



SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES

Article from:

# Product Matters!

February 2012 – Issue 82

# Product Development Section 2012 Council Elections

By Christy Cook and Paul Fedchak

**W**ith the commencement of the new year, it is time again to welcome our new Product Development Section council members. The section offers its sincere gratitude to the outgoing council members of Christie Goodrich, Vera Ljucovic, and Paul Pflieger.

In the fall, section members cast their votes and we are pleased to announce the results. Returning to the council for 2012 are Lisa Renetzky, Rhonda Elming, Paula Hodges, Stephen Peeples and outgoing chair Mitch Katcher. Much thanks to Mitch for his year of leadership and continued commitment to the section. Also returning for 2012 is new chairperson Donna Megregian. The newest members of the section council are Stephanie Grass, Kurt Guske, and Tim Rozar. We are excited to welcome the new members and pleased to introduce them to the section.

**Stephanie Grass** is a consulting actuary with Towers Watson in St. Louis. In her current role, she provides consulting assistance to the insurance industry with a focus on the universal life and term life insurance product markets. Stephanie has been involved in a wide range of consulting assignments, including actuarial analysis and modeling supporting securitization and excess reserve financing transactions, actuarial assumption reviews, product development and pricing, and due diligence support for buy-and-sell side appraisals. She also serves as the universal life subject matter expert, supporting the software division of Towers Watson. Stephanie has spoken at several industry meetings, and has served as a volunteer for the Product Development Section in planning the SOA Life and Annuity Symposium. Stephanie is a fellow of the Society of Actuaries (FSA), a Chartered Enterprise Risk Analyst (CERA), and a member of the American Academy of Actuaries (MAAA).

**Kurt Guske** is vice president, Life Product Manager at Protective Life Insurance Company. Kurt's specialty is life product development, and he has served 25 years in direct stock and mutual company product development, pricing, marketing and valuation areas. Kurt's Society of Actuaries experience includes serving on SOA exam committees, serving as chair for Exam 8-ILA, and vice

chair for Question Writing Committee, Exam 8-ILA and ILA-DP, and actively participating on the ILA-DP Question Writing Committee. Kurt's professional background includes working with all of the current life products on the market, and being involved in the industry's response to the many regulatory changes that have occurred over the last two decades. He has recently served on ACLI Principle Based Reserves committees and made contributions to VM-20. He also has experience designing, pricing, marketing, and valuing insurance products from participating whole life to income annuities to, most recently, secondary guarantee universal life. Kurt is a fellow of the Society of Actuaries (FSA) and a member of the American Academy of Actuaries (MAAA).

**Tim Rozar** is vice president, head of Global Research and Development with RGA Reinsurance Company. In this role, he leads the company's U.S. and International experience study teams and oversees research activities worldwide. Before assuming his current role, he led RGA's Life Product Services actuarial team which was responsible for developing retail term products and providing actuarial services to RGA's clients. Tim has previously worked in management information reporting, reinsurance pricing and M&A roles in RGA's U.S. Division. Tim has led many insurance industry research projects, including a mortality study on prescription drug histories published in the Journal of the American Academy of Life Underwriting and a study of post-level term pricing assumptions and experience results sponsored by the Society of Actuaries. He is a frequent presenter at industry meetings and RGA's webcast series and has presented on a variety of topics including mortality improvement trends, the term insurance market, older age underwriting and mortality experience, adverse selection, prescription drug histories, and post-level term. Tim has served on the SOA Technology Section Council as secretary/treasurer, communications coordinator, and spring meeting coordinator. He has also been treasurer, vice president, and president of the St. Louis Actuaries Club. Tim is a fellow of the Society of Actuaries (FSA), a Chartered Enterprise Risk Analyst (CERA), and a member of the American Academy of Actuaries (MAAA). □

Christy Cook is lead section specialist for the Society of Actuaries. She can be contacted at [ccook@soa.org](mailto:ccook@soa.org).



Paul Fedchak, FSA, MAAA, is a consulting actuary with Milliman, Inc. He can be contacted at [paul.fedchak@milliman.com](mailto:paul.fedchak@milliman.com).