



SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES

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# Product Matters!

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# Chairperson's Corner: "What's on Your Mind?"

By John Currier

As you read this article some of you are trying to catch up in the office after recently returning from the first annual Life and Annuity Symposium in Tampa, some are wondering what to do with your children all summer now that school is out (or nearly so for those hit with multiple snow days this past winter), some are gearing up for second-quarter end financial reporting, some are thinking about ways to sneak in a few hours of outdoors activity now that the weather has turned, and we are all thinking about how to make the Product Development Section more relevant to us.

Hold on, I can hear you saying, I get that we are transitioning to summer and that means lots of new thoughts, but John you've lost it if you think I'm spending any time thinking about the Product Development Section.

It may seem a stretch, but the fact you are reading these words tells me that you look to the Society of Actuaries and the Product Development Section for valuable information—that you are looking for that nugget that is relevant to what you are doing in your working life.

The Product Development Section is working to provide those nuggets to you—based on what you've told us is important to do. Many of you responded to our survey of what is most important to you and your council is acting on that feedback.

- The session topics at the Life and Annuity Symposium were tested against the topics you said you were interested in.
- The post-symposium seminars were built on topics you mentioned.
- This newsletter contains an article from an author who identified their willingness to provide content in that survey.
- We are pursuing articles for future editions from others identified in the survey.
- Webinar content is being developed based on your topics.
- 2010 Annual meeting content is being developed to match the survey requests.
- Some who expressed interest in the council are now assisting in other ways or will be seeking election in the coming months.

You can see that your council is working hard to provide "mining opportunities"—opportunities for relevance. If you take the time, I know that nugget is there for you—but if we are not meeting your needs, this is your Section after all, do let us know and find a way to get involved in the life of the Section—we need each and every one of you to make us the best we can be.

Enjoy this edition of Product Matters, have a wonderful summer, and I look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting. Since you've read this far I know the Product Development Section is on your mind! □



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