Ronald P. Joelson is executive vice president and chief investment officer of Northwestern Mutual. In this role, he oversees management of the company’s more than $200 billion general account investment portfolio, which is made up of public and private bonds and stocks, preferred stock, commercial mortgage loans and real estate equities. The general account portfolio supports the company’s surplus and its insurance and annuity products.

Joelson is responsible for the company’s four investment departments: Public Investments, Northwestern Mutual Capital, Northwestern Mutual Real Estate and Investment Strategy. He also is a member of the company’s Executive Leadership Team.

Prior to joining Northwestern Mutual in 2012, Joelson successfully managed investments for two global insurance companies. He served as chief investment officer of Genworth Financial and managed the company’s $75 billion investment portfolio. He also served as chief investment officer for Prudential Financial from 2000-07, where he spent the majority of his career and oversaw Prudential’s $230 billion general account.

During his 23-year tenure with Prudential, Joelson held several other roles, including president of the company’s Guaranteed Products business and head of both the Structured Finance Group and the Enterprise Planning Group. His investment experience includes familiarity not only with the whole spectrum of investment asset classes, but also with risk management, investment strategy, analytics and leadership development.

Joelson graduated from Hamilton College inClinton, N.Y., in 1980 with a bachelor’s degree in economics and government.
He earned his M.B.A. in finance and accounting from Columbia University in New York City in 1983.

Joelson is currently on the boards of Conning Holdings Corporation and the Milwaukee Art Museum.

He and his wife Renee live in Milwaukee and have four grown children and four grandchildren.