University of Sydney Named Global Champions in 2023 CFA Institute Research Challenge

More than 6,300 students enter global competition

A team from the University of Sydney has been named Global Champions at the 17th annual CFA Institute Research Challenge.

The global final was held in-person for the first time in three years in Washington, DC, on 3 May at the CFA Institute "Asset and Risk Allocation: Building Resilient Portfolios for the Future" Conference. Student teams hailed from jurisdictions worldwide including the United States, Italy, Indonesia, Switzerland, and Australia.

The Research Challenge participants are required to research, valuate, create a report, and present on an equity stock. This hands-on learning experience teaches the next generation of analysts the best practices and skills required for a successful career in investment analysis. The student teams are then evaluated by a panel of judges drawn from leading investment industry organisations.

Lisa Carroll, CEO CFA Societies Australia said: "Every year, teams from universities across Australia take part in this amazing learning experience. Well done to the University of Sydney team which won the global championship – this is truly an example of the great potential and talent of the next generation of investment professionals.

"Potential employers should take note not only of the demonstrated skills in financial analysis, but also the hard work, determination, teamwork and the team's ability to remain poised under pressure while defending their investment thesis," Carroll said.

"CFA Society Sydney is truly proud to have the University of Sydney represent Australia so well on the world stage, against competitors from universities around the globe. My congratulations to the team, their mentors and faculty adviser on the winning performance."

Dr. Quan Gan, CFA, senior lecturer at the University of Sydney and faculty adviser to the Sydney team said: "I am proud of the team's passion, devotion, and stellar performance in this highly competitive global competition. The team spent more than 1,200 hours conducting a thorough analysis and producing a convincing presentation. Our success will continue to inspire and encourage new generations of investment professionals to strive for excellence."

The winning team from University of Sydney is comprised of five students: Patrick Mahony, Jason Shi, Andre Thomas, Rachel Wang and Moniq Wever. The team was supported by their faculty advisor Dr Gan and industry mentor Mathew Kaleel. The team earned its win

through their evaluation, report, presentation for a buy recommendation for Qantas Airways.

This year, more than 6,300 students from 1,100 universities around the globe participated in the Research Challenge. The global final runners-up, deemed champions in their respective regions, joined the competition in-person to compete for the title of global winner. Each team was sponsored by a local CFA Society. These teams represented in the final were:

- California Polytechnic State University, United States
- California State University, Fullerton, United States
- Polytechnic University of Milan, Italy
- Universitas Indonesia, Indonesia
- University of Neuchatel, Switzerland

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