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Actuary of the Future

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Be an Actuary of the Future by Attending a Session at the SOA Spring Meetings

The Actuary of the Future Section will be sponsoring several sessions at the 2008 SOA Health and Life Spring Meetings. The Health Spring Meeting will be held on May 28-30 at the Hyatt Regency Century Plaza in Los Angeles. The Life Spring Meeting will be held on June 16-18 at the Convention Centre in Quebec City. You can find information on each of these meetings on the SOA Web site. Below are descriptions of the sessions sponsored by the Actuary of the Future Section.

Health Spring Meeting

Speed Networking For "Young" Actuaries*
Co-sponsored with the Management and Personal Development Section
Hosted by Margaret Resce Milkint and Mary Kilkenny of The Jacobsen Group

This will be an evening networking opportunity for the young at heart. Attendees are invited to participate in a fast-paced and energy-filled opportunity to meet actuarial colleagues in a fun and food-focused environment.

Skills Needed to Climb the Corporate Ladder*
Co-sponsored with the Management and Personal Development Section
Presenters include Bob Morand of DW Simpson; Alice Rosenblatt, FSA, MAAA, retired Chief Actuary at Wellpoint; Michael McLaughlin, FSA, MAAA, Deloitte Consulting; and Rioma Kam, FSA, MAAA, Guardian Life Insurance Company

This session targets early-career actuaries who aspire to move up the corporate ladder. Whether you are currently pursuing your Fellowship or have been an FSA for a number of years, there are certain skills beyond technical excellence that are crucial to your career advancement. Actuarial competence, education, designations, commitment, personality, relationships, leadership, communication, etc. are all key components of a successful career. However, are any more important than others? In this session, panelists share their perspectives of the must-have skills for actuaries to advance their careers and offer specific suggestions on how to develop these skills. In addition, panelists share their views on the role of the actuary as members of senior management teams.

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A Futurist's View of the Next Frontier for Actuaries*
Co-sponsored with the Futurism Section
Presenters include Mark Warshawsky, Ph.D. of Watson Wyatt

What are the emerging markets for actuaries? What new job opportunities will we see in the future? The Actuary of the Future Section has undertaken an environmental scanning initiative in order to identify new opportunities for actuaries and the skills needed to be successful in these new roles. This session will feature a discussion on how these future employment opportunities will impact actuaries and what can be done now to prepare. This session also features a prominent economist discussing recent trends in the general labor market—labor force participation rates by age and gender, and growth of compensation, both salary and benefits, and its distribution—and projections for the next 10 years, especially focusing on the key factors that will influence the pace of retirement of the baby boom generation.

A Mentor's Guide on How to Hit the Ground Running for New Entrepreneurs
Co-sponsored with the Management and Personal Development and the Entrepreneurial Actuaries Sections
Presenters include David Axene, FSA, MAAA, FCA of Axene Health Partners LLC

This session offers the early do's and don'ts of getting started in a new venture. A panel of successful actuarial entrepreneurs shares their experiences on what has worked for them and what hasn't. They share their thoughts on their mentors, on the value of mentors in general, and on the attributes that one might seek in a mentor. The panel also suggests some traditional and nontraditional entrepreneurial roles that actuaries might want to consider for the future.

Life Spring Meeting

Skills Needed to Climb the Corporate Ladder*
Co-sponsored with the Management and Personal Development Section
Presenters include Sim Segal, FSA, CERA, MAAA of AON Global Risk Consulting; Anthony Galioto of AIG Companies; Barclay Burns of DW Simpson; and Mark Yu, FSA, MAAA of SwissRe

This session targets early-career actuaries who aspire to move up the corporate ladder. Whether you are currently pursuing your Fellowship or have been an FSA for a number of years, there are certain skills beyond technical excellence that are crucial to your career advancement. Actuarial competence, education, designations, commitment, personality, relationships, leadership, communication, etc. are all key components of a successful career. However, are any more important than others? In this session, panelists share their perspectives of the must-have skills for actuaries to advance their careers and offer specific suggestions on how to develop these skills. In addition, panelists share their views on the role of the actuary as members of senior management teams.

Stock Option Valuation: Actuaries Needed*
Co-sponsored with the Investment Section
Presenters include Frank Gallagher, FSA, EA, Ph.D. of Watson Wyatt

Employee stock options have been receiving a great deal of attention in the U.S. financial press. Despite keen competition from other finance professionals, a small but growing number of actuaries are successfully leveraging their actuarial skills to claim a stake in this rapidly evolving area. Speakers will share their experiences with the audience and further emphasize how actuaries fit in and add value in the process. They will also discuss how actuaries can prepare to work in this area and what challenges they may face.

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Building Diversity into the Workplace
Co-sponsored with the Management and Personal Development Section, the Joint CAS/SOA Committee on Actuarial Diversity, and the International Association of Black Actuaries
Presenters include Michael Braunstein, ASA, MAAA of Aetna; and John Robinson, FSA, MAAA of Nationwide Financial

This reception addresses the value of diversity and inclusion in the workplace and offers methodologies to create and enhance such an environment. This session also offers the opportunity to get to know many of your actuarial colleagues who come from all different walks of life.

Enterprise Risk Mis-management or Looking for Trouble—Real-Life Examples of What Went Wrong
Co-sponsored with the Risk Management and the Management and Personal Development Sections
Presenters include Bill Stewart of Actuarial Edge, Stewart Search and Michael Braunstein, ASA, MAAA of Aetna

This session reviews several examples of mis-management that have occurred in the corporate world. Presenters provide an analysis of each situation to shed light on what went wrong, what mistakes were made, what individual leadership skills may have been lacking, and what the future actuary will need to know to avoid similar problems.

A Mentor's Guide on How to Hit the Ground Running for New Entrepreneurs
Co-sponsored with the Management and Personal Development and the Entrepreneurial Actuaries Sections
Presenters at the Life meeting include Michael Braunstein, ASA, MAAA of Aetna

This session offers the early do's and don'ts of getting started in a new venture. A panel of successful actuarial entrepreneurs shares their experiences on what has worked for them and what hasn't. They share their thoughts on their mentors, on the value of mentors in general, and on the attributes that one might seek in a mentor. The panel also suggests some traditional and nontraditional entrepreneurial roles that actuaries might want to consider for the future.

* Indicates that the Actuary of the Future section is the lead sponsor for the session.