

SIFE Australia held their Topic Competition in conjunction with the SIFE Australia National Competition in Sydney July 8 - 10. The Topic Competition was held on July 9 with 12 teams presenting a verbal and visual 7-minute summary of their project. A panel of eight corporate sector judges, four of whom were from HSBC, then judged these teams. The HSBC judges participating were from the Sydney office and included Nadia Jee, Relationship Mgr., Anne-Marie Godfrey, Relationship Mgr. Team Leader, Andrew Carruthers, Head of Savings and Investments, Rob Demirel, Head of Interest Rate Solutions, Global Market and the keynote speaker Tony Cripps, Head of Global Markets. Noel McNamara, Head of Commercial Banking, presented the topic competition award. The national champion for the second year running was the University of Western Sydney.

2009 National Champion - University of Western Sydney
Money Talks

The UWS SIFE team researched financial literacy programs available in Australia and used this knowledge to create a DVD targeting 14 – 15 year olds. The goal is to empower these teens with the knowledge and skills to make wise personal financial decisions, primarily the need to save. *Money Talks* is a humorous short film that enforces the need for saving and discusses the concepts of simple and compound interest. After viewing the film, students were asked to complete a short survey to gauge their increase in knowledge. Results indicated 85% of participating students had been unaware of the need for saving and the resulting benefits.