

Fundraising Module

Why This Case?

Steven Kaplan
University of Chicago Booth School of Business



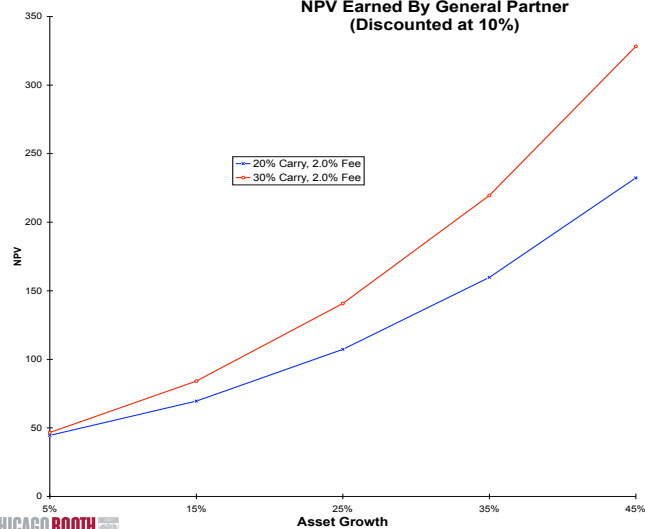
Kauffman Fellows Class 16
October 2012



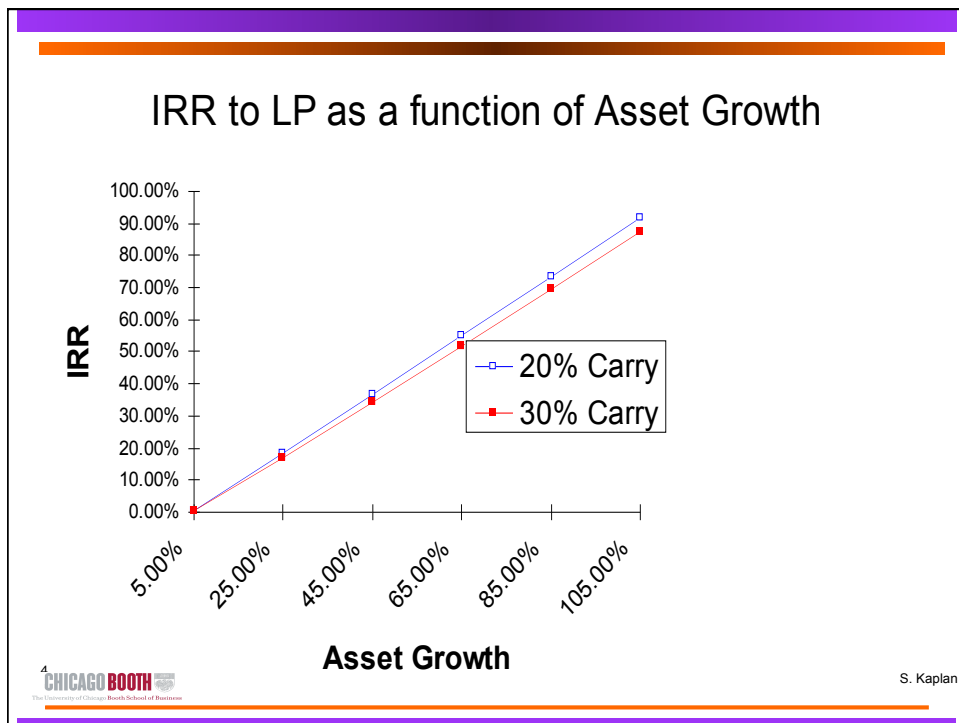
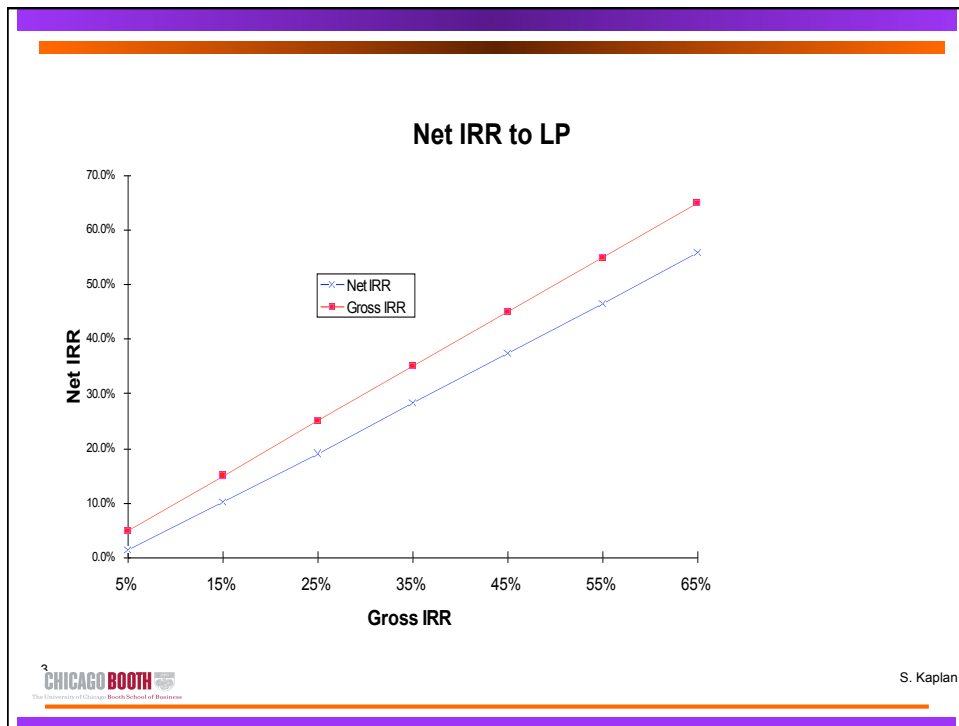
S. Kaplan

GP Economics

NPV Earned By General Partner
(Discounted at 10%)



S. Kaplan



WHAT HAPPENED?

- Accel easily raised the fund -- Accel VII.
- Accel V was a \$150 M fund.
 - Returned 19.6X net. 188% IRR.
 - Means that it returned about 30X gross.
- Accel VI was a \$275 M fund.
 - As of Dec 11, 0.35 X capital, -11% IRR.

- Raised \$1.6 billion Accel VIII in 2000.
 - Accel tried to split the \$1.6 billion fund into \$700 million and \$900 million funds.
 - » Reduced management fee.
 - » Tried to maintain 30% carry.
 - » Rejected by LPs.
- Accel reduced Accel VIII from \$1.6 billion to \$700 million.
 - Currently running at 1.3 X net / 4% IRR
- In November, 2004, raised Accel IX.
 - Only \$400 million.
 - But, still got the 30% carry.
 - Includes Facebook.

WHY THIS CASE?

VC / PEP Structure & Compensation

- What is VC / PEP Structure?
- How does VC / PEP compensation work?
- How do LPs evaluate a PEP?
- What should any GP do? A first-time GP?

VC / PE investing is long-term.

- 10 to 13-year lifespan.
- Hard to get money back.
- VCs / PEPs have huge amount of discretion.
- Covenants designed to put restrictions on GPs.
- Compensation a very important piece.

Structure of Compensation:

- Management fee as a % of:
 - capital committed (initially).
 - capital employed (later).
- Carried interest / share of profits:
 - fair value method (generally).
 - after return of capital.
- GP coinvest:
 - align interests, increase downside risk.
- For typical fund:
 - 1.5% to 2.5% of capital under management.
 - 20% share of profits.
 - At least 1% coinvest.

Analysis of compensation:

- Positive:
 - Induces effort.
 - Attracts “talented” individuals / Screens out less talented.
 - » Hard to break 20% equilibrium.
- Negative:
 - Increasing fund size means some GPs, particularly large ones, can live well on management fee.
 - Increasing fund size means that GPs invest in different deals; or
 - Increasing fund size means new, less experienced partners.

Evaluating Performance

- Industry looks at net cash flows to LP.
- Two industry standards:
 - IRR.
 - Multiple of Invested Capital (MIC).
- Four data providers:
 - Cambridge Associates
 - Venture Economics
 - Prequin
 - Burgiss Private IQ

What do LPs look for / ask?

- Principals
 - What is current structure of firm?
 - What is investment capacity with its current structure & staff?
 - What is the decision-making process internally among the principals for: (i) internal matters; (ii) new partners; and (iii) partnership operations and management decisions? What vote level (majority, unanimous, etc.) is required for decisions?
 - How is the ownership of firm held?
 - Identify amount of time (in %) each principal will dedicate to each role.
 - Describe the firm's professional turnover in the last five years, citing reasons for each departure.
 - Provide 8 references for each person.

■ Investment strategy.

- List all of the firm's prior funds, fund commitments, investments, investment amounts, and the principals involved.
- Describe the fund's investment strategy and objectives.
- What is the targeted rate of return for the fund?
 - » Please provide both gross and net information.
 - » Why do you feel such returns are achievable?
- How do you differentiate your fund from competitive funds?

■ Investment process:

- How many opportunities are reviewed by the firm annually?
 - » Provide a current deal log.
- Describe your due diligence process.
 - » Do you use a formal checklist?
- Describe your investment decision process.
 - » What factors are highly weighted?
- How are typical investments structured?
 - » What percentage is originated or led?
- What type of role do you play after the investment has been made by the fund? Please explain how this adds value.
- What is the policy regarding follow-on investments?
- What process is in place for monitoring investments and creating optimal exits?

- Track records.

- Have to evaluate realized investments.
 - » Who originated deals?
 - » Who added value?
- Have to evaluate unrealized investments.
 - » Are they going to be winners or losers?

What is new? ILPA Guidelines

- To better align the overall relationship between LPs and GPs in PE.
- The Principles represent a basis for dialogue between LPs and GPs and reflect an intent to benefit all PE participants over the long term.
- The Principles represent suggested best practices in three areas: Alignment of Interests, Governance and Transparency.
- Alignment of Interests
 - Provisions focus on economic terms structured to tie more closely the economic incentives and results of the GP to the returns realized by LPs.
 - Move to European waterfall, stronger clawback protection, 100% fee offsets, management fees for operations, substantial GP investment.
- Governance: More power for LPs, protection against style drift.
- Transparency: More detailed disclosure to LPs.