

Josh Cohen is EBRI's New Research Committee Chair

By Harry Conaway, EBRI

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[Josh Cohen](#) of Russell Investments is the new Chair of EBRI's Research Committee. The panel helps direct EBRI's research agenda, and is a committee in which all Sustaining Member (Trustee) organizations can participate. As the Chair of EBRI's Research Committee, Josh is also a member of EBRI's Executive Committee.

Josh is joining Research Committee Co-Chair [Murray Ross](#)* to continue the changes begun by Lori Lucas (Callan Associates), the previous Chair, to make the Research Committee more participatory concerning both specific EBRI research projects as well as EBRI's larger research agenda. Josh will focus on retirement issues, while Murray will focus on health issues.



Josh Cohen

Josh is a managing director and the Head of Defined Contribution for Russell Investments. He is responsible for the leadership, strategic direction, and growth of Russell's U.S. DC defined contribution business.

Josh has served on EBRI's Board of Trustees for nearly a decade. He's on the executive committee of the Defined Contribution Institutional Investment Association (DCIIA), and from 2013–2015 he served as a member of the Department of Labor's ERISA Advisory Council. Josh was recently recognized as one of the top 10 industry influencers in *Chief Investment Officer's* fifth annual list of "The Knowledge Brokers"—the fourth time he has made the list since 2012.

Prior to joining Russell in 2005, Josh spent nine years at Hewitt (now Aon Hewitt) where he led the defined contribution investment consulting practice team.

Finally, Josh is a CFA Charterholder and a member of the CFA Institute and the Investment Analyst Society of Chicago. He received a B.A. from the University of Michigan, and an M.B.A. from University of Chicago Graduate School of Business.

"Don Ezra, a long-time Russell legend, introduced me to EBRI many years ago and I am honored to hold the Research Committee Chair role that he once held," Cohen said.

"EBRI's mission is critical to the effective delivery of benefits to American workers, and objective, dependable research is fundamental to that effort. I look forward to partnering with Murray Ross who will continue on as Co-Chair of the Research Committee focusing on health care issues."

Josh said his primary goals as Committee Chair would be to further engage EBRI trustees and members in providing robust input into the research effort, help prioritize EBRI research, and help support efforts to make sure the research is well-understood and appreciated by members, policymakers, the media and other interested parties.

Finally, Josh encourages all EBRI trustees to reach out to him with their ideas and guidance. He can be reached at jrcohen@russellinvestments.com or 312-780-7116.

* Murray N. Ross, Ph.D. is vice president of the Kaiser Permanente Foundation Health Plan, Inc.. and leader of the Kaiser Permanente Institute for Health Policy. In addition, he is an economist, an expert on a wide range of health care and policy topics, serves on several academic and non-profit boards, and previously advised the U.S. Congress first at the Congressional Budget Office and later as executive director of the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission.