

CYNTHIA NEWMAN AMONG “BEST OF BEST” WOMEN FINANCIAL ADVISORS ATTENDING BARRON’S WINNER’S CIRCLE SUMMIT

Exclusive Event Hosts Wealth Management Leaders and Industry Influentials

NEW YORK – November 28, 2006 – Cynthia D. Newman, Senior Vice President-Wealth Management of Smith Barney recently attended the first-ever “Top Women Advisors Summit” hosted by Barron’s magazine and R.J. Shook, author of “The Winner’s Circle” books rating America’s top financial advisors. The invitation-only conference on the business of delivering wealth management for high-net-worth individuals and institutions was held at The Ritz-Carlton Orlando, Grande Lakes from November 15-17.

In addition to Cynthia Newman there were 77 of the Top 100 women financial advisors in the U.S., as ranked by R.J. Shook and published in Barron’s June 12, 2006 issue. These elite advisors led breakout sessions that explored current issues in wealth management – from building a team and compensation issues, to incorporating foundations and endowments into your practice, to using media relations to build a brand.

“It was a real honor to be a part of this inaugural event, and meet others who share the same integrity and passion for our profession,” Cynthia Newman said. “Discussing best practices one-on-one with the top women financial advisors in the country was a unique experience, and I’m excited to bring these insights back to my firm and my clients.”

Also in attendance were more than 300 women financial advisers who were designated as the top annual producers of their firms. Firms sending attendees include Ameriprise, Credit Suisse, Deutsche Bank, LPL Financial Services, Merrill Lynch, Morgan Stanley, Royal Alliance Associates, Inc., R.W. Baird, Smith Barney, UBS, and Wachovia Securities, among others.

“We were pleased to bring together the top women financial advisors for the first time, with the common goal of improving the performance of the financial services industry,” said Ed Finn, editor and president of Barron’s. “These women are at the top of their game, and we were thrilled to provide a platform for them to share their challenges, philosophies and success stories with other top performers.”

R.J. Shook noted that, “Scores of Winner’s Circle advisors have told me that once they’ve reached the top of their firms, there are fewer people – oftentimes no one – to share ideas with. For this reason, we’re bringing the ‘best of the best’ together to share ideas and discuss how to keep raising the bar for their practice, and for the industry.”

The Summit was sponsored by AIM Investments, AON, Calamos Investments, The Hartford, IXIS Asset Management Advisors Group, MFS Investment Management, Nuveen Investments, Putnam Investments, Rolls-Royce Motor Cars, Vanguard and Van Kampen Investments.

The Top 100 Women Financial Advisors article from the June 12 issue of Barron’s can be read here: www.barrons.com/top100women and www.barrons.com/top100women2.

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Barron's magazine, published by Dow Jones & Company since 1921, is America's premier financial weekly. Barron's reaches an influential audience of corporate decision makers, institutional investors, individual investors and financial professionals.

Each issue provides readers with a complete market wrap-up of the previous week's activity, plus in-depth, sophisticated news reports and an outlook on the week to come. Barron's covers what happens when money and markets come together - who wins, who loses and for what reasons.

Each weekend, Barron's is read by people eager to prepare for the market's opening bell on Monday morning. Barron's comprehensive combination of reporting and statistics aptly arm these readers for the shocks and turmoil of market battles to come.

Barron's is read intensely—cover-to-cover, week-after-week—by some of the most powerful people in the world, people who need this information delivered in a timely, accurate and reliable manner for their professional success and their personal, financial well-being.

About R.J. Shook

Through exhaustive, in-depth studies in the financial services industry, R.J. Shook has developed a unique expertise in identifying success patterns and characteristics of the industry's top producers. Since September 2002, he has published a yearly ranking of the top advisors in America. A frequent contributor to business periodicals and the author a numerous books on the subject, Mr. Shook is a recognized authority on best practices in the financial services industry. He frequently gives speeches, conducts workshops and leads panel discussions on topics and issues of concern to financial services professionals and their organizations to which they belong.