

Activity Report

Geneva Finance Research Institute



2011

from January to December 2011

www.GFRI.ch



**UNIVERSITÉ
DE GENÈVE**

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Le GFRI et ses activités: un aperçu

Le G. F.R.I est un Institut pluridisciplinaire de l'Université de Genève (UNIGE) créé en mars 2009 et entièrement dédié à la recherche et à la formation en finance.

Son ambition est de donner un élan nouveau à la recherche et à la formation en finance au sein de l'Université de Genève, et ce particulièrement dans les domaines de la gestion de portefeuille et de la gouvernance d'entreprise. Structurellement interfacultaire, le GFRI se situe à la croisée entre les Facultés des Sciences Economiques et Sociales, de Droit, de Psychologie et des Sciences de l'Education.

Par ailleurs, le GFRI collabore étroitement avec le Centre de Droit Bancaire et Financier de l'UNIGE et le Pôle de Recherche National en Sciences Affectives. Il fait partie intégrante du Swiss Finance Institute et ses activités de recherche et de formation s'inscrivent dans la complémentarité par rapport à celles menées par ce dernier.

Enfin, le GFRI se veut enfin le véhicule privilégié de transfert de connaissances de l'UNIGE en matière de finance à destination de la Cité. A ce titre il organise régulièrement des séminaires, des conférences et des débats portant sur des thèmes de « finance et société ». Dans ce contexte, le GFRI est très reconnaissant à la Fondation Genève Place Financière pour son soutien financier.

Ce rapport a pour vocation de synthétiser les activités principales en matière de recherche et d'enseignement menées par les membres du GFRI depuis janvier 2011 et ce jusqu'à décembre 2011.

Nous publions régulièrement des nouvelles au sujet du GFRI, de ses membres et de leurs activités sur notre site internet: www.GFRI.ch

1. Introduction

GFRI is a multidisciplinary Finance Research Institute located at the University of Geneva that focuses on two main research topics: Portfolio Management and Corporate Governance. Its research themes build on the role that Geneva as a financial center plays in Portfolio Management and on the Corporate Governance concerns of society at large.

GFRI research is multidisciplinary and encourages synergies between the Faculties of Economics and Social Sciences, Law, Psychology and Science of Education. GFRI collaborates in particular with the Center for Banking and Financial Law and the National Center for Research in Affective Sciences, both located at the University of Geneva. GFRI is fully integrated within the Swiss Finance Institute and pursues research and educational activities in finance that are complementary to the goals and missions of SFI in terms of achieving academic excellence in finance among SFI partner universities.

GFRI also engages in knowledge transfer activities such as conferences, seminars and public debates on finance topics related to Portfolio Management and Corporate Governance. In this context, GFRI gratefully acknowledges financial support by the Geneva Financial Center Foundation.

This activity report is intended to provide a synthetic view of the main research and educational activities pursued by GFRI's members from January 2011 until December 2011.

2. GFRI Members

a. Permanent GFRI Members:

Finance Professors from the Faculty of Social & Economic Sciences:

- Angie Andrikogiannopoulou, Assistant Professor of Finance
- Tony Berrada, Associate Professor of Finance
- Ines Chaieb, Assistant Professor of Finance
- Harald Hau, Professor of Finance
- Rajna Gibson Brandon, Managing Director of GFRI, Professor of Finance
- Martin Hoesli, Professor of Real Estate Finance
- Henri Loubergé, Deputy Director of GFRI, Professor of Economics & Finance
- Olivier Scaillet, Deputy Director of GFRI, Professor of Probability & Statistics

Postdoctoral researchers in Finance:

- Dr. Alexander Engulatov, Postdoctoral researcher in Finance, (PhD from EPFL)
- Dr. Alessandro Fontana, Postdoctoral researcher in Finance (PhD from Ca' Foscari University of Venice)
- Dr. Philipp Krueger, Postdoctoral researcher in Finance, (PhD from The Toulouse School of Economics)
- Dr. Miret Padovani, Postdoctoral researcher in Finance, (PhD from Zürich University)

Assistants and doctoral students in Finance:

- Matthias Efing, PhD Candidate in Finance under the supervision of Prof. Harald Hau, undertaking the Swiss Finance Institute Doctoral Program
- Gerda Cabej, PhD Candidate in Economics under the supervision of Prof. Henri Loubergé
- Sébastien Coupy, PhD Candidate in Finance under the supervision of Prof. Tony Berrada, undertaking the Swiss Finance Institute Doctoral Program
- Ronald Gindrat, PhD Candidate in Finance under the supervision of Prof. Olivier Scaillet
- Raul Gonzalez, PhD Candidate in Finance under the supervision of Prof. Olivier Scaillet
- Christopher Hemmens, PhD Candidate in Finance under the supervision of Prof. Ines Chaieb
- Grégoire Iseli, PhD Candidate in Economics under the supervision of Prof. Henri Loubergé
- Kousse Kagba, PhD Candidate in Finance under the supervision of Prof. Tony Berrada, undertaking the Swiss Finance Institute Doctoral Program
- Nicolay Markov, PhD Candidate in Economics under the supervision of Prof. Henri Loubergé
- Alper Odabasioglu, PhD Candidate in Finance under the supervision of Prof. Rajna Brandon, undertaking the Swiss Finance Institute Doctoral Program
- Kustrim Reka, PhD Candidate in Finance under the supervision of Prof. Martin Hoesli
- Adrien Treccani, PhD Candidate in Finance under the supervision of Prof. Tony Berrada, undertaking the Swiss Finance Institute Doctoral Program
- Ramona Westermann, PhD Candidate in Finance under the supervision of Prof. Rajna Gibson Brandon, undertaking the Swiss Finance Institute Doctoral Program

Administration:

- Michael Steinhauser
- Christina Singh

b. Associate GFRI Members:**Faculty from the Centre for Banking and Financial Law:**

- Rashid Bahar, Associate Professor of Law, Attorney at Law at Bär & Karrer
- Ursula Cassani, Professor of Law
- Bénédicte Foëx, Professor of Law
- Anne Héritier Lachat, Associate Professor of Law, Board Member at FINMA
- Xavier Oberson, Professor of Law
- Henry Peter, Professor of Law
- Luc Thévenoz, Director of the Centre for Banking and Financial Law, Professor of Law

Faculty from the National Centre of Competence in Research for the Affective Sciences:

- Didier Grandjean, Associate Professor of Psychology
- David Sander, Professor of Psychology
- Klaus Scherer, Director of the Geneva Emotion Research Group, Professor of Psychology

3. Research:

I. General GFRI research activities

a. Scientific collaboration and research projects:

A top priority of GFRI is to achieve excellence in academic research on topics relevant to Geneva's finance community. GFRI members also participate with two projects to the Swiss National Center of Competence in Finance & Risk Management (NCCR FinRisk).

This section describes five ongoing research projects led by GFRI members:

Credit risk and non-standard sources of risk (NCCR FinRisk Project C1)

GFRI member: Prof. Rajna Gibson Brandon

A central question in finance is how do agents and corporations make decisions under uncertainty. Some of the sources of uncertainty affecting investors' portfolio decisions and corporations' investment and financing decisions are well-understood, e.g. equity, interest rate, commodity, and exchange rate risks. Yet market risks represent only a small subset of the total risk exposures that one experiences when trading, investing, or making financing decisions in financial markets. The purpose of this project is to focus on credit risk and on non-standard sources of risk that occur once one allows for market frictions, informational distortions, and agency problems. By non-standard sources of risks, it is referred in particular to liquidity risk, operational risk, catastrophe risk, demographic risk, and model risk. Modern finance theory has not yet come up with satisfactory models for the pricing of these risk factors and their management. An exception is the measurement and management of credit risk which has received large academic attention during the late nineties, driven in part by the Basel II reform of banks' capital adequacy requirements.

Financial econometrics for risk management (NCCR FinRisk Project D2)

GFRI member: Prof. Olivier Scaillet

Theoretical econometrics considers questions about the statistical properties of estimators and tests. The goal of this project is to develop econometric methods that allow for better assessment and monitoring of financial and insurance risks. One aim of this project is to improve the econometric modeling (dynamic or marginal) of the distribution of risk and the dependencies that can occur between different sources of risk, employing both parametric and non-parametric methods. The types of risk that the proposed methods encompass are rather general and include credit risk, market risk, or operational risk. A second aim of the project is to investigate the impact of small samples when conducting inference. The project covers a range of econometric testing procedures whose underlying assumptions deviate from the typical asymptotic theory and account for the fact that, in practice, data is often limited. All the econometric tools can be used in many areas in finance as they can be applied to various types of data such as interest rates, exchange rates, and stock returns. As such, they should allow for a better understanding of how to control financial losses for banks, insurance companies, or other large investors.

Approximation methods for optimal dynamic portfolio choice

GFRI member: Prof. Tony Berrada

In the early fifties, Harry Markowitz laid the ground of quantitative portfolio choice. Focusing on two essential dimensions of asset returns – risk and return –, he showed how to optimally diversify an investor's wealth among several financial assets. A couple of decades later, Robert Merton added a third dimension – time –, and showed that time-varying market conditions and the possibility to rebalance the portfolio had an important impact on the asset allocation mix. However, Merton's dynamic programming approach faces computational challenges when addressing large dimensional problems, due to multiplicity of risk sources. This certainly explains why Markowitz's mean-variance approach is widely used, whereas Merton's approach is not. The aim of this project is to make the dynamic approach implementable by developing a simple approximation method that both applies to large dimensional portfolios and also yields closed-form solutions for a large class of stochastic processes used in modeling financial asset returns. The proposed method relies on a decomposition of the optimal dynamic portfolio around two extreme cases: the infinitely risk averse cases and the pure mean-variance case.

Fractional cointegration analysis of securitized real estate

GFRI member: Prof. Martin Hoesli

The aim of this project is to use fractional cointegration analysis to examine whether long-run relationships exist between securitized real estate returns and three sets of variables frequently used in the literature as the factors driving securitized real estate returns. That is, they examine whether such relationships are characterized by long Memory (long-range dependence), short Memory (short-range dependence), mean reversion (no long-run effects) or no mean reversion (no long-run equilibrium). Forecasting implications are also considered. Empirical analyses are conducted using data for the US, the UK, and Australia. The main finding of this project is strong evidence of fractional cointegration between securitized real estate and the three sets of variables. Such relationships are mainly characterized by short memory, although long memory is sometimes present. The use of fractional cointegration for forecasting purposes proves particularly useful since the start of the financial crisis.

Reinsurance and securitization in life risk management

GFRI member: Prof. Henri Loubergé

The large increases in longevity observed over the past decades have brought new challenges to pensions and the insurance industry. This project looks at the industry's main challenge related to longevity risk, i.e. the risk that current longevity trends change significantly in the future. Increasing amounts of capital need to be accumulated to face this long-term risk and new regulation in Europe on capital requirements threaten to worsen the situation. For the insurance industry, as well as for private pension plans, this risk has a dual representation: first of all, insurers face the risk of a significant change occurring in the general trend of longevity (systematic risk); secondly, they also face the risk of random changes in average longevity occurring in their own portfolios of insured (specific risk). Reinsurance and capital market solutions (e.g. insurance-linked securities) have today received an accrued interest as a possible suitable and efficient way to deal with this dual risk. This research topic is addressed at two levels, starting from the classical framework of risk-sharing in the insurance industry. In the first part, the project investigates the optimal strategy of sharing longevity risk among three representative agents: an insurer, a reinsurer, and a financial investor.

In a second part, the project focuses on the impact of regulation on risk transfer by differentiating reinsurance and securitization in terms of their impact on reserve requirements. More precisely, this project shows that different regulations could introduce large biases in optimal risk-sharing arrangements.

b. Finance Research Seminars:

Thanks to the ongoing support of the Geneva Financial Center Foundation, the Institute has launched its Finance Seminar Series and organized 26 Finance Research Seminars at the University of Geneva from January 2011 to December 2011:

15 December, 2011: Prof. Pedro Matos, University of Virginia, "The Mutual Fund Industry Worldwide: Explicit and Closet Indexing, Fees, and Performance"

8 December, 2011: Prof. Burton Hollifield, Carnegie Mellon University, "The Role of Mortgage Brokers in the Subprime Crisis"

5 December, 2011: Prof. Vihang Errunza, McGill University, "The Impact of Investability on Asset Valuation"

25 November, 2011: Prof. David Feldman, University of New South Wales, "Linear Beta Pricing With Inefficient Benchmarks"

24 November, 2011: Prof. Ralph Koijen, University of Chicago Booth, "Equity Yields"

17 November 2011: Mr. Raul Gonzalez, Université de Genève, "Recovering Nonlinear Dynamics from Option Prices"

10 November, 2011: Mr. Daniel Andrei, EPFL, "Information Percolation Driving Volatility"

27 October, 2011: Dr. Mathieu Trépanier, Tsquared Consulting Partners SA, "Linguistic-Based Perceptual Shocks and Quantile Regression: A Study of Corporate Reputation and Financial Performance"

13 October, 2011: Prof. Chendi Zhang, Warwick Business School, "Information Sharing, Creditor Rights and Corporate Debt Maturity"

7 October, 2011: Prof. Antonio Mele, University of Lugano, "Uncertainty, Information Acquisition and Price Swings in Asset Markets"

29 September, 2011: Prof. John Griffin, University of Texas, "How Important are Foreign Ownership Linkages for International Stock Returns?"

22 September, 2011: Prof. Alexander Wagner, University of Zürich, "The Executive Turnover Risk Premium"

9 July, 2011: Prof. Antonio Cosma, University of Luxembourg, "Valuing Options using Fast Recursive Projections"

8 July, 2011: Prof. Ran Duchin, UMich, "The Politics of Government Investment"

26 May, 2011: Prof. Kate Phylaktis, Cass, "Liquidity in the foreign exchange market"

12 May, 2011: Prof. John Cotter, UCD, "A Comparative Anatomy of REITs and Residential Real Estate Indexes: Returns, Risks and Distributional Characteristics"

29 April, 2011: Prof. Kee-Hong Bae, York University, "Do Hedge Funds Have Information Advantages? Evidence from Hedge Fund Stock Holdings"

21 April, 2011: Dr. Philipp Krueger, GFRI, "Corporate Social Responsibility and the Board of Directors"

14 April, 2011: Prof. Fabio Castiglionesi, Tilburg, "Liquidity Coinsurance and Bank Capital"

7 April, 2011: Prof. Markus Leippold, UZH, "Collateral Smile"

31 March, 2011: Prof. Colin Lizieri, Cambridge, "Capital Market Reactions to Real Estate Mergers and Acquisitions: An International Perspective"

24 March, 2011: Dr. Alessandro Fontana, GFRI, "The CDS-bond Basis on Corporate Entities during the 2007/08 Financial Crisis"

17 March, 2011: Prof. Hubert de La Bruslerie, Paris 1 Sorbonne, "Crossing takeover premiums and mix of payment: Empirical test of contractual setting in M&A transactions"

3 February, 2011: Dr. Angie Andrikogiannopoulou, Princeton, "Estimating Risk Preferences from a Large Panel of Real-World Betting Choices"

2 February, 2011: Dr. Sahar Parsa, MIT, "Institutional Investors' Short-Termism, Trading Frequency and Firm-Level Stock Price Volatility"

1 February, 2011: Dr. Jonhathan Brogaard, Northwestern University, "Crossing takeover premiums and mix of payment: Empirical test of contractual setting in M&A transactions"

26 January, 2011: Dr. Louis Goncalvez-Pinto, USC, "How Does Illiquidity Affect Delegated Portfolio Choice?"

14 January, 2011: Dr. Kim Peijnenburg, Tilburg Univeristy, "Life-Cycle Asset Allocation with Ambiguity Aversion and Learning"

12 January, 2011: Dr. Alberto Rossi, USCD, "Towards a Theoretical Explanation of Time-Varying Trading"

c. Financial Databases:

Thanks to the financial support from the Swiss Finance Institute, from the Geneva Finance Center Foundation and from the Rectorate of the University of Geneva, the Institute has acquired annual licenses for the following databases enabling GFRI's research agenda in empirical finance.

- Wharton Interface
- CRSP
- Compustat
- KLD
- IBES
- Option Metrics
- TASS

II. GFRI Members research contributions - Finance Professors

a) Publications in academic journals:

Prof. Rajna Gibson Brandon

"Liquidity Risk, Return Predictability and Hedge Fund Performance: An Empirical Study", with S. Wang, forthcoming in *the Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis*.

Prof. Harald Hau

"Global versus Local Asset Pricing: A New Test of Market Integration", *Review of Financial Studies*, Vol. 24(12) (2011), 3891-3940.

Prof. Martin Hoesli

"Land Leverage and House Prices", with S. C. Bourassa, D. Scognamiglio, and S. Zhang, *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, vol. 41, pp 134-144, 2011.

"The Long-Run Dynamics between Direct and Securitized Real Estate", E. Oikarinen, and C. Serrano, *Journal of Real Estate Research*, vol. 33, pp 73-103, 2011.

"Fractional Cointegration Analysis of Securitized Real Estate", with C. Serrano, forthcoming in *the Journal of Real Estate Finance and Economics*.

"Robust Repeat Sales Indexes", with S. C. Bourassa and E. Cantoni, forthcoming in *the Real Estate Economics*.

"Volatility Spillovers, Comovements and Contagion in Securitized Real Estate Markets" with K. Reka, forthcoming in *the Journal of Real Estate Finance and Economics*.

"House Prices, Disposable Income and Permanent and Temporary Shocks: the N.Z., U.K. and U.S. Experience", with P. Fraser, and L. McAlevey, forthcoming in *the Journal of European Real Estate Research*.

Prof. Olivier Scaillet

"Tikhonov Regularisation for Nonparametric Instrumental Variable Estimators", with P. Gagliardini, forthcoming in *the Journal of Econometrics*.

"Nonparametric Instrumental Variable Estimators of Quantile Structural Effects", with P. Gagliardini, forthcoming in *the Econometrica*.

"Robust Subsampling", with L. Camponovo and F. Trojani, forthcoming in *the Journal of Econometrics*.

"Technical Trading Revisited: Persistence Tests, Transaction Costs, and False Discoveries", with P. Bajgrowicz, forthcoming in *the Journal of Financial Economics*.

b) Working papers:

Prof. Angie Andrikogiannopoulou

"An Individual-Level Analysis of Behavioral Biases in Sports Gambling", with F. Papakonstantinou, 2011.

"State-Dependent Risk Preferences: Evidence from Online Sports Gambling", with F. Papakonstantinou, 2011.

"Estimating Risk Preferences from a Large Panel of Real-World Betting Choices", 2011.

Prof. Tony Berrada

"On Some Approximations of Dynamic Optimal Portfolios Policies" with J. Hugonnier and K. Kousse, March 2011.

"Incomplete Information, Idiosyncratic Volatility and Stock Returns" with J. Hugonnier submitted to *the Journal of Banking and Finance*, December 12, 2011.

"Beta-Arbitrage Strategies: When Do They Work, and Why?" with R. Messikh, G. Oderda and O. Pictet (*Pictet Asset Management*): Swiss Finance Institute Working Paper Series No. 11-64, December 20, 2011.

Prof. Ines Chaieb

"Do Implicit Barriers Matter for Globalization", with F. Carrieri, and V. Errunza, Swiss Finance Institute Working Paper Series, vol. 6 (2), 2011. Revised and Resubmitted to *the Review of Financial Studies*.

"The Unconditional and Conditional Exchange Rate Exposure of U.S. Firms", with S.Mazzotta, Swiss Finance Institute Working Paper Series, 2011. Revised and Resubmitted to *the Journal of International Money and Finance*.

Prof. Rajna Gibson Brandon

"How Much for your Honesty? Implications of Honesty as a Sacred Value for Economic Decisions" with N. Berkowitsch, C. Tanner and A. Wagner, Swiss Finance Institute Working Paper, Faculty of Psychology, University of Zürich, revised April 2011, revised and resubmitted to the *Journal of Social Psychology*.

"Margining in Derivatives Markets and the Stability of the Banking Sector", with C. Murawski, Swiss Finance Institute Working Paper, University of Geneva, revised and resubmitted to the *Journal of Banking and Finance*, October 2011.

"The Power of Truth: Experimental Evidence on the Economic Implications of Truth as a Sacred Value", with C. Tanner and A. Wagner, Working Paper, revised November 2011, 3rd round revised and resubmitted to the *American Economic Review*.

"Long/Short Equity Hedge Funds and Systematic Ambiguity Risk", with N. Ryabkov, Swiss Finance Institute Working Paper, University of Geneva, revised, December 2011.

"The Determinants of Banks' Lobbying Activities" with M. Padovani, Swiss Finance Institute Working Paper, University of Geneva, revised draft, December 2011.

Prof. Harald Hau

"Real Effects of Stock Underpricing", Swiss Finance Institute Working Paper Series No. 11-55, with S. Lai, November 2011.

Prof. Martin Hoesli

"Robust Repeat Sales Indexes", with S. C. Bourassa, and E. Cantoni, Swiss Finance Institute Working Paper Series, 2011-46.

"Determinants of the Homeownership Rate: a Survey of Recent Contributions", with S. C. Bourassa, D. Haurin, P.H. Hendershott, Swiss Finance Institute Working Paper Series, 2011-49.

Prof. Henri Loubergé

"Reinsurance and Securitisation of Life Insurance Risk: The impact of Regulatory Constraints", with P. Barrieu, Swiss Finance Institute Working Paper Series, No 57/2011, October 2011.

c) Published books:

Prof. Martin Hoesli

"Investissement Immobilier – Prise de Décision et Gestion du Risque", *Economica* (Paris), 2nd Edition, 2011.

d) Other research activities (conference and seminar participation):

Prof. Angie Andrikogiannopoulou

"6th Annual Meeting of the Swiss Finance Institute", Zürich, November 30, 2011.

Prof. Tony Berrada

"Beta-Arbitrage Strategies when Do they Work and Why?", Mathematical Finance Days, Montréal, Canada, May 2011.

Prof. Ines Chaieb

"Global Asset Management", Montreal, Canada, June 2-3, 2011.

"FMA European Conference", Porto, Portugal, June 9-10, 2011.

"Multination Finance Society", Rome, Italy, June 26-29, 2011.

Prof. Rajna Gibson Bradon

Organised: "Financial Networks" conference, University of Geneva in June 2011.

"The Future of the Hedge Funds Industry", co-organized by the Geneva Finance Research Institute and Genève Fondation Place Financière, June 2011.

Participated in the organisation of the "2011 Financial Summit", Geneva, June 2011.

"Honesty in Financial Economic Decision-Making", UCLA, University of Geneva Research Colloquium, October, 2011.

"Experimental Evidence on the Protected Values of Truth as a Motivator for Truth-Telling", Finance Seminar, University of Bern, October 2011.

Prof. Harald Hau

"6th Annual Meeting of the Swiss Finance Institute", Zürich, November 30, 2011.

Prof. Martin Hoesli

"Robust Repeat Sales Indexes" and "Land Leverage and House Prices", Weimer School of Advanced Studies in Real Estate and Land Economics, North Palm Beach, USA, January 2011.

"Land Leverage and House Prices", Bergstrom Center for Real Estate Studies, University of Florida, Gainesville (FL), USA, January 2011.

"Land Leverage and House Prices", 46th American Real Estate and Urban Economics Association annual meetings, Denver, USA, January 2011.

"Are REITs Real Estate? Evidence from Sector Level Data", 27th American Real Estate Society Annual Conference, Seattle, USA, April 2011.

"Robust Repeat Sales Indexes", 27th American Real Estate Society Annual Conference, Seattle, USA, April 2011.

"Land Leverage and House Prices", Laboratory of Real Estate Finance, Ph.D. program in Banking and Finance, University of Rome Tor Vergata, Rome, Italy, May 2011.

"Are REITs Real Estate? Evidence from Sector Level Data", 18th European Real Estate Society Annual Conference, Eindhoven, The Netherlands, June 2011.

"Volatility Spillovers, Comovements and Contagion in Securitized Real Estate Markets", 18th European Real Estate Society Annual Conference, Eindhoven, The Netherlands, June 2011.

"The Effects of Illiquidity and Lock-ups on Portfolio Weights", 20th European Financial Management Association Annual Conference, Braga, Portugal, June 2011.

"Robust Repeat Sales Indexes", Department of Economics, University of Turku, Finland, October 2011.

"Are REITs Real Estate? Evidence from Sector Level Data", 3rd ReCapNet Conference, Mannheim, Germany, October 2011.

"Are REITs Real Estate? Evidence from Sector Level Data", Conference on international real estate securities, Tilburg University, The Netherlands, December 2011.

Prof. Henri Loubergé

"Reinsurance and Securization in insurance Risk Management" Conference, Longevity Seven, Frankfurt a Main, Germany, September 8-9, 2011.

"ICMB Seminar on Sovereign Debt", Geneva, May 6, 2011.

Lectures on "Risk and Insurance Economics", Ecole Polytechnique, Paris, France, May 31, 2011.

FinRisk joint Annual Doctoral Workshop, Gerzensee, Bern, Swiss Finance Institute, June 6-7, 2011.

"38th Seminar of the European Group of Risk and Insurance Economists" (EGRIE), Wirtschaftsuniversität Wien, Austria, September 18-21, 2011.

Prof. Olivier Scaillet

"Time-Varying Risk Premium in Large Cross-Sectional Equity Datasets", with P. Gagliardini and E. Ossola, Econometrics seminar, Université d'Orléans, France, January 2011.

"Multiple Testing Procedures and Factor Modeling", CASE Distinguished Lectures Series, Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany, January 2011.

"Time-Varying Risk Premium in Large Cross-Sectional Equity Datasets", with P. Gagliardini and E. Ossola, Econometrics seminar, Columbia University, New York, February 2011.

"Time-Varying Risk Premium in Large Cross-Sectional Equity Datasets", with P. Gagliardini and E. Ossola, Finance seminar, McGill University, Montreal, Canada, February 2011.

"Time-Varying Risk Premium in Large Cross-Sectional Equity Datasets", with P. Gagliardini and E. Ossola, CIRPEE Conference, Montreal, Canada, February 2011.

"Time-Varying Risk Premium in Large Cross-Sectional Equity Datasets", with P. Gagliardini and E. Ossola, Finance seminar, Maryland, USA, College Park, February 2011.

"Time-Varying Risk Premium in Large Cross-Sectional Equity Datasets", with P. Gagliardini and E. Ossola, Econometrics seminar, Georgetown, Washington DC, USA, February 2011.

"Time-Varying Risk Premium in Large Cross-Sectional Equity Datasets", with P. Gagliardini and E. Ossola, Finance seminar, GWU, Washington DC, USA, February 2011.

"Time-Varying Risk Premium in Large Cross-Sectional Equity Datasets", with P. Gagliardini and E. Ossola, QFE seminar, NYU, New York, USA, February 2011.

"Time-Varying Risk Premium in Large Cross-Sectional Equity Datasets", with P. Gagliardini and E. Ossola, Finance seminar, Athens University, Athens, Greece, May 2011.

"Time-Varying Risk Premium in Large Cross-Sectional Equity Datasets", with P. Gagliardini and E. Ossola, Panel data conference, Montreal, July 2011.

"Time-varying risk premium in large cross-sectional equity datasets", with P. Gagliardini and E. Ossola, invited session, JSM 2011, Miami, FL, USA, August 2011.

"Time-Varying Risk Premium in Large Cross-Sectional Equity Datasets", with P. Gagliardini and E. Ossola, ESEM 2011, Oslo, Norway, August 2011.

"Searching for Outperformance: Myth or Reality?", BCGE seminar, Geneva, October 2011.

"Time-Varying Risk Premium in Large Cross-Sectional Equity Datasets", with P. Gagliardini and E. Ossola, Finance seminar, ULB, Brussels, Belgium, October 2011.

"Searching for Outperformance: Myth or Reality?", ISAG seminar, Geneva, October 2011.

"Searching for Outperformance: Myth or Reality?", Wealth Peer Group seminar, Lausanne, October 2011.

"Time-Varying Risk Premium in Large Cross-Sectional Equity Datasets", with P. Gagliardini and E. Ossola, seminar, Brown University, Providence, USA, November 2011.

"Time-Varying Risk Premium in Large Cross-Sectional Equity Datasets", with P. Gagliardini and E. Ossola, seminar, Princeton University, Princeton, USA, November 2011.

"Time-Varying Risk Premium in Large Cross-Sectional Equity Datasets", with P. Gagliardini and E. Ossola, Triangle seminar Duke-UNC-NCSU, Raleigh, NC, USA, November 2011.

"Searching for Outperformance: Myth or Reality?", joint seminar CME University, The University of Chicago, Illinois, Chicago, USA, November 2011.

"Time-Varying Risk Premium in Large Cross-Sectional Equity Datasets", with P. Gagliardini and E. Ossola, seminar, Northwestern University, Chicago, USA, November 2011.

"Time-Varying Risk Premium in Large Cross-Sectional Equity Datasets", with P. Gagliardini and E. Ossola, joint seminar, Université de Montréal, Montreal, Canada, November 2011.

e) Doctoral thesis supervision:

Prof. Tony Berrada

"Numerical Methods in Dynamic Portfolio Allocation", Kagba Kousse, year 4.

"Large Scale Mean Variance Allocation Using Factor Models in Unbalanced Panels", Sébastien Coupy, year 2.

Prof. Rajna Gibson Brandon

Ronald Gindrat: doctoral dissertation pre-defense, University of Geneva, September 2011.

Marc Arnold: Swiss Finance Institute doctoral student from the University of Zürich, defended his doctoral thesis, University of Zürich, September 21, 2011

Gilles Criton: doctoral student in financial econometrics, defended his doctoral thesis, University of Geneva, November 23, 2011, (acted as President of the thesis committee).

Supervising the following five doctoral students: Ronald Gindrat: Swiss Finance Institute and University of Zürich, Vahe Sahakyan: Swiss Finance Institute and University of Zürich, Nikolay Ryabkov: Swiss Finance Institute and University of Zürich, Alper Odabasioglu: Swiss Finance Institute and University of Geneva, Ramona Westermann: Swiss Finance Institute and University of Geneva.

Prof. Henri Loubergé

Chair of committee for Ronald Gindrat: "Essays on Ambiguity and Asset Pricing", dissertation pre-defense, September 2011.

Prof. Olivier Scaillet

Gilles Criton: University of Geneva 2011, advisor.

Participation to PhD jury: David Nicolay: Ecole Polytechnique, 2011; Maroua Mhiri: Cergy Pontoise University, 2011; Bastien Drut: ULB and University Paris Ouest, 2011; Naceur Naguez., Cergy Pontoise University, 2011.

f) Media coverage:

Prof. Tony Berrada

"Asset Allocation", article in *Le Temps*, September 27, 2011.

Prof. Rajna Gibson Brandon

"Un appel à Revoir la Copie des Professeurs d'Economie", *Swiss Info*, March 7, 2011.

"En Finir Avec la Pensée Unique; *Banque et Finance*, July-August 2011.

"La Finance Bientôt à la Vitesse de la Lumière", *Le Temps*, December 30, 2011.

Prof. Harald Hau

- "Bank Recapitalization is the Best Euro Rescue Strategy", *VoxEU.org*, September 2, 2011.
- "Die Garantie aller Staatsschulden erweist sich als Illusion", *Handelsblatt*, September 5, 2011.
- "Die Alternative zum Rettungsschirm", *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, September 16, 2011.
- "Un Cadeau de 200 Milliards d'Euros pour les Riches", *Le Temps*, September 24, 2011.
- "Europäische Banken notfalls zwingen", *Luxemburger Wort*, October 1, 2011.
- "Recapitaliser les Banques, ça Coûte Moins Cher", *Les Echos*, October 3, 2011.
- "Europa muss sich selbst zu helfen Wissen", *20minuten.ch*, October 14, 2011.
- "Der riskante griff nach dem hebel", *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, October 24, 2011.
- "Who can save Europe?", TV debate at *News Channel France 24*, September 22, 2011.
- "Recapitalizing Europe", TV debate at *News Channel France 24*, October 12, 2011.
- "Euro-Rettungsschirm: Wer wird geschützt?", *Das Erste, Plusminus*, November 1, 2011.
- "Greece lightning strikes G20", TV debate at *News Channel France 24*, November 3, 2011.
- "Mogelpackung: Der Hebel des Euro-Rettungsfonds", *Das Erste, Monitor*, November 3, 2011.

Prof. Olivier Scaillet

- "L'Alternatif Surclasse la Gestion Classique" interview, *Le Temps*, May 9, 2011.
- "20% des Hedge Funds ont battu le Marché Pendant la Crise", interview, *Le Temps*, October 29, 2011.
- "Une Question de Compétence ou de Chance?" with G. Criton, *Next Finance*, Novembre 2011.

g) Award and honors related to research activities:

Prof. Angie Andrikogiannopoulou

Grant Award in Education Research, Amazon Web Services (AWS), November 2011.

Prof. Tony Berrada

Best paper award, honorable mention: "Beta-Arbitrage Strategies: when Do they Work, and Why?", Mathematical Finance Days 2011.

Prof. Rajna Gibson Brandon

Best paper on Capital Markets: "The Determinants of Bank Lobbying Activities", co-authored with M. Padovani, Northern Finance Association Conference, CFA, Toronto, 2011.

Prof. Martin Hoesli

Fellow of the Weimer School of Advanced Studies in Real Estate and Land Economics, January 2011.

Red Pen Award for best reviewer for *the Journal of Real Estate Research*, April 2011.

Fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

Academic Fellow of the Urban Land Institute.

h) Evaluation committees:

Prof. Rajna Gibson Brandon

Participated in the Swiss Finance Institute 2011 Research Prize Selection Committee.

Prof. Harald Hau

Member of the program committee of the Annual Darden International Finance Conference, since November 2011.

Member of the evaluation committee of the Excellence Initiative by the German Federal and State Governments, December 2011.

Prof. Henri Loubergé

Coordinator, International Scientific Council of the National Centre of Competence in Research "Financial Valuation and Risk Management" (NCCR-FinRisk).

Member of editorial boards: *Journal of Risk and Insurance*, *Geneva Risk and Insurance Review*.

i) Scientific councils and editorial boards:

Prof. Tony Berrada

Scientific committee: *Journées de Microéconomie Appliquée (JMA)*, Sousse, Tunisie, June 2-3, 2011.

Prof. Rajna Gibson Brandon

Refereeing for the *Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis*.

Refereeing for the *Journal of Banking and Finance*.

Prof. Martin Hoesli

Refereeing for *Journal of European Real Estate Research* (Co-editor), *Journal of Housing Economics*, *Journal of Housing Research* (Editorial Board), *Journal of Property Research* (Editorial Board), *Journal of Property Investment and Finance* (Editorial Board), *Journal of Real Estate Finance and Economics* (Editorial Board), *Journal of Real Estate Portfolio Management*, *Journal of Real Estate Research* (Editorial Board), *Real Estate Economics*, *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, and *Urban Studies*.

Member of the EPRA (European Public Real Estate Association), Research Committee.

Member of the Board of the European Real Estate Society.

Member of the Board of the International Real Estate Society.

Member of the Board of AZEK and SFAA.

President of the Examination Committee of SFAA.

Prof. Henri Loubergé

Refereeing for *the Journal of Risk and Insurance*.

Prof. Olivier Scaillet

Member of the International Scientific Council of the Solvay Brussels School of Economics and Management, Université Libre de Bruxelles.

Associate Editor: 2007, *Journal of Business and Economic Statistics*.

Associate Editor: 2011, *Econometric Theory*.

Associate Editor: 2011, *Journal of Banking and Finance*.

"4th Financial Risks International Forum", Paris, March 2011.

SoFiE 2011, Chicago, June 2011.

ESEM 2011, Oslo, August 2011.

j) Expertise area – additional contributions:

Prof. Rajna Gibson Brandon

President of the Scientific Council of the AZEK/TCIP, Switzerland.

Member of the American Finance Association and of the European Finance Association.

Member of the Consultative Committee of the Finance Summit, Geneva, Switzerland.

Member of the Board of Directors of the Natixis Foundation for Quantitative Finance, Paris, France.

Member of the Scientific Committee of the EFA Conference programme

Prof. Martin Hoesli

Teaching for AZEK.

Head of the Swiss Finance Institute Research Paper Series.

Prof. Olivier Scaillet

Swiss Finance Institute Senior Management Program in Banking 2011-2012; Swiss Finance Institute International Private Banking & Wealth Management Retreat 2011, Executive teaching.

Talks at: BCGE "L'essentiel de la Finance". Asset Management Seminar. Froum Investment Strategist Association of Geneva. Wealth Peer Group seminar.

Short visit: Université d'Orléans, Orléans, one week, January 2011.

Session organiser at doctoral workshop.

III. GFRI Members research contributions - Finance Post-doctoral Researchers

a) Working papers:

Dr. Alessandro Fontana

"An Analysis of Euro Area Sovereign CDS and their Relation with Government Bonds" with M. Scheicher, ECB, June 2011.

"An Analysis of Euro Area Sovereign CDS and their Relation with Government Bonds" with M. Scheicher, contribution to NCCR FinRisk paper series, ECB, June 2011.

"The Persistent Negative CDS Bond Basis During the 2007/08 Financial Crisis and Convergence Trading Activity", September 2011.

"Housing Price Cycles in the Euro Area", with St. Corradin, ECB, December 2011.

"Deleveraging, Selling Pressure and the CDS-bond Basis" GFRI with L. Pelizzon, University of Venice and St. Schaefer, LBS, work in progress.

"Sovereign Credit Risk and Corporate Credit Spreads" Job market paper, work in progress.

Dr. Philipp Krüger

"Misclassified Stocks" with A. Landier and D. Thesmar, January 2011.

"The WACC Fallacy the Real Effects of Using a Unique Discount Rate" with A.Landier and D.Thesmar, February 2011.

"Stakeholder Information and Shareholder Value", December 2011.

b) Other research activities (conferences and seminars participation):

Dr Alessandro Fontana

"Promised Yield, Implied Discount Factor and Return Predictability" FinRisk research day, Gerzensee, Bern, June 6-7, 2011.

"European Sovereign CDS and their Relation with Government Bonds" with M. Scheicher, ECB and discussed paper: "Liquidity Interactions in Credit Markets: an Empirical Analysis of the Eurozone Sovereign Debt Crisis" with G. Calice, J. Chen and J. Williams, European Financial Management Association, Brega, Portugal, June 21-24, 2011.

"Corporate Finance"; "Risk of Financial Institutions", "Asset Pricing", NBER summer institute, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA, July 12-15, 2011.

"The Determinants of the CDS-bond Basis during the Financial Crisis of 2007-2009" by J. Bai and P.-C. Dufresne, European Finance Association, Stockholm, Sweden, August 18, 2011

"The Persistent Negative CDS Bond Basis During the 2007/08 Financial Crisis and Convergence Trading Activity" and paper discussed by M. Brughelli, University of Lugano, September 1, 2011.

"Stability and Risk, Control in Banking, Insurance and Financial Markets", conference, Venice, Italy, September 29-30, 2011.

Dr. Philippe Krüger

"The WACC Fallacy: The Real Effects of Using a Unique Discount Rate" EPFL, Lausanne, March 2011.

NBER Behavioral Finance Meetings, Chicago, USA, April 2011.

"The WACC Fallacy: The Real Effects of Using a Unique Discount Rate" GFRI, Geneva, April 2011.

Dr. Miret Padovani

"The Determinants of Banks' Lobbying Activities", Brown Bag Lunch Seminar, with R. Gibson Brandon, University of Zürich, May 2011.

"The Determinants of Banks' Lobbying Activities", NCCR FINRISK Research Day, with R. Gibson Brandon, Gerzensee, Bern, June 2011.

"The Determinants of Banks' Lobbying Activities", Northern Finance Association, with R. Gibson Brandon Vancouver, Canada, September 2011.

c) Awards:

Dr. Philipp Krüger

Best Thesis in Corporate defended in 2010, Affi-Finege 2nd Price, May 2011.

Best Paper (EFMA Meetings), Larry Lang Corporate Finance, June 2011.

Best Paper in Corporate Finance, Semi Finalist, FMA Meetings, October 2011.

BSI Gamma Foundation Grant, September 2011.

d) Media Coverage:

Dr. Philipp Krüger

"Interview on Economic Conditions in Switzerland", *Basler Zeitung*, August 2011.

"Comment on Japanese Economy", *Tribune de Genève*, August 2011.

e) Other activities:

Dr. Alessandro Fontana

Referee report "The Impact of the US Sovereign Credit Default Swap Market on Other Sovereign Markets during the US Subprime Crisis Period." *the European Journal of Finance*, April 19, 2011.

Referee report "The Greek Debt Crisis, Structural Change and EMU Government Bond Yields: Empirical Evidence from Cointegration Analysis" *the Journal of Common Market Studies*, June 15, 2011.

Dr. Philipp Krüger

Creation of a new Master's Course in *Sustainable Investing*.

"Company Presentation", Deloitte, April 2011.

"Company Presentation", Pictet Asset Management, May 2011.

"Stock Selection and Alternative Investments", Mirabaud, May 2011.

"Volatility Trading", Dominice, October 2011.

"Company Presentation", Procter & Gamble, November 2011.

"Wealth Management in Challenging Times", Wegelin, December 2011.

IV. GFRI Members research contributions – Finance PhD Students

a) **Publications in academic journals:**

Kustrim Reka

"Volatility Spillovers, Comovements and Contagion in Securitized Real Estate Markets" with M. Hoesli, forthcoming in *the Journal of Real Estate Finance and Economics*.

Ramona Westermann

"Growth Options, Macroeconomic Conditions, and the Cross-Section of Credit Risk", with M. Arnold and A.F. Wagner, forthcoming in *the Journal of Financial Economics*.

b) **Working papers:**

Sébastien Coupy

"Portfolio Choice with 2 Path Estimation on Large Equity Data Set" with T. Berrada, Work in progress.

Ronald Gindrat

"Ambiguity, Risk-equivalent Recursive Preferences, Optimal Portfolio Choice and Pricing Implications", 2011.

"Ambiguity, Survival and Asset Prices", 2011.

Raul Gonzalez

"Recovering Nonlinear Dynamics from Option Prices" with A. Engulato and O. Scaillet, Work in progress.

"Conditions for the Diagonalization of Diffusion Models", Work in progress.

Kagba Kousse

"Approximations for Large Scale Dynamic Optimal Portfolios Policies and Applications", with T. Berrada, and J. Hugonnier, Work in progress.

"Efficient Intertemporal Allocations in the Presence of Long-Run Risk", Work in progress.

"Insurance as an Asset Class, a General Equilibrium Perspective", Work in progress.

Nicolay Markov

"Is the Taylor Rule Nonlinear? Empirical Evidence from a Semi-Parametric Modeling approach", co-authored with Carlos de Porres, under review in *the Journal of Money, Credit and Banking*, February 2011.

"A Panel Smooth Transition Regression Model for the Determinants of Inflation Expectations and Credibility in the ECB and the Recent Financial Crisis?", co-authored with A. Kadilli, September 2011.

Adrien Treccani

"Regularizing the Ill-Posedness Estimation of the Empirical Pricing Kernel" with O. Scaillet, Work in progress.

c) Other research activities (participation at conferences and seminars):

Ronald Gindrat

"Econometric Society European Meeting, Oslo, Norway, August 25-29, 2011.

"Smooth Ambiguity Aversion and the Continuous-time Limit", Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University, USA, November 2011.

"Smooth Ambiguity Aversion and the Continuous-time Limit" at GFRI, University of Geneva, December 2011.

Raul Gonzalez

"The Society for Financial Econometrics (SoFiE), Fourth Annual Meeting", Chicago, USA, June 15-17, 2011.

"Econometric Society 2011 European Annual Meeting". Oslo, Norway, August 25-29, 2011.

"9th International EUROFIDAI Paris Finance Meeting". Paris, France, December 20, 2011.

Kagba Kousse

"Approximations for Large Scale Dynamic Optimal Portfolios Policies and Applications", 10th Swiss Doctoral Workshop in Finance, Gerzensee, Bern, June 2011.

Alper Odabasioglu

6th Annual Meeting of the Swiss Finance Institute, Zürich, November 30 2011.

Kustrim Reka

"Volatility Spillovers, Comovements and Contagion in Securitized Real Estate Markets", the European Real Estate Society annual conference, Eindhoven, The Netherlands, June 15-18, 2011.

"Mechanisms Driving Contagion in Real Estate Markets: Information vs. Liquidity Correlations", University of Florida, USA. October 28, 2011.

Ramona Westermann

"Dynamic Consumption and Portfolio Allocations with Regime Shifts and Recursive Utility", 10th Swiss Doctoral Workshop in Finance, Gerzensee, Bern, June 2011.

d) Others:

Ronald Gindrat

Visiting PhD students at Kellogg School of Management, Fall 2011.

4. Education

a. PhD Program in Finance:

The PhD program in Finance at the University of Geneva is fully integrated within the PhD program of the Swiss Finance Institute (SFI), a private foundation created in 2006 by Switzerland's banking and finance community in cooperation with leading Swiss universities.

Seven PhD students were enrolled in 2011 at the University of Geneva in this doctoral program (Ronald Gindrat, Kagba Kousse, Alper Odabasioglou, Ramona Westermann, Matthias Efung, Sebastien Coupy and Adrien Treccani).

The program is structured in two phases:

1) A first year course divided in three semesters (September to June) with a total of ten courses, after which students are evaluated on the basis of their test scores and a summer paper (first paper) prepared under the supervision of a SFI Professor.

Three faculty members, Tony Berrada, Ines Chaieb and Harald Hau are teaching during the first year courses:

Tony Berrada - Information and Asset Pricing

Ines Chaeib and Harald Hau - Topics in International Finance

2) Years 2-4 are assigned to the writing of the thesis. In the middle of the 4th year, students usually participate in the job market in the United States.

During the first phase, students are fully funded by the SFI (grant of CHF 30,000). During the second phase, students are hired as assistants in one of the partner universities.

The SFI doctoral program has now acquired an excellent international reputation. Excellent placement of students in the academic market allows SFI to compete with institutions at the forefront of academic Finance. Note for example that over the last two years SFI students have been appointed to the rank of Assistant-Professors at the following universities: Carnegie Mellon, Rochester, McGill, London School of Economics, Boston University, HEC Paris, University of New South Wales, HEC Montreal, Bocconi, etc.

b. Master Program in Finance:

The Master in Finance offers, over a minimum period of two years, both a professional specialization, a theoretical and methodological training in Finance.

Jointly organized by the Universities of Geneva, the University of Lausanne and the University of Neuchâtel as part of the Azur Triangle, this curriculum covers a wide range of areas, such as wealth management, financial engineering and financial analysis. According to the chosen orientation, the program can be followed either in French or in English. The program main purpose aims at acquiring a perfect command of the applied methods in the practice of modern Finance. In order to offer a wide choice of courses, courses from other faculties, such as the Faculty of Law, are also available to master students. Moreover, some courses of the Master are offered in other programs such as the Master in Economics or the Master in Statistics.

Various activities of the Master Program in Finance:

- Monthly Companies-Students meetings "Students meet finance"
- Regular Corporate presentations by practitioners (Deloitte, Pictet Asset Management, Sustainable Finance Geneva, Mirabaud, Dominice, Procter & Gamble, Banque Wegelin)
- Reuters training programs
- Global Challenge Research Investment organized by the CFA Institute
- Biannual meeting of the Steering Committee
- Annual student meeting (1st and 2nd year)
- 28th International Concours of Economics and Finance Memories 2012
- The Confucius Institute provides courses on China culture to students in Master of Finance
- Exchange program : some students have spent a semester at the HEC in Montreal, Humboldt University and Luigi Bocconi University
- The GFRI and the UniMail Library offer to students access to the database Datastream / WRDS, a finance section was created within the library directory, in order to increase the visibility of the financial discipline among students and external visitors (from private and public sectors)
- Students have the opportunity to complete their internships in private companies

Moreover, the GFRI organized the 2011 Graduation Ceremony held the 25th October with 11 graduates, an introduction speech from Mr. Antonio Palma, Partner and CEO at Mirabaud & Cie Private Banking and President of the Higher Institute of Banking Training (ISFB). During the event two students were awarded with the following:

- a) Best dissertation paper, awarded by Cargill International SA, represented by Mr. Han Rueddi, CFO
- b) Best overall average grade of the Master of Finance, awarded by Deloitte SA, represented by Mr. Yves Keller, Senior Manager.

Connection with the City:

- Masters Day (24 February and 15 December 2011)
- BLC - Conference NOTHOMB
- Master Graduates have found jobs both in the Geneva financial market, and internationally, in banks, insurances and investment funds companies
- offers for internships and jobs provided by companies, are relayed to students

The Master program in Finance has close links with the Swiss Finance Institute, many teachers and research assistants are affiliated to the SFI.

5. Recruitment within the Institute

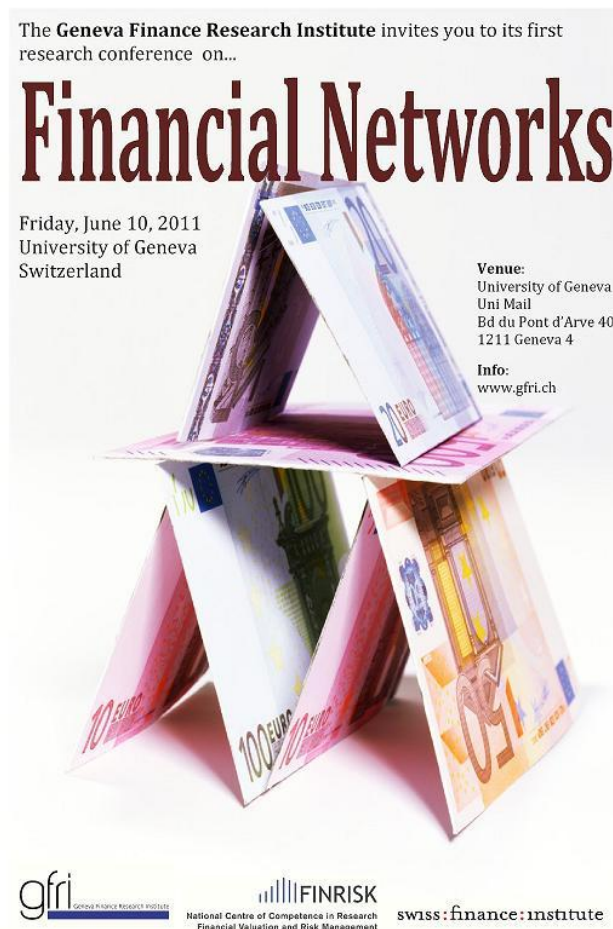
During the year of 2011 the Geneva Finance Research Institute has recruited:

- a) Mr. Harald Hau, previously Full Professor of Finance from INSEAD.
- b) Mrs. Angie Andrikogiannopoulou, Assistant Professor of Finance, previously doctoral student in Economics at Princeton University.

6. Knowledge transfer activities – Conferences

a) Financial Networks Conference- 10th June 2011

This conference was held the 10th of June 2011 with 30 researchers in the field of Game Theory and Financial Networks. The Governor of the Central Bank of Iceland, Mr. Gudmundsson March concluded the conference with a presentation on the Icelandic financial crisis and an interview published in "*Le Temps*".



The Geneva Finance Research Institute invites you to its first research conference on...

Financial Networks

Friday, June 10, 2011
University of Geneva
Switzerland

Venue:
University of Geneva
Uni Mail
Bd du Pont d'Arve 40
1211 Geneva 4

Info:
www.gfri.ch

gfri Geneva Finance Research Institute
FINRISK National Centre of Competence in Research
Financial Valuation and Risk Management
swiss:finance:institute

b) Conference "The Future of the Hedge Funds Industry" - 27 July 2011

Conference co-organized by Geneva Financial Center, Geneva Finance Research Institute (GFRI), Kinetic Partners (Switzerland) SA, Lombard Odier Darier Hentsch & Cie and Republic and State of Geneva. Mr. Pierre-François Unger, State Councilor in charge of the Department of Regional Affairs, Economy and Health, Republic and State of Geneva gave the Welcome Address followed by a presentation entitled "Hedge Funds : The past, the present and the future?" presented by Professor Narayan Naik from the London Business School, an academic expert of the economics of the hedge funds industry.

The presentation was followed by a Panel Discussion: "Future trends in the hedge funds industry"

The panel has reunited professionals with an extensive knowledge and experience as either providers or users of these alternative investments, namely:

- Pascal Botteron, Global Head, Hedge Funds, Mutual Funds and Multi-Manager Funds, Deutsche Bank, Geneva.
- Alexandre Meyer, Executive Vice – President General Counsel and Head of Operational Risks, Lombard Odier Asset Management, Geneva.
- Narayan Naik, Professor, London Business School, London.
- Michel Dominicé, Partner, Dominicé & Co Asset Management, Geneva.
- Steven Markowitz, Managing Director - Lake Geneva Investment Partners SA, Geneva.

Moderator: Rajna Gibson, Professor, Geneva Finance Research Institute, Geneva.

c) Finance Summit - 27 September 2011

The GFRI was the scientific partner for the Finance Summit held the 27 of September 2011 in Geneva around the topic of "Rentabilité, réglementation, technologie: Quelles réponses aux pressions sur le monde bancaire?".

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