

2Q } [www.bus.umich.edu/20Questions](http://www.bus.umich.edu/20Questions)

**PAOLO PASQUARIELLO, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF FINANCE,** researches information economics, international finance, and market microstructure. When he's not watching Italian soccer, Pasquariello is examining strategic trading in stock and bond markets, financial crises and contagion, and the relation between firm-level adverse selection and firms' capital structure decisions. He once worked as an analyst for Goldman Sachs and JPMorgan.



- 1 What keeps you up at night?** My two-year-old daughter.
- 2 What is one of the best books you've read in the last year?** Jared Diamond's *Collapse*, a very engaging (and dense) analysis of why some human societies of the past have catastrophically failed and what lessons we can learn from their mistakes to make our modern society "sustainable."
- 3 What's the first album/CD you bought?** Fleetwood Mac's *Tango in the Night*.
- 4 What's on your iPod?** Neapolitan pop/jazz, Coldplay, KT Tunstall, and the live commentary of the Italian national soccer team's wins against Germany and France at the last World Cup.
- 5 What's the most thrilling/adventurous thing you've ever done?** My wife and I drove around Namibia with no guide or GPS on a two-week honeymoon. I fondly remember getting a flat tire in a national park while being surrounded by wonderful (and big) animals.

- 6 Guilty pleasure?** Eating Nutella and cookies while watching Italian soccer on Sunday mornings.
- 7 Personal hero (and why)?** I never liked idolatry. However, I must confess that when Diego Maradona played (marvelously) for my Napoli soccer team in the 1980s, he was pretty high on my nonexistent list.
- 8 First job?** Portfolio manager (European equities and forex) for an Italian investment firm soon after college.
- 9 How do you motivate your students?** I teach international finance, so I invite my students to not compartmentalize the course as an elective. In globalized markets all of finance is international, whether we like it or not.
- 10 Best business decision?** Buying a car that gets 30 miles per gallon five years ago.
- 11 If you had a theme song, what would it be?** It keeps changing depending on my moods and circumstances.

- 12 What advice would you give to yourself 10 years ago?** Go for it.
- 13 Biggest management myth?** "Common sense is overrated; models are not." A lot of the subprime mess can be attributed to this one.
- 14 Most important room in your home?** The playroom. Because of the kids, we basically live there.
- 15 First website you access in the morning?** nytimes.com.
- 16 Favorite comfort food?** Cheese, Italian salami, and fresh bread.
- 17 Favorite line from a movie?** From *Trading Places* when Dan Aykroyd, in describing commodities trading to Eddie Murphy, basically says, "Buy low, sell high ... one moment you have 10 million dollars and the next you don't have any money left to buy shoes for your children."
- 18 Three people, living or dead, you'd have over to dinner?** Diego Maradona, JFK, and Theodore Roosevelt.
- 19 Best trophy/award you ever won?** Either the NYU Intramural Indoor Soccer Championship in 1998 as a goalkeeper, or my second-place trophy for a Goldman Sachs go-kart race in 1997. (I had to gently push the managing director of my desk out of the racetrack.)
- 20 If you could read anyone's mind, whose would it be?** My son's. "What were you thinking when you did that?"