



SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES

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Grow Your Career with the Younger Actuaries Network

by Mary Pat Campbell

Let me introduce you to the Younger Actuaries Network, a group that is part of the Actuary of the Future Section.

WHO IS IT FOR?

The first question we often get when we tell people of the group name: “How young do you have to be to be in the Younger Actuaries Network?” I say that as long as you’re younger than omega, this group is for you.

YAN places its focus on people who are looking to grow their career—whether still taking exams, or newly credentialed, or even those a little further along in their careers looking to build their business skills beyond exams. In addition to those who are considering their future paths in an actuarial career, we are always looking for more experienced people who can share their wisdom with those starting out.

WHAT’S IN IT FOR ME?

YAN sponsors many programs and events focused on professional growth. One of our core programs is the mentorship program, which pairs experienced actuaries with people earlier on in their careers—a program open only to YAN members. In another outgrowth of the mentorship idea, YAN members have also promoted the actuarial career at universities such as Columbia and Baruch, during YAN-sponsored networking events during which experienced actuaries explained their work to college students and gave them a feel for the paths one can take in the actuarial field.

In 2008, YAN sponsored networking and social events, as well as continuing education programs in the form of webcasts, SOA meeting sessions and events. For example, in April 2008, YAN sponsored a webcast on how to succeed in one’s career beyond the actuarial exams. In September 2008, YAN co-sponsored an event with the Actuarial Society of New York in which Kathy Wong presented on enterprise risk management and the SOA’s new CERA credential, and John Hadley led us through an exercise in crafting a personal marketing mes-

sage. After the continuing education event, we had a social event at the Port Authority with pizza and beer, and bowling with professional bowler Kelly Kulick. We look forward to many more activities in 2009 and beyond.

In addition, for YAN-sponsored events, members get a discount on fees, as well as notifications of upcoming events.

HOW DO I JOIN?

To become a member of the Younger Actuaries Network, you must first be a member of the Actuary of the Future Section. You can do this by logging onto your account at SOA.org, and adding the section (and paying section dues), or you can download the SOA membership form from the site to add the section.

Once you are a section member, contact YAN officers Mike Watanabe (mwatanabe@pacifiguardian.com) or Joanna Chu (Joanna.Chu@aig.com) to join the group.

WHEN SHOULD I JOIN?

Now! It’s never too early to get started on growing your career with YAN! ●

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Check out YAN’s Web page on the SOA Web site: <http://soa.org/professional-interests/actuary-of-the-future/aof-yan.aspx>



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