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MEDIA RELEASE

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Lombard Odier continues its association with CERN by supporting two new PhD students with their research

In 2019, the Lombard Odier Group committed to providing financial support, under the ATLAS PhD Grant Scheme, to six PhD students for three years, enabling them to pursue their research in a laboratory that is the only one of its kind in the world

Within the framework of its partnership with the CERN & Society Foundation, Lombard Odier is this year financially supporting two more talented PhD students in the field of particle physics research. The young researchers selected to receive an ATLAS grant will continue their studies in Geneva as part of an international collaboration programme involving 181 institutions and agencies from 38 countries. The PhD students will take part in the ATLAS experiment, one of two general-purpose detectors at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC), which is used for investigating a wide range of areas of physics, from the search for the Higgs boson to extra dimensions and the particles that could make up dark matter. They will receive top-class supervision and training while working alongside leading specialists.

In partnering with this programme organised by CERN and the CERN & Society Foundation, Lombard Odier is reiterating its commitment to the new generation, who are being called upon to continuously push the limits of technology and rethink the world around us. Lombard Odier is supporting two of the three students receiving the grant in 2020. Prajita Bhattarai, from Brandeis University in the US, is studying the phenomenon by which the Higgs boson breaks down into another four particles. The Nepalese student is also assisting with the modernisation of a part of the ATLAS detector. Albert Kong, from Adelaide University in Australia, is involved in the study of the production of the "top quark", the heaviest elementary particle: it is this particle that makes it possible to record rare phenomena within the LHC.

"*A great number of engineering challenges encountered during the LHC adventure have led to the development of new technologies, which have subsequently been used in other applications in various industries. Our Firm strongly believes that it is essential to invest in the training of the new generation of researchers for both the advancement of science and to help resolve society's current and future challenges*", explains Alexandre Zeller, Managing Partner responsible for innovation and new technologies at the Lombard Odier Group.

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About Lombard Odier

Lombard Odier is a leading global wealth and asset manager. For over 220 years and through 40 financial crises the Group has combined innovation and prudence to align itself with the long-term interests of private and institutional clients. The Group is solely owned by its Managing Partners, has a highly liquid balance sheet and is well capitalized with a CET1 ratio of 29.8% and a Fitch rating of AA-.

Lombard Odier provides a complete offering of wealth services, including succession planning, discretionary and advisory portfolio management, and custody. Asset management services are offered through Lombard Odier Investment Managers (LOIM). The Group has also created cutting-edge banking technology, which is distributed to other financial institutions.

The Group had total client assets of CHF 299 billion at 31 December 2019. Headquartered in Geneva since 1796, at end-December the Group had 28 offices in 24 jurisdictions and employed 2,500 people.

For more information: www.lombardodier.com

About the CERN & Society Foundation

The CERN & Society Foundation is a charitable foundation established by CERN to fund the CERN & Society programme of projects. These projects, in the areas of education and outreach, innovation and knowledge exchange, and culture and creativity, are inspired or enabled by CERN, but lie outside of its specific research mandate. The Foundation seeks the support of individuals, trusts, international organizations and commercial entities to spread the CERN spirit of scientific curiosity for the inspiration and benefit of society. The ATLAS PhD Grant Scheme funds two years of PhD research for young, talented and motivated researchers, giving particular consideration to applications from underprivileged students. Students spend one year at CERN and another at their host institute. The PhD scheme was created by Fabiola Gianotti and Peter Jenni. Former ATLAS spokespersons, they donated their share of the "Fundamental Physics Special Breakthrough Prize", which was awarded for their leadership role in the discovery of the Higgs boson in the Large Hadron Collider at CERN. Subsequent donations have made it possible to continue this grant scheme.

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