

Paris, January 25, 2011

The Natixis Foundation for Quantitative Research awards its Louis Bachelier prize to Nizar Touzi

The Louis Bachelier prize of the Natixis foundation for quantitative research was awarded this year to Nizar Touzi. This biennial prize is sponsored and awarded by the French Academy of Sciences jointly with Société de Mathématiques Appliquées et Industrielles (SMAI). Today was the official celebration under the dome of the "Institut de France".

The Louis Bachelier prize of the Natixis foundation rewards a researcher, less than 45 years old, for its contribution to mathematical modeling in finance.

Nizar Touzi is professor at Ecole Polytechnique where he is vice-president of the applied mathematics department, co-head of the chair "Derivatives of the Futur" and vice-president of the chair "Finance and Sustainable Development". His research focuses on the management of financial risks under market imperfections and model uncertainty, together with the related numerical approximations methods.

"Assessing financial risks is a major challenge for both banks and regulators that involves several areas of mathematical sciences. I am honored to receive this prize and grateful to the Académie des Sciences, the Natixis foundation and SMAI for recognizing this evolving branch of research with this prize". (Nizar Touzi)

"Nizar's international recognition is well established. He holds major editorial responsibilities with the best scientific journals in quantitative finance. Nizar is presently President of the prestigious Bachelier Finance Society. Nizar's recognition extends to the banking industry where he has been advising practitioners on various derivatives related problems. (Michel Crouhy – Head of Research and Development)

Financial innovation

Quantitative research is the incubator and driver of financial innovation. Its primary focus is on the structuration, valuation of financial products, and the modeling of the associated risks.

Natixis' quantitative research team coordinates and rationalizes quantitative research for all asset classes (equities, fixed income, interest rates, credit and commodities). It sets strategic objectives in the valuation of financial products and the modeling of risks.

Teams of financial engineers in Paris, London and New York support Natixis' quantitative research needs. They develop mathematical and statistical models used for the valuation of financial products. Their contribution enables the Bank to innovate and remain competitive in constantly evolving markets.

A foundation for quantitative research

The Natixis Foundation for Quantitative Research acts as a driving force to encourage and take part in the latest developments undertaken by the best university research teams in the world. The Foundation provides assistance to young talents in their research work through research grants and access to the research teams of Natixis. . Every year, it rewards the best Master thesis in quantitative finance and every two years it awards the Louis Bachelier prize to a young researcher for his/her contribution in financial modeling. It is a partner of the Europlace Institute of Finance.

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