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PRESS RELEASE

Threadneedle challenges students to assess the value of active portfolio management for the Threadneedle Investment Award 2015

Student from Singapore Management University and Cass Business School in London to each win S\$24,500 scholarship in essay competition

SINGAPORE, 11 November 2014: Leading active investment manager, Threadneedle Investments, today announces the Threadneedle Investment Award 2015 in partnership with Singapore Management University (SMU) and Cass Business School (Cass), part of City University London. The Award issues a challenge to students to assess the value of active portfolio management to investors, with a scholarship prize worth £12,000 going to one outstanding student from each university.

The Threadneedle Investment Award 2015 is a competition for investment and finance students studying at SMU and Cass. Students are invited to write an essay addressing the question: *What quantifiable benefits has active portfolio management delivered to investors?*

A shortlist of three students from each university will be chosen and invited to present their ideas to a panel of judges from Threadneedle, SMU and Cass. A winner from each university will receive £12,000 towards their tuition fees, paid for by Threadneedle. The winning student from SMU will also receive an internship at Threadneedle in Singapore. The scholarship competition is open to full-time students currently enrolled in the SMU MSc in Applied Finance MSc in Wealth Management and MSc in Quantitative Finance (a joint Master's degree programme with Cass) and the Cass MSc Investment Management and MSc Finance.

Campbell Fleming, Threadneedle's Chief Executive Officer, commented: "This award supports tomorrow's investors, encouraging bright minds with an interest in investing at the very start of their careers. The value of active management is a topic of ongoing debate. As an active manager we fundamentally believe that markets are inefficient and that an active approach can benefit investors both in terms of risk and return. However it is inherent upon investment managers to demonstrate the value they ultimately deliver to investors – we are therefore interested to see how the students will approach this challenge and look forward to



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their fresh perspectives and original thinking. By partnering with SMU and Cass we are bringing together organisations that are leaders in investment thinking.”

Professor Howard Thomas, Dean of the SMU Lee Kong Chian School of Business, said: “We are honoured to partner with Threadneedle and Cass Business School again in this Award. We are very grateful to Threadneedle for the generosity – this platform not only allows SMU students to showcase their ideas and perspectives, the most talented student demonstrating investment management flair also goes on to learn from an established and reputable asset management firm. Our students are gearing up for the Award and are enthusiastic to participate. I am confident that we will receive high quality submissions from both institutions this year.”

Professor Steven Haberman, Dean of Cass Business School, said: “We are very proud of our long-standing partnership with Threadneedle and are delighted to work with them again on the Threadneedle Investment Award along with Singapore Management University. This award provides financial assistance to a highly deserving Cass student, who demonstrates academic excellence and a commitment to their student community, and inspires them to apply their knowledge and skills in investment management.”

This is the third year the Threadneedle Investment Award has been offered. Threadneedle invests in the community through the Threadneedle Foundation, building partnerships that create positive social impact across a range of sectors, with a particular focus using education, art and sport to engender lasting social change. The Award supports further education and the pursuit of excellence, challenging ideas and fresh thinking in the investment industry.

Notes to Editors

The Threadneedle Investment Award 2015

The Award will provide one student from SMU and one student from Cass with a scholarship prize of S\$24,500 (or £12,000) towards their tuition fees. The winning SMU student will, in addition, receive an internship with Threadneedle in Singapore. To apply for this Award, students must answer the specified essay question below (minimum 1,500 words and maximum 1,700 words). The entries will be short-listed and a winner from each university will be chosen by a judging panel made up of executives and academics from Threadneedle, SMU and Cass. Closing date for submissions is Friday 27 February 2015. Threadneedle will announce the winners in late March 2015.

The essay question is: *What quantifiable benefits has active portfolio management delivered to investors?*



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About Threadneedle Investments

Threadneedle is a leading international investment manager with a strong track record of outperformance across asset classes. We actively manage \$150.1 billion (as at 30 Sept 2014) of assets, investing on behalf of individuals, pension funds, insurers and corporations. We are the 4th largest UK retail fund manager¹ and the 11th largest UK fund manager¹ by AUM. In Europe we rank in the top 50². Established in 1994 in London, Threadneedle has a presence in 17 countries.

Threadneedle's distinctive investment approach is based on creative thinking, sharing of ideas and rigorous debate. Our c.160 investment professionals invest across developed and emerging market equities, fixed income, commodities and UK property. As at 30 September 2014, 57% of Threadneedle funds outperformed over 1 year, 68% over 3 years and 83% over 5 years³. In 2014, Threadneedle has won over 70 prestigious fund management industry awards globally⁴.

Threadneedle is owned by Ameriprise Financial (NYSE: AMP), a leading US diversified financial services company with US\$797 billion in assets under management and administration (as at 30 Sept 2014). As its international investment platform, Threadneedle provides Ameriprise and its retail and institutional clients with world class investment solutions.

About Singapore Management University

A premier university in Asia, the Singapore Management University (SMU) is internationally recognised for its world-class research and distinguished teaching. Established in 2000, SMU's mission is to generate leading-edge research with global impact and produce broad-based, creative and entrepreneurial leaders for the knowledge-based economy. SMU education is known for its highly interactive, collaborative and project-based approach to learning, and for its technologically enabled pedagogy of seminar-style teaching in small class sizes.

Home to over 8,300 undergraduate and postgraduate students, SMU is comprised of six schools: School of Accountancy, Lee Kong Chian School of Business, School of Economics, School of Information Systems, School of Law, and School of Social Sciences. SMU offers a wide range of bachelors', masters' and PhD degree programmes in the disciplinary areas associated with the six schools, as well as in interdisciplinary combinations of these areas.

SMU has an emphasis on generating rigorous, high-impact, and relevant multi-disciplinary research that addresses Asian issues of global relevance. SMU faculty members collaborate with leading international researchers and universities from USA, Europe, China and India, as well as with partners in the business community and public sector, through its research institutes, centres and labs. SMU's city campus is a state-of-the art facility located



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in the heart of downtown Singapore, fostering strategic linkages with business, government and the wider community. www.smu.edu.sg

About Cass Business School

Cass Business School, 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. The school is part of an elite group of only 66 Business Schools in the world to have gained the triple accreditation from AMBA, EQUIS and AACSB.

Cass's MSc programme, 18 specialist masters courses, is considered to be the leading programme in Europe based on entry standards, level of fees and numbers of applications received. It has the largest faculties of Finance and Actuarial Science and Insurance in Europe. It is ranked in the top 10 UK business schools for business, management and finance research and 90% of the research output is recognised as internationally significant.. The school is host to research centres such as the world class M&A Centre (MARC) sponsored by Ardian, Credit Suisse, EY, Mergermarket and Towers Watson; the Peter Cullum Centre for Entrepreneurship and the award winning Pensions Institute. 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.

¹ UK IMA ranking, Aug 2014, see www.investmentfunds.org.uk

² Europe ranking, Morningstar Rankings ex MM, ex FoF and ex Master/Feeder, Aug 2014

³ All funds managed by Threadneedle, including segregated accounts/portfolios. The data does not include funds sub-advised by third parties or guest funds on a Threadneedle platform. All figures are as at 30 Sept 2014, in GBP unless stated otherwise. Total value of funds outperforming their relevant benchmark expressed as a percentage of total assets under management. This information aims to demonstrate the overall performance capabilities of Threadneedle's asset management team. It is not intended to indicate the performance of individual funds or products. Please refer to product specific documentation in relation to individual funds. The value of investments and any income is not guaranteed and can go down as well as up.

⁴ For details see: <http://www.threadneedle.com/en/About-us/Awards/>

Past performance is not a guide to future performance.

The value of investments and any income is not guaranteed and can go down as well as up and may be affected by exchange rate fluctuations. This means that an investor may not get back the amount invested.

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