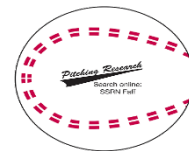




CALL: 2020 All-Japan Finance PBFJ SHARK TANK PITCH Event



General Background

Building on the highly successful Accounting & Finance research workshops hosted by Nagoya City University (NCU) in 2017 and 2019, Professor Robert Faff (University of Queensland), Editor-in-Chief of Pacific-Basin Finance Journal (PBFJ), will co-ordinate and lead a new SHARK TANK event in 2020 in Nagoya, again hosted by NCU. The key focus of this new event is to actively facilitate: (a) research discovery relating to interesting finance questions applied to Japanese financial markets; and (b) “responsible science” practices by novice finance researchers in Japan. Upon careful assessment of written submissions, selected teams will be invited to orally pitch their research idea to the “sharks” at the 2020 event to be held in Nagoya (as per the information and timelines provided below). There is no registration fee for this event and one member from each participating team will be funded a return ticket (Bullet Train or flight) within Japan.

Shark Tank Stages

The shark tank event has 2 (initial) stages: **Stage I – written 2-page pitch** based on [Faff’s \(2019, SSRN\)](#) “pitching research” framework; **Stage II – oral pitch presentation** (based on the written pitch) to an Editors Panel of PBFJ Sharks, led by Professor Faff. After each oral pitch, the shark editors will give a “thumbs up” or “thumbs down”. Ultimately, subject to unanimous support from the shark panel,¹ pitches presented at the All-Japan 2020 SHARK TANK PITCH event, will be invited to execute the research project, aiming to publish the resultant completed paper in a future issue of PBFJ.²

Important Dates

- **Stage ONE (Written Pitch):** **Submission Deadline:** 31 May, 2020.
Decision Notification: 30 June, 2020.
- **Stage TWO (Shark Tank Oral Pitch):** **All-Japan Finance PBFJ SHARK TANK Program (Nagoya):** 3 September, 2020.

Some Guidelines on the Pitching Task

- Entries must be written in the **English** language.
- Each team must be led by a **senior/experienced researcher, taking responsibility to mentor novice researcher(s)**.
- Novice research is deemed to be within 5 years since PhD graduation.
- Proposals involving a Japanese setting/context are required, though no boundaries are placed on topics, as long as they have a sufficient finance flavour (leading to a good “fit” for PBFJ).
- Teams can choose between two pitch types: (a) novel new study project; or (b) replication study.
- Whichever type is chosen, the essential requirement is that the project has not yet been executed and that the data have not yet been analysed (in any serious manner).
- Those choosing the replication study type, are directed to the link below for further information about the PBFJ replication study requirements (see the information sheet downloadable from this page):
<https://bit.ly/2UY2yjf>
- Subject to submission numbers and written pitch quality, a final set of **SIX** Shark Tank pitches – the “finalists” – will be scheduled at the Nagoya event (30 minute duration each).
- **Written pitch:** maximum 1,000 words; technical content as needed; & address viability & research timeline.
- **Oral pitch:** one team member to deliver the oral pitch (10 minute PPT presentation) in an open forum to the Shark Tank panel, emphasising the most salient elements of the research proposal. Sharks and teams will openly engage in a process of Q&A (in the remaining time for each 30 minute slot).
- Sharks will make decisions based on the soundness of research plan, and merit and interest underlying the idea. Moreover, those teams accepting the PBFJ invitation to proceed with the pitched project, understand that the most important condition of ultimate publication in PBFJ is to produce high quality, credible and reliable results – irrespective of whether the findings turn out to be statistically significant or not.
- All submissions must be made via the dedicated section on the web portal:³ <https://PitchMyResearch.com>

Further Enquiries

For any clarifications/queries regarding this event, please email: r.faff@business.uq.edu.au

¹ Due to time constraints, this process will likely be completed “offline”.

² Following a “pre-registration” design and a review process defined and fully controlled by the Editor of PBFJ.

³ The first step is to register as a user, then click on the button “pitching competitions” and follow the instructions. The [web portal](#) will open for **2020 All-Japan Finance PBFJ SHARK TANK PITCH** submissions in January 2020.