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Nuveen Core Equity Alpha Fund  
Form NSAR-B  
February 29, 2016

PAGE 1  
000 B000000 12/31/2015  
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  
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007 C010100 1  
008 A000001 NUVEEN FUND ADVISORS, LLC  
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 COMPUTERSHARE INC.  
012 B000001 84-05925  
012 C010001 PROVIDENCE  
012 C020001 RI  
012 C030001 02940  
013 A000001 PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS LLP  
013 B010001 CHICAGO  
013 B020001 IL  
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014 A000001 NUVEEN INVESTMENTS, LLC  
014 B000001 8-13464  
015 A000001 STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY  
015 B000001 C  
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PAGE 2  
015 C020001 MA  
015 C030001 02110  
015 E010001 X  
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019 B000000 198

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019 C000000 NUVEENFUND  
020 A000001 JEFFERIES & CO  
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020 C000001 73  
020 A000002 CREDIT SUISSE  
020 B000002 13-5659485  
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020 A000003 INSTINET CORP  
020 B000003 13-3443395  
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020 A000005 CAPITAL INSTITUTIONAL  
020 B000005 75-1565705  
020 C000005 16  
020 A000006 WEEDEN & CO  
020 B000006 13-3364318  
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020 A000009 SG AMERICAS SECURITIES  
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020 A000010 JP MORGAN CHASE  
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PAGE 3  
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054	K000000	N
054	L000000	N
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054	N000000	N
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056	000000	Y

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057 000000 N  
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 061 000000 0  
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070	M010000	Y	
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087	A020000	67090X107
087	A030000	JCE
088	A000000	N
088	B000000	N
088	C000000	N
088	D000000	N

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SIGNATURE   STEPHEN D. FOY  
TITLE        V.P. & CONTROLLER