

ISSUE 37 | OCTOBER 2010

SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES

Technology
Section

CompAct

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER



CONTENTS

[Table of Contents](#)[Letter From The Chair](#)[Editor's Notes](#)[Our Experiences With
Agile](#)[Excel 2010—An Analyst's
Perspective](#)[Actuaries Looking To The
SCAI For Answers](#)[R Corner—Memory
Management](#)[Number Puzzle !\[\]\(4f6bf54ae7e4144a72d78316053e412d_img.jpg\)](#)[Last Issue's Number
Puzzle Solved !\[\]\(3342c215b2a8b663596a81468d5dc314_img.jpg\)](#)[The 9th Speculative
Fiction Contest](#)[Articles Needed](#)

QUICK LINKS

[Technology Section
Web site](#)

Share



Print Article

Search
Back issues

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR



The year is wrapping up, so this will be my last "Letter from the Chair." It has been a pleasure serving the Technology Section as chairman. I am pleased with what we have accomplished this year, and excited about the initiatives underway.

We have a strong team with our new council and many dedicated volunteers that are entering 2011 with enthusiasm. I want to thank our retiring council members: Holly Loberg, Carl Desrochers and Tim Pauza. It has been a pleasure working with them and I wish them each the very best as they move on to other opportunities. Jeff Pomerantz, our new chair, will bring his skills, ideas and enthusiasm to the section leadership. Please feel free to contact him, or any of the other council members, with your ideas for how we can make the Technology Section valuable to you, the members.

I want to mention a few highlights from the past year that will continue to be major initiatives for 2011. The LinkedIn group for section members, "Society of Actuaries Technology Section," is continuing to grow. This online forum for networking and information sharing will focus on the challenges and interests of our members. As the technology demands grow for actuaries in an ever-more complex and challenging economic environment, we believe LinkedIn can provide us an invaluable opportunity to keep abreast of the latest developments in arenas where technology is playing a major role in the future of our industry. Addressing how this forum, as well as others, such as Twitter, can best serve the members will continue to be a priority for the 2011 council. There is a lot of potential here that we trying to understand and utilize. If you have

Council

[Links of Interest](#)

[Fiction Contest](#)

[Howard Callif, Editor](#)

SOA Staff

[Meg Weber, Staff Partner](#)

[Sue Martz](#)

[Section Specialist](#)

[Sam Phillips, Staff Editor](#)

not already done so, join LinkedIn (www.linkedin.com), join our group, see what others are up to and contribute to the discussions.

Another item I would like to mention is a collaboration we have developed over the past three years with Gartner Group (www.gartner.com). We published a survey in 2008 and 2009 to investigate the effectiveness of the collaboration between actuarial departments and information technology departments in the industry. The results of these surveys were presented in sessions at the last two years' annual meetings. The response we received from those sessions indicated a high level of interest in this important topic, so we once again repeated the survey for 2010. Hopefully, you will be able to attend our session in New York this year (Session #137), where we will be discussing observations from the survey results, including trends from our findings of last year.

As I close, I want to thank all of our volunteers for their willingness to get involved, and say thanks to all of our council members and friends of the council who work hard to keep our section going. Let us know if you have any ideas for the section or want to get involved. Please feel free to contact any of the council members listed inside the front cover of this newsletter with your ideas or to let us know if you would like to get involved.

Tim Deitz
2010 Section Council Chair



475 North Martingale Road, Suite 600 Schaumburg, Illinois 60173
Phone: 847.706.3500 Fax: 847.706.3599 www.soa.org