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ICAEW joins Cass M&A Research Centre

World leading accountancy body to help identify new M&A research topics

One of the world's leading professional accountancy bodies has announced a partnership with the M&A Research Centre at Cass Business School.

The Corporate Finance Faculty at ICAEW (Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales) is the latest partner to link up with the centre, which carries out research into the global M&A industry.

Under the partnership, ICAEW will help identify and fund new research projects together with the centre's senior sponsors at AXA Private Equity, Credit Suisse and Ernst & Young.

David Petrie, Head of Corporate Finance at ICAEW, said: "The Centre is at the cutting edge of academic research in M&A and this tie-up will be of real value to both parties. This strategic partnership is another step in increasing our engagement with corporate finance professionals throughout their careers in business and practice."

Director of the M&A Research Centre, Professor Scott Moeller, said: "We are delighted to have the ICAEW team bringing valuable new insights and experience to the centre. With more than 6,000 members, the corporate finance faculty at ICAEW is the largest network of professionals involved in corporate finance in Europe. We look forward to working with ICAEW, to identify new research topics that provide commercially valuable insights for professionals across the M&A industry."

Professor Moeller added: "This is an exciting time for the M&A Research Centre as we continue to expand our mix of partners. By combining academic expertise with industry knowledge in banking, private equity, accounting and consulting, we aim to be at the forefront of thinking on M&A."

Launched in 2008, the M&A Research Centre is the first of its kind at a major business school to carry out research into the global M&A industry.

Among its research is the annual M&A Maturity Index, which ranks the maturity of M&A markets in 148 countries. The centre has also conducted influential research for the UK Government on the economic impact of M&A on the UK economy.

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ABOUT CASS BUSINESS SCHOOL

Cass Business School, which is part of City University London, delivers innovative, relevant and forward-looking education, training, consultancy and research. Located in the heart of one of the world's leading financial centres, Cass is the business school for the City of London.

Our MBA, specialist Masters and undergraduate degrees have a global reputation for excellence, and the School supports nearly 100 PhD students.

Cass offers the widest portfolio of specialist Masters programmes in Europe. It also has the largest faculties of Finance and Actuarial Science and Insurance in the region. It is ranked in the top 10 UK business schools for business, management and finance research and 90% of the research output is internationally significant.

Cass is a place where students, academics, industry experts, business leaders and policy makers can enrich each other's thinking. For further information visit: www.cass.city.ac.uk.

ABOUT M&A RESEARCH CENTRE (MARC)

MARC is the Mergers and Acquisitions Research Centre at Cass Business School, City University London – the first research centre at a major business school to pursue focused leading-edge research into the global mergers and acquisitions industry.

MARC blends the expertise of key M&A market participants with the academic excellence of Cass to provide fresh insights into the world of deal-making.

Corporations, regulators, professional services firms, exchanges and universities use MARC for swift access to research and practical ideas. From deal origination to closing, from financing to integration, from the hottest emerging markets to the boardrooms of the biggest corporations, MARC researches the wide spectrum of mergers, acquisitions and corporate restructurings.

The Centre is proud to have its senior sponsors, Credit Suisse and Ernst & Young, and sponsors, Mergermarket and the ICAEW, as research partners -- and now welcomes AXA Private Equity.

ABOUT ICAEW

As a world leading professional accountancy body, ICAEW provides leadership and practical support to over 138,000 members in more than 160 countries, working with Government, regulators and industry in order to ensure the highest standards are maintained.

Our members provide financial knowledge and guidance based on the highest technical and ethical standards. They are trained to challenge people and organisations to think and act differently, to provide clarity and rigour, and so help create and sustain prosperity. The ICAEW ensures these skills are constantly developed, recognised and valued.

Because of us, people can do business with confidence. www.icaew.com