



SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES

Article from:

# Actuary of the Future

Nov. 2012 – Issue 33



- 1 **My Section Council Intern Experience**  
By Abby Conrad
- 2 **FSA=mc<sup>2</sup>?**  
By Dave Snell
- 5 **Weakness in an Actuarial Process and Ideas for Improvement**  
By Madeleine Zhang
- 7 **Book Review: *Abundance* by Steven Kotler, Peter H. Diamandis**  
Review by Dave Snell
- 10 **What We Talk about When We Talk about Actuaries**  
By Vanessa Shuang Wu
- 12 **It's a Challenging Job Market – How to Go the Extra Mile**  
By Ricardo E. Obasare
- 15 **Longevity Risk Solutions: Coming to the USA Soon!**  
By Efreem L. Epstein
- 17 **Substitute One Mis-impression**  
By Hezhong (Mark) Ma and Dave Snell

## My Section Council Intern Experience

By Abby Conrad

*“AOF stands for actuaries of the future, not just actuaries of the past—evolve or become extinct.”*

As a college student, the evolution of my chosen career field is important to me. Most students are aware of the current state of the actuarial profession, but are uncertain of future actuarial opportunities. One of my personal goals is to assess and acquire the skills an actuary will need to survive and succeed in a rapidly changing world. My experience this past year as the Section Council Intern (SCI) for the Actuary of the Future (AOF) Section helped get me closer to achieving this goal.

As the SCI, I was an affiliate member of AOF, and I was given the opportunity to participate in the section’s initiatives throughout the year. AOF is unique in offering internship opportunities, and is currently in the second year of its internship program. Some of the rewarding initiatives I was fortunate to be involved in throughout the year included attending the yearly AOF planning meeting, creating an AOF brochure to attract new members and assisting in a podcast project.

Early in my term as the SCI, I attended the yearly planning meeting in Chicago, Ill. At this meeting the AOF council set goals and brainstormed ideas for the upcoming year. I found this meeting exceptionally beneficial. I was able to engage in conversation with highly experienced and intelligent actuaries. At the same time, I was afforded the opportunity to provide the council with insight from the perspective of an actuarial student. This meeting was an enthusiastic and motivational start to the upcoming year.

My main project as the SCI was to create a brochure for AOF to use as a recruiting tool for new members and to be distributed to renewing members. The brochure answered many of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



*Abby Conrad is an actuarial student at The University of Iowa in Iowa City, IA. She can be reached at [abby-conrad@uiowa.edu](mailto:abby-conrad@uiowa.edu).*

the typical questions of an actuary interested in joining the section, such as, “What is AOF?” and “What are the benefits of joining?” The content of the brochure pertained to all actuaries, regardless of the various stages of their careers. Creating the brochure allowed me to better understand the main goals and initiatives of AOF.

I was also able to assist with the creation of a podcast. The podcast initiative began with the previous SCI. I produced a short episode with the help of an experienced actuary on the section council. It was beneficial to gain

firsthand experience in the production of a podcast. It was also a fun project!

Not only did my year as the SCI provide me with learning opportunities and new openings to build my actuarial career, but I was able to serve as AOF’s link to the future generation of actuaries. I have benefited greatly from the many experiences that were a part of this initiative, and I am extremely grateful to all who have contributed to the creation of this position. ☆