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Nuveen Core Equity Alpha Fund
Form NSAR-A
August 30, 2010

PAGE 1
000 A000000 06/30/2010
000 C000000 0001385763
000 D000000 N
000 E000000 NF
000 F000000 Y
000 G000000 N
000 H000000 N
000 I000000 6.1
000 J000000 A
001 A000000 NUVEEN CORE EQUITY ALPHA FUND
001 B000000 811-220003
001 C000000 3129178200
002 A000000 333 WEST WACKER DRIVE
002 B000000 CHICAGO
002 C000000 IL
002 D010000 60606
002 D020000 1286
003 000000 N
004 000000 N
005 000000 N
006 000000 N
007 A000000 N
007 B000000 0
007 C010100 1
007 C010200 2
007 C010300 3
007 C010400 4
007 C010500 5
007 C010600 6
007 C010700 7
007 C010800 8
007 C010900 9
007 C011000 10
008 A000001 NUVEEN ASSET MANAGEMENT
008 B000001 A
008 C000001 801-14147
008 D010001 CHICAGO
008 D020001 IL
008 D030001 60606
008 D040001 1286
008 A000002 ENHANCED INVESTMENT TECHNOLOGIES (INTECH)
008 B000002 A
008 C000002 801-60987
008 D010002 PALM BEACH GARDENS
008 D020002 FL
008 D030002 33410
012 A000001 EQUISERVE INC.
012 B000001 84-05925
012 C010001 PROVIDENCE
012 C020001 RI
012 C030001 02940
PAGE 2
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
015 B000001 C
015 C010001 BOSTON
015 C020001 MA
015 C030001 02110
015 E010001 X
018 000000 Y
019 A000000 Y
019 B000000 200
019 C000000 NUVEENFUND
020 A000001 JEFFEREIS & CO
020 B000001 95-2622900
020 C000001 21
020 A000002 INSTINET CORP
020 B000002 13-3443395
020 C000002 17
020 A000003 CREDIT SUISSE
020 B000003 13-5659485
020 C000003 17
020 A000004 MERRILL LYNCH
020 B000004 13-5674085
020 C000004 10
020 A000005 WEEDEN & CO
020 B000005 13-3364318
020 C000005 9
020 A000006 ROSENBLATT SECURITIES LLC
020 B000006 13-2975865
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020 A000007 GUZMAN & CO
020 B000007 59-2764363
020 C000007 7
020 A000008 BNY BROKERAGE INC
020 B000008 13-3989198
020 C000008 7
020 A000009 CAPITAL INSTITUTIONAL
020 B000009 75-1565705
020 C000009 4
020 A000010 DEUTSCHE BANK
020 B000010 13-2730828
020 C000010 4
021 000000 109
022 A000001 JEFFEREIES & CO
022 B000001 95-2622900
022 C000001 23119
022 D000001 24944

PAGE 3

022 A000002 SUQSUEHANNA TRUST
022 B000002 23-6242866
022 C000002 19847
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022 A000003 INSTINET CORP
022 B000003 13-3443395
022 C000003 18955
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022 A000004 CREDIT SUISSE
022 B000004 13-5659485
022 C000004 16226
022 D000004 17414
022 A000005 WEEDEN & CO
022 B000005 13-3364318
022 C000005 9242
022 D000005 9643

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| | | | |
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| 022 | A000006 | LYNCH, JONES & RYAN | |
| 022 | B000006 | 13-3356934 | |
| 022 | C000006 | 9623 | |
| 022 | D000006 | 9165 | |
| 022 | A000007 | GUZMAN & CO | |
| 022 | B000007 | 59-2764363 | |
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| 022 | A000010 | DEUTSCHE BANK | |
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| 042 | E000000 | 0 |
| 042 | F000000 | 0 |
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| 050 | 000000 | N |
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| 052 | 000000 | Y |
| 053 | A000000 | N |
| 054 | A000000 | Y |

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054 B000000 N
054 C000000 N
054 D000000 N
054 E000000 N
054 F000000 N
054 G000000 N
054 H000000 Y
054 I000000 N
054 J000000 Y
054 K000000 N
054 L000000 N
054 M000000 Y
054 N000000 N
054 O000000 Y
055 A000000 Y
PAGE 6
055 B000000 N
056 000000 Y
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070 B020000 Y
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070 D010000 N

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| 070 | H020000 | N | |
| 070 | I010000 | Y | |
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| 070 | J010000 | Y | |
| 070 | J020000 | N | |
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| 070 | L010000 | Y | |
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| 070 | M020000 | N | |
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| 070 | O010000 | Y | |
| 070 | O020000 | N | |
| 070 | P010000 | N | |
| 070 | P020000 | N | |
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| | |
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| 072BB000000 | 0 |
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| 075 B000000 | 210875 |
| 076 000000 | 11.52 |
| 077 A000000 N | |
| 078 000000 N | |
| 080 C000000 | 0 |
| 081 B000000 | 0 |
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| 086 D010000 | 0 |
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| 086 F010000 | 0 |

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086 F020000 0
087 A010000 COMMON STOCK
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