

***Overview/History of the IRC:*** In 2006, the CFA Society of Dallas/Fort Worth and the CFA Society of Houston teamed up to launch an exciting new initiative, the Investment Research Challenge-Texas. In the initial year of the Challenge, student teams from Rice, Texas A&M, TCU and SMU competed with each other on analyzing, writing, and presenting a report recommending a “Buy”, “Sell”, or “Hold” position on a publicly traded company. The societies assisted in providing education tools; the goal being to provide a value-added real-world application for these students. The teams were assigned a public company (i.e. the target company) to analyze with access to the CEO and CFO. Teams were given a template to follow in completing their written analysis/report. All four Texas societies, Austin, Dallas-Fort Worth, Houston, and San Antonio provided mentors for the teams, judges or graders. Finalist teams competed before an oral panel made up of leaders in our investment community at the Texas Investment Portfolio Symposium (TIPS). The winning team went on to compete regionally against other winners hosted by CFA Institute in New York City.

The CFA Institute Research Challenge – both the North Texas Challenge and the South Texas Challenge are managed and supported by the CFA Societies Texas (Austin, Dallas-Ft. Worth, Houston, and San Antonio).

From its beginnings sixteen years ago, the Challenge now involves more than 6,000+ students from over 1,200 of the world’s top universities. Over 160 societies participate utilizing thousands of dedicated volunteers. **IN BOTH OUR SOUTH TEXAS AND OUR NORTH TEXAS RESEARCH CHALLENGES WE RELY ON OVER 100 DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS!**

*A very, very special thank you to all the members of the CFA Societies of Texas for their assistance in BOTH our Research Challenges including the many university liaisons, faculty advisors, instructors, team mentors, graders and judges. Each of your contributions has made it possible for these two Challenges to become the success they are today! Volunteers interested in signing up for either of the Challenges, please contact John Keeton ([John.Keeton@captrust.com](mailto:John.Keeton@captrust.com)) or Sharon Criswell ([sharon.criswell@yahoo.com](mailto:sharon.criswell@yahoo.com)).*