



SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES

Article from:

The Stepping Stone

May 2014 – Issue 54

MPD Opportunities

By Jennifer Fleck

There are a lot of exciting changes coming up for the Management and Personal Development (MPD) Section this year. Our mission statement starts with “The mission of the section shall be to plan, implement and actively promote management and business skill development for members, using a variety of channels.” This year is shaping up to expand on those channels for content delivery to you.

PODCASTS

If you are anything like me, you’ve got a pile of reading material on the side of your desk for when you get time. Of course, *The Stepping Stone* is my favorite of those newsletters that I receive, but there are still a few of those in my pile that I haven’t finished. To help with that pile, we are going to begin reading them to you. Simply subscribe to our podcast, and you can download selected articles to play back from your iPhone or other portable electronic device. Then you can listen as you drive or work out. Watch our LinkedIn site for more details when they become available.

WEBCASTS

The MPD Section is planning to host some webcasts in 2014. Our first will be a joint venture with the Actuary of the Future Section and is directed toward newer actuarial students, offering tips and advice on how to start their career on the right foot. If you have ideas for other topics that you would like delivered in a webcast format, please drop me a line and let me know.

E-COURSES

The Society of Actuaries (SOA) has recently launched 27 new Business Skills e-Courses from Skillsoft. You can purchase a package of five courses customized to your own development needs, at a negotiated discount price through the SOA. There are a variety of courses covering detailed topics in Leadership, Relationship Management & Interpersonal Collaboration, Strategic Insight & Integration, and Communication. I have signed up for my five already. Watch future issues of *The Stepping Stone* for a review of the classes. To learn more, go to the SOA website. Select “Access My



e-Learning” under “My Account” on the left-hand side of the page.

MEETINGS AND NEWSLETTERS

Don’t worry, we will continue to bring you powerful content through SOA meetings and here in *The Stepping Stone* as we always have. Look for us at the Life & Annuity Symposium, the Valuation Actuary Symposium, the Health Meeting, and the Annual Meeting. Contact me if you are interested in speaking at any of these meetings or would like to try your hand at writing for *The Stepping Stone*.

ON-THE-JOB EXPERIENCE

If you would really like to get some leadership experience firsthand, consider joining us on the MPD Section Council. Watch for emails from the SOA seeking candidates for the upcoming elections in August. Or just contact me and I can tell you more about what it’s like to be on a section council. My three years are almost at a close. It has been a great experience for me and has provided me with many opportunities to practice my leadership and networking. ●



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