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Nuveen Core Equity Alpha Fund  
Form NSAR-B  
March 01, 2012

PAGE 1  
000 B000000 12/31/2011  
000 C000000 0001385763  
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000 E000000 NF  
000 F000000 Y  
000 G000000 N  
000 H000000 N  
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000 J000000 A  
001 A000000 NUVEEN CORE EQUITY ALPHA FUND  
001 B000000 811-220003  
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002 A000000 333 WEST WACKER DRIVE  
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008 A000001 NUVEEN FUND ADVISORS  
008 B000001 A  
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008 A000002 ENHANCED INVESTMENT TECHNOLOGIES (INTECH)  
008 B000002 A  
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008 D010002 PALM BEACH GARDENS  
008 D020002 FL  
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012 A000001 EQUISERVE INC.  
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013 A000001 PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS LLP  
013 B010001 CHICAGO  
013 B020001 IL  
013 B030001 60606  
014 A000001 NUVEEN INVESTMENTS, LLC  
014 B000001 8-13464

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015 A000001 STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY  
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020 A000003 UBS SECURITIES LLC  
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020 A000005 KNIGHT SECURITIES L.P.  
020 B000005 22-3660471  
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020 B000006 13-3443395  
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020 A000007 JEFFERIES + COMPANY INC  
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020 A000008 CAPITAL INSTITUTIONAL SVCS INC EQUITIES  
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022 A000006 JEFFERIES & CO

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 055 B000000 N  
       PAGE 6  
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080 A000000	CHUBB GROUP OF INSURANCE COMPANIES
080 B000000	BERKLEY,GREAT AMERICAN,ST. PAUL, CNA & ZURICH
	PAGE 9
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087	A020000	67090X107
087	A030000	JCE
088	A000000	N
088	B000000	N
088	C000000	N
088	D000000	N
SIGNATURE	STEPHEN D. FOY	
TITLE	V.P. & CONTROLLER	