

Press Release

First Annual Meeting of the Swiss Finance Institute

Zurich, 14 November 2006 - The first Annual Meeting of the Swiss Finance Institute takes place today at the SWX Convention Point in Zurich. Swiss and foreign academics as well as financial professionals will give presentations under the headings of fundamental research, knowledge transfer and executive education. Federal Councilor Pascal Couchepin, Switzerland's Home Affairs Minister, is due to address the meeting later today on the theme of «Finance, Research and Culture».

The conference begins with two parallel sessions: a fundamental research session with academics from the Universities of Zurich and St. Gallen and the London Business School covering asset management and a knowledge transfer session with experts from the Swiss banks Credit Suisse, UBS and the Cantonal Bank of Zurich devoted to new developments in real estate markets. At a second session in the afternoon, three world-renowned academics will give key-note speeches and an executive education session will focus on recent trends in asset management, structured products and corporate banking.

The conference will conclude with a plenary session introduced by Olivier Steimer, Chairman of the Swiss Finance Institute's Foundation Board, and focusing on the theme of «Catching up with the Leaders in Financial research». Also participating will be: Ernst Hafen, former President of the ETH Zurich; Nobel Laureate Rolf Zinkernagel; and Michael Jensen, Professor of finance at Harvard Business School. The Swiss Finance Institute's guest of honor is Federal Councilor Pascal Couchepin, Switzerland's Minister of Home Affairs, who is due to address the meeting later today.

Note to journalists

The meeting starts at 09:00 at SWX Swiss Exchange, Convention Point, Selnaustrasse 30, 8021 Zurich. Full details of the meeting can be found in the attached «Press Report».

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