

CFA INSTITUTE RESEARCH CHALLENGE

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California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo Named Winner of Local CFA Institute Research Challenge in Los Angeles

Students advance to the next level of the world's leading investment research competition

CFA Society Los Angeles announced today that California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo has won the local competition of the CFA Institute Research Challenge and now advances to the Americas Regional where it will compete against universities from the United States, Canada, and Latin America.

The Cal Poly San Luis Obispo team consists of Paul Boortz, Jordan Goldie, Brian Pocock, Robert Surane, Miles Wix.

The following universities competed with Cal Poly San Luis Obispo at the Research Challenge in Los Angeles:

Claremont Graduate University
Loyola Marymount University
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of Southern California (USC)

Each university sent a team of three to five students to participate in the local challenge. The Research Challenge in Los Angeles was the first step of two for a local team to advance towards the global final. The students from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo will now travel to the first-ever "super regional" where they will match their wits, analytical skills and presentation abilities against student teams from around the world. All three regional competitions and the Global Final will take place the week of 11 April 2016 in Chicago, Illinois, USA.

"The IRC is one of the events where charterholders get an opportunity to give back to their communities," said Jitendra Motwani, CFA, Vice President for Wilshire Analytics, the technology foundation for Wilshire Associates, who co-chairs the IRC committee at CFA Society Los Angeles. "Multiple people spend countless hours to get it organized and there are a lot of moving parts. The end result is very satisfying as the students benefit from this experience and get ready for the next chapter of their professional lives."

The students presented their analysis and buy/sell/hold recommendations on Activision Blizzard. Their presentation at the Research Challenge in Los Angeles was the culmination of months of research; interviews with company management, competitors, and clients; and presentation training.



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This year's CFA Institute Research Challenge hosted by CFA Society Los Angeles was sponsored by FactSet and Kaplan Schweser.

About the CFA Institute Research Challenge

The CFA Institute Research Challenge gathers students, investment industry professionals, publicly traded companies, and corporate sponsors together locally, regionally, and globally for an annual competition. In order to promote best practices in equity research and company analysis, students research, analyze, and report on a company as if they are practicing analysts. Local CFA member societies and other affiliated groups host local level competitions of the Research Challenge in conjunction with the participating universities. The universities assemble teams of three to five business and finance students who work directly with a company in researching and preparing a company analysis. The team's final presentations are locally evaluated by high-profile panels of heads of research, portfolio managers, and chief investment officers from the world's top firms. The local champions advance to regional competitions for the Americas, Asia Pacific, and Europe, Middle East, and Africa (EMEA) and then to the Global Final, which will all take place in the same location this year. Additional information on the Research Challenge is available on the CFA Institute website, www.cfainstitute.org/researchchallenge.

About CFA Society Los Angeles

CFA Society Los Angeles is the local member society of CFA Institute, the global association of investment professionals that sets the standard for professional excellence and credentials. The organization is a champion for ethical behavior in investment markets and a respected source of knowledge in the global financial community. The end goal: to create an environment where investors' interests come first, markets function at their best, and economies grow. For more information, visit www.cfala.org.

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