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LINDENWOOD UNIVERSITY ST. CHARLES, MISSOURI

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Lindenwood University Takes Top Spot in Regional Financial Competition

St. Charles, Mo. — A team of graduate and undergraduate students from Lindenwood University's School of Business and Entrepreneurship recently won first place in the intercollegiate Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Institute Research Challenge sponsored by the St. Louis CFA Society. The school bested five other teams from area universities during its first year as a participant in the invitational tournament.

Participating teams from Lindenwood University, St. Louis University, Washington University, Fontbonne University, Webster University, and the University of Missouri-St. Louis were asked to perform a corporate analysis of Sigma-Aldrich, a Fortune 500 company whose headquarters are located in St. Louis, Mo. Each team compiled a thorough examination of the company's financial profile and made investment recommendations under the guidance of appointed industry mentors and faculty advisors.

The challenge consisted of two parts: a written equity research report and an oral presentation to a panel of local expert CFA professionals. Lindenwood's team submitted its written report in December 2012 and made its presentation along with all competitors on Feb. 15, 2013, at Edward Jones in Downtown St. Louis.

Judges compiled the scores and, without knowing which schools were represented by which teams, selected Lindenwood as the winner. The team will now advance to the next level of competition against groups from all over North and South America during a tournament in Toronto, Canada, March 20-21. The winners of that division series will advance to the global finals in April in London, England.

"We're glad to have taken part in this prestigious competition, because it's given our students practical experience as equity analysts and expanded their networks to include leading industry professionals," said James Boyd, PhD, professor and chair of the Lindenwood SB&E Finance Department. "We're also incredibly proud of our team members for competing against such strong academic peers and coming out on top. It speaks to the character of our students and to the quality of our programs."

Lindenwood University, founded in 1827, is an independent liberal arts university offering more than 130 graduate and undergraduate programs in diverse areas of study in traditional and accelerated formats.

Lindenwood operates residential campuses in historic St. Charles, Mo., and Belleville, Ill., as well as numerous extension sites throughout the St. Louis Metropolitan Area.

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Photo: *(Back Row) James Boyd, PhD, chair of the School of Business and Entrepreneurship Finance Department; Franz Kohler, graduate student; Jason Wheaton, graduate student; Ross McGregor, undergraduate student; Chris Abbott, graduate student; Kelly Sullivan, president of Duncker Streett & Co., LLC and professional mentor. (Front Row) Elisabeth Morlang, undergraduate student; James D. Evans, PhD, president of Lindenwood University; Roger Ellis, JD, dean of the School of Business and Entrepreneurship.*