> The impact of this rule change is dependent upon the final rules adopted by the SEC, any phase-in or grandfathering period, and any other changes made with respect to share class distribution arrangements.
- Our intention to continue to engage in open market purchases of Holding Units, from time to time, to help fund anticipated obligations under our incentive compensation award program: The number of Holding Units needed in future periods to make incentive compensation awards is dependent upon various factors, some of which are beyond our control, including the fluctuation in the price of a Holding Unit (NYSE: AB).
- <u>Our determination that adjusted employee compensation expense should not exceed 50% of our adjusted net revenues:</u> Aggregate employee compensation reflects employee performance and competitive compensation levels. Fluctuations in our revenues and/or changes in competitive compensation levels could result in adjusted employee compensation expense being higher than 50% of our adjusted net revenues.
- The degree to which the \$89.6 million real estate charge we recorded during the third quarter of 2010 will reduce occupancy costs on existing real estate in 2011 and subsequent years: The charge we recorded during the third quarter of 2010 and our estimates of reduced occupancy costs in future years are based on existing sub-leases, as well as our current assumptions of when we can sub-lease the remaining space and current market rental rates, which are factors largely beyond our control. If our assumptions prove to be incorrect, we may be forced to take an additional charge and/or our estimated occupancy cost reductions may be less than we currently anticipate.
- The pipeline of new institutional mandates not yet funded: Before they are funded, institutional mandates do not represent legally binding commitments to fund and, accordingly, the possibility exists that not all mandates will be funded in the amounts and at the times currently anticipated.
- Our confidence that continuing to implement our long-term strategy will result in outflows continuing to decline and ultimately translate to positive net flows and better operating results: We cannot predict the timing or degree of global market growth, or our absolute or relative investment performance for our clients. The actual performance of the capital markets and other factors beyond our control will affect our investment success for clients and asset flows. Furthermore, improved flows depend on a number of factors, including our ability to deliver consistent, competitive investment performance, which cannot be assured, conditions of financial markets, changes and volatility in political, economic, capital market or industry conditions, consultant recommendations, and changes in our clients' investment preferences, risk tolerances and liquidity needs.

# OTHER INFORMATION

With respect to the unaudited condensed consolidated interim financial information of AllianceBernstein for the three months ended March 31, 2011, included in this quarterly report on Form 10-Q, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP reported that they have applied limited procedures in accordance with professional standards for a review of such information. However, their separate report dated May 2, 2011 appearing herein states that they did not audit and they do not express an opinion on the unaudited condensed consolidated interim financial information. Accordingly, the degree of reliance on their report on such information should be restricted in light of the limited nature of the review procedures applied. PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP is not subject to the liability provisions of Section 11 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended ("Securities Act") for their report on the unaudited condensed consolidated interim financial information because that report is not a "report" or a "part" of registration statements prepared or certified by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP within the meaning of Sections 7 and 11 of the Securities Act.

## Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

There have been no material changes to AllianceBernstein's market risk for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2011.

## Item 4. Controls and Procedures

## **Disclosure Controls and Procedures**

AllianceBernstein maintains a system of disclosure controls and procedures that is designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in our reports under the Exchange Act is (i) recorded, processed, summarized and reported in a timely manner, and (ii) accumulated and communicated to management, including the Chief Executive Officer and the Interim Chief Financial Officer, to permit timely decisions regarding our disclosure.

As of the end of the period covered by this report, management carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of the Chief Executive Officer and the Interim Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the disclosure controls and procedures. Based on this evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and the Interim Chief Financial Officer concluded that the disclosure controls and procedures are effective.

## Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

No change in our internal control over financial reporting occurred during the first quarter of 2011 that materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

## Part II

## OTHER INFORMATION

# Item 1. Legal Proceedings

See Note 8 to the condensed consolidated financial statements contained in Part I, Item 1.

# Item 1A. Risk Factors

In addition to the information set forth in this report, please consider carefully "Risk Factors" in Part I, Item 1A of our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010. Such factors could materially affect our financial condition, results of operations and business prospects. See also our "Cautions Regarding Forward-Looking Statements" in Part I, Item 2.

# Item 2. <u>Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds</u>

There were no AllianceBernstein Units sold by AllianceBernstein in the period covered by this report that were not registered under the Securities Act.

The following table provides information relating to any AllianceBernstein Units bought by us or one of our affiliates in the quarter covered by this report:

(A)

# ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

				(a)
				Maximum
			(c)	Number (or
			<b>Total Number of</b>	Approximate
		<b>(b)</b>	AllianceBernstein	Dollar Value) of
		Average Price	<b>Units Purchased</b>	AllianceBernstein
	(a)	Paid Per	as Part of	<b>Units that May</b>
	<b>Total Number of</b>	AllianceBernstein	Publicly	Yet Be Purchased
	AllianceBernstein	Unit, net of	<b>Announced Plans</b>	<b>Under the Plans</b>
Period	Units Purchased	Commissions	or Programs	or Programs
1/1/11 - 1/31/11	_	\$ —		_
2/1/11 - 2/28/11	_	_	_	_
3/1/11 - 3/31/11 <sup>(1)</sup>	188,725	22.64		
Total	188,725	\$ 22.64		

<sup>(1)</sup> During March 2011, AllianceBernstein purchased 188,725 AllianceBernstein Units in private transactions.

# Item 3. <u>Defaults Upon Senior Securities</u>

None.

# Item 4. (Removed and Reserved)

# Item 5. Other Information

None.

Item 6.	<b>Exhibits</b>	
	<u>15.1</u>	Letter from PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, our independent registered public accounting firm, regarding unaudited interim financial information.
	<u>31.1</u>	Certification of Mr. Kraus furnished pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
	<u>31.2</u>	Certification of Mr. Farrell furnished pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
	32.1	Certification of Mr. Kraus furnished for the purpose of complying with Rule 13a-14(b) or Rule 15d-14(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
	32.2	Certification of Mr. Farrell furnished for the purpose of complying with Rule 13a-14(b) or Rule 15d-14(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
	101.INS	XBRL Instance Document.
	101.SCH	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema.
	101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase.
	101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase.
	101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase.

# **SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

Date: May 2, 2011

# ALLIANCEBERNSTEIN L.P.

By: /s/ Edward J. Farrell

Edward J. Farrell Chief Accounting Officer and Interim Chief Financial Officer May 2, 2011

Securities and Exchange Commission 100 F Street, N.E. Washington, DC 20549

Registration Statements on Form S-3 (No. 333-64886) and on Form S-8 (No. 333-47192).

## Commissioners:

We are aware that our report dated May 2, 2011 on our review of interim financial information of AllianceBernstein L.P. (the "Company") for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2011 and 2010 and included in the Company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2011 are incorporated by reference in its Registration Statements referred to above.

Very truly yours,

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

New York, New York

## I, Peter S. Kraus, certify that:

- 1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of AllianceBernstein L.P.;
- 2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
- 3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
- 4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
- 5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: May 2, 2011

/s/ Peter S. Kraus

Peter S. Kraus

Chief Executive Officer
AllianceBernstein L.P.

## I, Edward J. Farrell, certify that:

- 1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of AllianceBernstein L.P.;
- 2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
- 3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
- 4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f)) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
- 5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: May 2, 2011 /s/ Edward J. Farrell

Edward J. Farrell Chief Accounting Officer and Interim Chief Financial Officer AllianceBernstein L.P.

# CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350, AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

In connection with the Quarterly Report of AllianceBernstein L.P. (the "Company") on Form 10-Q for the period ending March 31, 2011 to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on or about May 2, 2011 (the "Report"), I, Peter S. Kraus, Chief Executive Officer of the Company, certify, for the purpose of complying with Rule 13a-14(b) or Rule 15d-14(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act") and 18 U.S.C. § 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act; and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Date: May 2, 2011 /s/ Peter S. Kraus

Peter S. Kraus Chief Executive Officer AllianceBernstein L.P.

# CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350, AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

In connection with the Quarterly Report of AllianceBernstein L.P. (the "Company") on Form 10-Q for the period ending March 31, 2011 to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on or about May 2, 2011 (the "Report"), I, Edward J. Farrell, Chief Accounting Officer and Interim Chief Financial Officer of the Company, certify, for the purpose of complying with Rule 13a-14(b) or 15d-14(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act") and 18 U.S.C. § 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act; and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Date: May 2, 2011 /s/ Edward J. Farrell

Edward J. Farrell Chief Accounting Officer and Interim Chief Financial Officer AllianceBernstein L.P.