



SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES

Article from:

# The Actuary

October/November 2011 – Volume 8 Issue 5

# FALL CHANGES

**HAVE YOU REGISTERED** for this year's SOA Annual Meeting in Chicago? With all it has to offer, you don't want to miss it. The General Session keynote speaker is Nick Bontis, director of the Institute of Intellectual Capital Research, Inc. Bontis will talk about ways to overcome information bombardment—what he believes to be a major cause of decreased productivity.

Four-star Gen. Stanley McChrystal is the Presidential Luncheon keynote speaker. McChrystal will offer leadership lessons learned on the battlefield, including how to build teams able to actively pursue results.

There are some new features to this year's Annual Meeting. We are excited to offer a meeting application to be used on your mobile device. With this app you will be able to access session, speaker and presentation information and much more. Other new features are based on attendee feedback from previous Annual Meetings—the length of the sessions has been increased to 75 minutes and the number of concurrent time slots has been increased to 10. All of this combines to offer you more continuing professional development credit than ever before.

As you know, October is the month for new leadership for the SOA. The SOA would like to thank outgoing President Donald J. Segal for all his dedication and hard work and welcome incoming President Brad Smith. We look forward to a productive year under Smith's leadership.

The SOA would also like to thank all of the volunteers who have given their time and effort to make the SOA what it is today. For that reason, we have named 2011 the year of the volunteer and will be honoring the SOA's volunteers at the Annual Meeting.

We look forward to serving you this year! **A**

— SOA Executive Director Greg Heidrich

## E-COURSES

### **Corporate Finance: Introduction to Corporate Finance**

This e-course covers the corporate finance branch of financial economics; that is, how institutions make decisions about raising and deploying capital. You will learn about the roles of the corporation, debt holders, shareholders and managers and the relationships between each. You will consider what things would be like in an ideal world and examine what factors contribute to corporate financial structures seen today. This e-course consists of readings, exercises, review quizzes and scenario-based case studies. If you would like to learn more on the subject of corporate finance, consult the reading list at the end of this e-course.

### **Decision Making and Communication**

Today's actuaries must apply their advanced technical skills within the context of increasingly multifaceted business and management demands. Nontechnical skills are also central to the actuary's success as a well-rounded business professional and advisor.

Decision Making and Communication (DMAC) provides a foundation for making decisions related to complex business problems that require the involvement of many stakeholders and decision makers. Although the literature includes many suggestions and opinions regarding decision-making definitions and processes, there are no standardized definitions of decision making and there are no best practices regarding decision-making processes.

For more information, visit [www.soa.org](http://www.soa.org), Professional Development, e-Learning. **A**

**THE ACTUARIAL PROFESSION IN THE NEWS**

The SOA is focused on raising awareness of actuaries in the media. Recent efforts have been successful. Here are just a few examples:

**2011 100 Most Influential People in Finance**

Richard Lauria is one of the top most influential people in risk management. For more information, visit [www.treasuryandrisk.com](http://www.treasuryandrisk.com), search term 100 Most Influential or use the QR code.



**Milliman Recognized as 2011 Microsoft Technical and High-Performance Computing Partner of the Year**

Milliman's completed actuarial model wins Microsoft Innovation award. For more information, visit [www.milliman.com](http://www.milliman.com), search term 2011 Microsoft or use the QR code.



**Seven Steps to a Sound Retirement**

Noel Abkemeier talks about seven steps to a sound retirement. For more information, visit [www.kennungu.wordpress.com](http://www.kennungu.wordpress.com), search term Noel Abkemeier or use the QR code.



**Six Surefire Ways to Live a Long Life**


Member Tim Harris discusses ways to live longer. For more Information, visit [www.insure.com](http://www.insure.com), search term 6 Surefire Ways or use the QR code.



**How Can We Make 401(k) Plans More Like Pensions?**

Actuary Emily Kessler is quoted about Retirement 20/20 and its key principles. For more information, visit [www.secondact.com](http://www.secondact.com), search term How Can We Make or use the QR code.



View all of these articles by going to [www.soa.org/newsroom](http://www.soa.org/newsroom) and clicking on the Profession In The News link. 

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**ANNUAL MEETING & EXHIBIT**

Oct. 16-19  
Chicago, Ill.

**ACTUARIES & TRADERS: BRIDGING THE GAP SEMINAR**

Oct. 20-21  
Chicago, Ill.

**HEALTH PRICING BOOT CAMP**

Nov. 7-8  
Nashville, Tenn.

**MEDICAL SCHOOL FOR ACTUARIES**

Nov. 8-9  
Nashville, Tenn.

**ETHICS AND PROFESSIONALISM FOR ACTUARIES**

Nov. 9  
Nashville, Tenn.

**HEALTH VALUATION BOOT CAMP**

Nov. 10-11  
Nashville, Tenn.

**BRIDGING THE GAP: FILLING THE BLACK HOLES IN VA RISK MANAGEMENT**

Nov. 13  
Chicago, Ill.

**EQUITY-BASED INSURANCE GUARANTEES CONFERENCE**

Nov. 14-15  
Chicago, Ill.

View all Professional Development opportunities by visiting [www.soa.org](http://www.soa.org) and clicking on Event Calendar.

**ATTENTION READERS!**

If you have an idea for an article you think should appear in *The Actuary*, or a response to something you have read in these pages, tell us about it by sending an email to [theactuary@soa.org](mailto:theactuary@soa.org).

