Can Financial Engineering Cure Cancer? New Approaches to Funding Biomedical Innovation

SFI Evening Seminar on June 25, 2015, 18–19.00h at SIX Convention Point, Zurich

Prof. Andrew W. Lo
Massachusetts Institute of Technology MIT
Can Financial Engineering Cure Cancer? 
New Approaches to Funding Biomedical Innovation

Funding for biomedical innovation has been declining at the same time that breakthroughs in translational medicine seem to be occurring at ever increasing rates. One explanation for this counterintuitive state of affairs is that greater scientific knowledge in biomedicine can actually lead to greater economic risk for biopharma investors. While the impact of the Human Genome project, high-throughput screening, and genetic biomarkers has been tremendously positive for clinicians and their patients, it has also increased the cost and complexity of the drug development process, causing investors to shift their assets to more attractive investment opportunities. In this talk, Prof. Lo will review this novel interpretation of recent trends in the biopharma industry and describe how financial engineering—portfolio theory, securitization, credit default swaps, and other tools of modern finance—can be used to reduce the risk and increase the attractiveness of biomedical innovation so as to bridge the „Valley of Death“ in translational medicine.

Prof. Andrew W. Lo

Andrew W. Lo is the Charles E. and Susan T. Harris Professor, a Professor of Finance, and the Director of the Laboratory for Financial Engineering at the MIT Sloan School of Management.

See More: www.mitsloan.mit.edu/faculty/detail

Key information

Date: Thursday, June 25, 2015

Program: 18–19.00 h Seminar and Q+A

Location: SIX ConventionPoint Selnaustrasse 30 8021 Zurich

Registration: Attendance is free of charge. Please register here: sfi.ch/seminarlosix15

Contact: Swiss Finance Institute, Theresia Buesser, Walchestrasse 9, CH-8006 Zurich tb@sfi.ch, phone +41 44 254 30 91

CFA CE Credits: CFA Society Switzerland has determined that this seminar qualifies for 1 CE.

Swiss Finance Institute

Swiss Finance Institute is a private foundation created in 2006 by Switzerland’s banking and finance community in cooperation with leading Swiss universities. It supports and advances research, doctoral training and executive education in banking and finance. The Institute is supported by the Swiss banks, the Swiss Stock Exchange, Swiss universities and the Swiss Federal Government. SFI Knowledge Transfer offers a variety of publicly available short-learning events for academics and industry professionals which include breakfast, lunch and evening seminars and one-day conferences that showcase new ideas and novel solutions.

SIX

SIX operates the Swiss financial market infrastructure and provides a comprehensive range of services around the world in the fields of securities trading, post-trade, financial information and cashless payment transactions.