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Recommended Readings

The following is a list of recommended readings from the contributing editors that they feel will pique your interest and help keep you informed.

From Ruth Ann Woodley

"What's Your Life Worth," from the *New York Times Magazine*

For many actuaries this story about viatical settlements will not be news. But it is an interesting look at the perspective those outside the industry have on these transactions. And it has some conclusions from underwriters on how people whose personality type makes them "the successful nerds of the world" tend to live longest. I suspect I won't be the only actuary seeing myself in their description and cheering! For the whole story, visit *www.nytimes.com*, search term James Vlahos, or use the QR code.

From Dave Ingram

Report to G20 Leaders on Basel III implementation

The Basel Committee on Banking Supervision has established a comprehensive implementation review process to ensure its globally agreed standards are implemented fully by member jurisdictions. A key element of the process is transparency, including reporting to the G20 leaders. As such, *the report of interim findings* (*www.bis.org/publ/bcbs220.pdf*) to the G20 Leaders Summit in Los Cabos marks an important step forward in the committee's work on implementation. For more information, visit *www.bis.org*, search term G20 Leaders On Basel III, or use the QR code.

From Dave Ingram

Global Systematically Important Insurers: Proposed Assessment Methodology

The International Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS) is participating in a global initiative, under the purview of the Financial Stability Board (FSB) and the G20, to identify potential global systemically important insurers (G-SIIs). As part of this initiative, the IAIS has developed a proposed assessment methodology to identify any insurers whose distress or disorderly failure, because of their size, complexity and interconnectedness, would cause significant disruption to the global financial system and economic activity. For more information, visit http://www.iaisweb.org/Consultations-918, or use the QR code.

E-COURSES

Enterprise Risk Management

This e-course is designed to provide information to actuaries who do not yet regularly practice in enterprise risk management (ERM), but want to know more about it to help expand existing skills or meet professional development requirements.

Financial Reporting

The e-course is designed to introduce you to the basic concepts and terminology necessary to understand financial statements and regulatory capital requirements. While applications and examples are taken from the insurance industry, much of the content is not industry-specific. In addition, while the focus is on Canada and the United States, an important part of the environment in these jurisdictions is the effort to align with international standards.

Investment Strategy

The e-course is designed to provide you with an understanding of the investment theories used to implement the investment process. Throughout this e-course, you will be exposed to case studies from real experiences that illustrate the range of considerations in managing investment portfolios supporting particular liabilities and goals. After completing this module, you should be able to define, design, monitor and modify an overall investment strategy given a client's objectives and constraints. You should also be able to communicate results to the client.

Operational Risk

This e-course is intended to help you learn how to identify, measure and manage operational risk.

For more information on these and more e-courses, visit* www.soa.org *and click on e-courses under the Professional Development tab.