

### **Interview Assessment #4**

**Name of Professional:** Matthew Schwartz

**Profession/Title:** Director

**Business/Company Name:** PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

**Date of Interview:** 10/29/2020

My fourth interview was conducted with Matthew Schwartz, a Director at PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP. Going into my interview with Mr. Schwartz I hoped to gain a greater understanding of the future of finance and reputable sources that would help me in my research.

The paramount takeaway from my interview with Mr. Schwartz was the direction he believes the industry is heading into. We had a great conversation about how technology has impacted the finance industry across multiple fields, audits and hedge funds just to name a few. I heavily focussed on how automation has impacted hedge funds and what is next for the industry for my research. Mr. Schwartz discussed programs that already exist that help hedge funds make trading decisions and how the next step for these programs is artificial intelligence. What Mr. Schwartz told me aligned with what I had gathered from my previous research, and it was reassuring to know that my research was headed in the right direction. One scary thought that came to my mind during the interview was the potential of my future career being taken away from me by a machine. Mr. Schwartz reassured me that machines are still a long way from dominating the industry and it will likely be a long time before I really should start worrying. It became apparent to me that I am going to need some sort of experience with these advanced trading systems or have knowledge of computers. Luckily for me my original work project is

about automation and trading systems, so I will definitely be familiar with the technology. I had the idea of looking into computer science and potentially majoring in computer science in college. The additional skills I would gain from knowledge of computer science would give me much flexibility in my career. If the threat of technology taking over my career would ever occur, then I could transition from my position in a hedge fund to helping create and refine the machine that once threatened my career. I believe that I would find it highly intriguing to work on a technology that would disrupt the industry. On the other hand, if there is no threat of technology stealing my job, I would still have a unique skill set and could help make innovations that make work at hedge funds more convenient and precise. I look forward to speaking with more professionals about my ideas and conducting further research about the realism of my ideas.

Another important takeaway from my interview with Mr. Schwartz were reputable sources that could help me with my research. Mr. Schwartz showed me the app that his company, PricewaterhouseCoopers, created and the features the app has. The app has tons of useful information about a variety of fields of finance and I am beyond excited to explore all the content that the app has to offer. Another, not as serious, recommendation that Mr. Schwartz gave me to watch the movies *The Big Short* and *The Wolf of Wallstreet*. I plan to watch both of these movies over the weekend and give Mr. Schwartz my assessment of learning. Obviously these movies are not going to be my main source of research, they are merely interesting retellings of events that actually happened. I plan to take all the sources that Mr. Schwartz gave me seriously and use them in my further research and original work project.

I am extremely grateful that I had the opportunity to interview Mr. Schwartz and learn so much from his expertise. Mr. Schwartz was incredibly kind and helpful and gave me much to

think about. Moving forward I plan on using the information from my interview to continue my research about automation and improve upon my ideas.