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Laurier team takes first prize in financial research competition

WATERLOO — A team of students from the Laurier School of Business & Economics won first place at the recent Investment Research Challenge.

Hosted by the Toronto CFA Society, the goal of the event was to teach business students best practices in equity research. The nine competing teams were required to create an equity analysis research report on a small cap company, Glacier Media, Inc. The teams then presented their report to a panel of respected Toronto-based industry professionals. The winning team was determined based upon the best combined score for the written report and the presentation.

The Laurier team included third-year BBA co-op students Zachary P. Cressman, Andy Huynh, and Gurveer Kehal, and fourth-year student Jason Senensky, who is in the double-degree business program run jointly by Laurier and the University of Waterloo.

“Our students have the winning combination of unparalleled academic performance and real-world experience,” said Ginny Dybenko, dean of the Laurier School of Business & Economics. “We are shaping the next generation of leaders who will create positive and sustainable businesses.”

Also competing in the event were Brock University, Carleton University, Lakehead University, University of Ottawa, Queen’s University (MBA program), Schulich School of Business, University of Waterloo, and York University.

“Despite considerable competing demands on their time, the students pushed themselves to thoroughly understand the fundamentals of the business case,” said Brian Smith, a Laurier finance professor and team advisor. “The competition was not just an intellectual challenge, but one that required strong team work and persistence.”

Sponsors of Toronto’s Investment Research Challenge included the CFA Institute, OMERS and Stalla by Becker Review.

The Laurier team will go on to compete against teams from across North America at the CFA Institute Regional Investment Research Challenge, which will be held in New York City in March.