

CFA Institute Research Challenge in Switzerland and Liechtenstein

CFA Society Switzerland

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2018/2019 Research Challenge Recap



CFA Institute Research Challenge



- Worldwide intercollegiate competition between teams of students
- 8-10 universities are participating in Switzerland/ Liechtenstein, with 25-30 teams, totaling 130+ students
- Unique educational opportunity to apply what you have learned in the classroom to real-world practice in equity research
- Organized by CFA Society Switzerland for Switzerland and Liechtenstein
- Winners from the local competitions advance to EMEA Regional Final and potentially to the global Final

Participating Universities in Switzerland and Liechtenstein



University of Zurich ^{UZH}



University of Basel



Università della Svizzera italiana



UNIL | Université de Lausanne
HEC Lausanne



UNIVERSITÉ DE FRIBOURG
UNIVERSITÄT FREIBURG



UNIVERSITÄT LIECHTENSTEIN



Universität St.Gallen

more to come

Long track-record of interesting subject companies

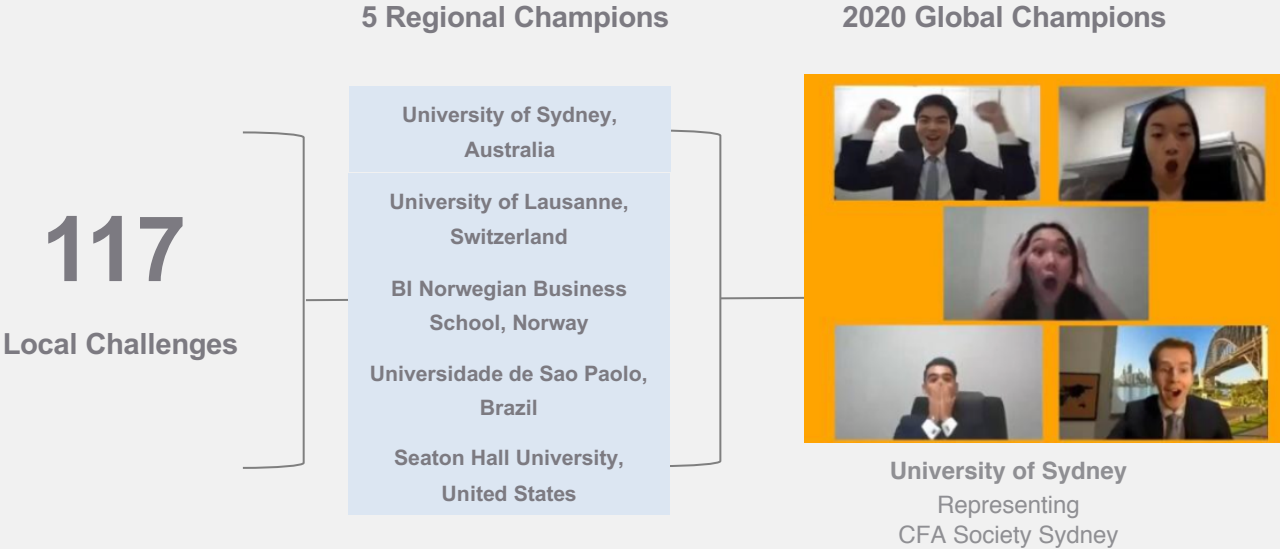
- Myriad
- Tamedia
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- Sonova
- Tecan
- Straumann
- Ascom
- VAT
- Landis + Gyr
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How it Works in Switzerland

1. CFA Society Switzerland works in conjunction with participating local universities to assemble teams of 3–5 business and finance students.
2. Universities embed challenge in their course catalog as a (mandatory) seminar and give ECTS credits, CFA Switzerland provides practitioners for guest lectures to develop key skills
3. Each team works supported by a mentor to research and prepare an equity research report on a publicly traded company
4. Universities select their best team for the Swiss local final
5. Finalist team findings are locally evaluated by high-profile panels of heads of research, portfolio managers, and chief investment officers from some of the world's top firms
6. Local champion advance to the EMEA regional final



2019/2020 Research Challenge Results



Benefits for Students



- Real-life learning experience as an Equity Analyst
- Get in-depth training in company analysis
- **Develop soft skills such as teamwork and presentation skills**
- Provides additional feature to CV
- Get hands-on mentoring
- Network with key employers, professionals and peers to make inroads within the financial services industry
- Travel to regional and global competitions for advancing teams

Schedule in Switzerland



- **Early August:** official announcement of the challenge
- **Beginning of winter semester:** announcement of the subject company
- **October:** Kick-Off on 1 October 2020 (afternoon) in Zurich and Q3 2020 results
- **November:** conference call with the subject company on 12 November 2020 (afternoon)
- **November/December:** students work on reports
- **December:** presentations within the university
- **Early January:** report hand in for Swiss finalists
- **Early February:** Presentation Bootcamp
- **Mid February:** Presentation hand in for finalists
- **End of February:** Swiss local final in Zurich on 18 February 2021 (afternoon)
- **March:** Preparation of the local champion for EMEA championship
- **April:** EMEA Regional and Global Final (New York)

Student Testimonials

- *It is a great chance to dive into real-life analysis and sharpen your soft skills with the help of experts in this field.*
- *It's the most attractive class I have done in Finance probably. Very practical, you learn how to apply what you have learn and the experience is cool. I liked to move in different places (Zurich, Bern) and meet people.*
- *Bottom line, the challenge is fun allowing to increase your level of expertise, explore new topics, develop new skills and learn how to work in a team.*
- *This is a great experience, but it cost a huge amount of time for very few credits.*

Student feedback on number of hours invested

150-600+

Key Contacts in Switzerland



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More Resources

2018 and 2019 Global and Regional Final Presentations

<http://cfainstitute.gallery.video/rc19>

2018 and 2019 Global Winners' reports and slides

- <https://www.cfainstitute.org/-/media/documents/support/research-challenge/challenge/rc-2019-winning-report-ateneo-de-manila-university.ashx>
- <https://www.cfainstitute.org/-/media/documents/support/research-challenge/challenge/rc-2019-winning-presentation-ateneo-de-manila-university.ashx>
- <https://www.cfainstitute.org/-/media/documents/support/research-challenge/challenge/rc-2018-winning-written-report--university-of-laussane.ashx>
- <https://www.cfainstitute.org/-/media/documents/support/research-challenge/challenge/rc-2018-winning-presentation-university-of-lausanne.ashx>