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# Actuary of the Future

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## Webcast Series—Essential Skills for Success

By Shirley Ai Yan Wu

he Actuary of the Future Section will be sponsoring a series of skills development webcasts in 2014 to groom young actuaries for immediate and long-term success. These webcasts will focus on both soft and technical skills that are important for the actuarial career.

The first webcast, Building Your Professional Image, aired on March 21. This webcast was designed for entry level actuaries to learn some tips for successfully building a professional image in different situations as they start their career in actuarial science:

- Selling yourself in networking events and career fairs
- Interviewing for your dream jobs or rotation positions
- Email and telephone etiquette
- Preparing for meetings
- Proper attire for different occasions
- Asking for performance feedback
- Negotiating for promotion/salary increase
- · Speaking in public
- Preparing for corporate filming.

Our speakers included a senior actuary who is currently in a senior management role and a junior actuary who has extensive experience in giving career advice and mockinterviews to students.

The following are the other webcasts that will take place throughout the year. These subsequent webcasts will be tailored toward more experienced actuaries. Details will be posted to the SOA online calendar as they become available: http://www.soa.org/PDCalendar. aspx?type=session

Stay tuned!

#### PROBLEM SOLVING & EXCEL BEST PRACTICES [TENTATIVE JULY 22ND]

- Model building: Presented with an Excel template to show how to attack a problem from beginning to end
- Excel best practices: Instructions, commentaries, documentation, etc.
- Model control

#### COMMUNICATING RESULTS EFFECTIVELY [TENTATIVE SEPTEMBER]

- How to give an effective presentation
- How to communicate actuarial results to a nonactuarial audience
- Visualization: How to tell stories in graphics

### BECOMING A LEADER [TENTATIVE NOVEMBER 19TH]

- How to plan for bigger projects
- How to delegate work effectively
- How to manage a team
- How to train, mentor and coach other people  $\star$



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