



SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES

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Computer Science Sessions in Anaheim & San Antonio

by Phil Gold

Now's your chance to sign up for some special sessions at the upcoming spring meetings.

We are sponsoring two sessions in Anaheim in May:

Hot Technologies

Wednesday May 19, 10:30 a.m.

Moderator: Charles S. Linn.

Panel: Neil Raden, Jit Sinha, Jerry Goedicke

This session covers a variety of hot technologies, including:

- Wireless business solutions
- Data management for analytical applications
- Grid computing

Attendee benefits include:

- All the new buzzwords
- Ideas for revolutionizing your own work environment

Nontraditional Computer Science Roles for Actuaries

Thursday, May 20, 8:30 a.m.

Moderator: Brian Reid.

Panel: Lyle S. Semchyshyn, Nancy Walczak, Emily B. Kraft

This forum highlights:

- The career paths of the panelists
- The experience of other session attendees.

Attendee benefits include ideas for job opportunities in less conventional areas of actuarial employment.

We are co-sponsoring a panel discussion with the Health Section:

Data Warehousing Wednesday, May 19, at 4:00 p.m.

• continued on page 6 •



Phil Gold is a partner in GGY Inc., the developers of the AXIS Actuarial System. Phil holds three passports, writes on music and stereo, and has at one time or another been a shepherd, a teacher, a tank gunner, a programmer, a VP of underwriting, an actuary, and an object of derision. Phil lives in Toronto and is deteriorating rapidly. He can be reached at pg@ggy.com.

We are sponsoring two sessions in San Antonio in June:

Actuaries versus IT – The Perpetual Dilemma

Monday, June 14, 10:30 a.m.

Moderator: Michael Hartfield.

Panel: Frank Reynolds, Susie Lee, Emil B. Kraft

Actuaries and IT people rarely see eye-to-eye. Neither understands the other's perspective, with frustrating results for both sides. Yet, with some tolerance and understanding, both can profit from the other's approach.

Actuaries expect IT to:

- Adjust priorities to quickly implement important changes
- Help fix program bugs and technical difficulties
- Design programs for easy modification with little verification
- Provide error-free systems that are already tested

IT expects actuaries to:

- Write specs from which include all reasonably foreseeable modifications
- Write specs IT can program
- Rigorously test all system calculations

Business Intelligence for Actuaries

Tuesday, June 15, 10:30 a.m.

Moderator: Michael K. Rigby

Lecturer: Michael Levine

This session covers:

- Context and general background on business intelligence (BI) and online analytical processing (OLAP)
- How to build a successful application
- How to integrate with other applications

Attendee benefits include:

- A survey of products and approaches
- Examples of actuarial/financial applications

We are also co-sponsoring a workshop with the Financial Reporting Section:

Applications of Stochastic Modeling in Financial Reporting

Tuesday, June 15, 2:00 p.m. 