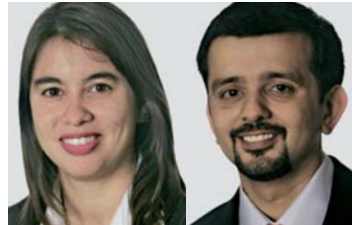


Earn an international dual MBA degree while living in Switzerland

By Nadine Heuberger | Paola Valinotti Aostri and Rupal Majmudar grew up on different continents, and accomplished their MBAs on yet another: The Rochester-Bern Executive MBA (EMBA) is based in Switzerland, but also takes students to the United States and China. Successful students are awarded with an international dual degree (www.executive-mba.ch).

Paola came to Switzerland in 1998 to work for Roche as part of a young professional's leadership programme, which was the starting point of an excellent career: She took up increasing responsibilities in the finance area, then built an innovative team within the Corporate Audit function, and lately is taking a new challenge to lead complex cross-functional projects.

Although she already had a BA degree, she always planned to update her knowledge after a few years of experience. Paola chose the Rochester-Bern EMBA because it satisfied her main criteria: English as the course language, schedule compatibility with her daily job, and emphasis on analytical tools and finance. Looking back, Paola reveals: "For me the absolute highlight was



Paola Valinotti Aostri (from Argentina) and Rupal Majmudar (from India), alumni of the Rochester-Bern EMBA Program

the trip to China, which provided us with insider knowledge about this very exciting country."

Paola's fellow student Rupal has a background in engineering and used to consult Citicorp Software (now i-Flex) clients in several major European cities. As his Swiss assignment was coming to a close in 1994, he found a job opening at Credit Suisse and ended up staying in Switzerland for the next 14 years working for different companies. As his role gradually became larger, moving into people-management and business



U.S. degree with excellent worldwide reputation: Paola and Rupal with their classmates during the graduation ceremony

understanding, Rupal felt the need for an MBA. He says: "Receiving degrees from two continents brings huge advantages in today's dynamic world."

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