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David Kudla, CEO and chief investment strategist of Mainstay Capital Management LLC, has been named executive director of the University of Dayton’s annual R.I.S.E. Forum, the world’s most prestigious student investment conference.

Kudla, a native of Dayton who graduated from the University of Dayton in 1985, helped organize and market this year’s spring forum, which attracted nearly 1,600 students and professionals. It is presented in association with the United Nations Global Compact.

As a member of the School of Business Administration’s Advisory Council, he helped to recruit more than 30 strategic partners and sponsors and promoted R.I.S.E. (Redefining Investment Strategy Education) at industry conferences and in the media. He also served on the domestic markets panel.

"Dave is an extraordinary leader, who recognizes the importance of this forum in helping finance students learn about Wall Street from the brightest minds in the field," said Daniel J. Curran, president. "He devoted countless hours this year to working with faculty, staff and students to create a stellar educational experience. We are grateful for his service and leadership and are excited about what the future holds."

Why is Kudla volunteering his time to serve as executive director?

"Our profession is facing a talent and diversity challenge," said Kudla. "Programs like the Davis Center for Portfolio Management at the University of Dayton are developing the next generation of practitioners to meet this challenge. UD’s annual R.I.S.E. Forum brings together students and faculty from similar programs across the country for presentations, panel discussions and interactive exchanges with financial professionals from the leading companies in our industry."

Mainstay Capital Management serves 3,000 clients in 44 states and 10 countries. The company has offices in Grand Blanc, Mich., Troy, Mich., and Naples, Fla.

As CEO and chief investment strategist, Kudla oversees all operations of the firm and directs investment policy. He also is a contributing writer for Forbes and Dow Jones, regularly speaks at national conferences and has conducted retirement educational programs for thousands worldwide. He has been named by Barron’s as one of the "Top 100 Independent Advisors" in the country for the past three years, and Mainstay is currently ranked by Investment News as a "Top 30 Financial Planning Firm." Kudla often appears on CNBC, FOX Business, Bloomberg and other business news programs and is frequently quoted in The Wall Street Journal, Barron’s, Kiplinger’s Personal Finance and other financial press.

Kudla has earned two postgraduate degrees, including a master’s in management from Stanford University and holds national accreditation or certification in financial planning, asset management and retirement planning.