

Visit to Merrill Lynch (July 24, 2009)

Invited by our Adjunct Professor Timothy Yip, the Department of Applied Mathematics had the honor to bring 9 students, including four 63023 and five 63022 students, to Merrill Lynch Hong Kong office at Central for a site visit on 24 July 2009 afternoon 2:30 p.m. The visit was divided into two parts, an hour presentation session and a tour to the trading floor.

During the 1-hour presentation session, Ms. Pauline Ng, Director & Asia Pacific COO of Sales and Structuring Global Markets introduced the background of Merrill Lynch. She also provided our students information about the various career options available in Merrill Lynch. As an insider of the investment industry, she made several valuable job hunting and career development suggestions to our students.

The visit followed with a guided tour to the trading floor which is seldom open to visitors.



Professor Timothy Yip led our students to the trading floor and demonstrated how a transaction of rate derivatives was made with the sophisticated Bloomberg system. Professor Yip's intern, Victor, then enthusiastically further explained in details about rate derivatives, the pricing and development of the quanto and models.

The visit was originally scheduled for one hour. However, due to the warm welcome and enthusiasm of Prof. Yip and his intern, the visit lasted for 2.5 hours. Our students left happily with invaluable information and inspiration, as well as corporate souvenirs from Merrill Lynch. Apart from this, it was also a great opportunity for our students to feel the tense atmosphere of a real-life trading environment of an international re-owned investment bank.