



Article from

Stepping Stone

May 2016

Issue 62

Leadership Inspiration: Mentorship

By Ed Bonach

Editor's Note: In the Leadership & Development Section's Leadership Inspiration Contest, entrants were asked to tell us what inspired them to be a better actuarial leader. Here is an entry from the "Admirable Leader/Personal Mentor" category.

I value the importance in my career of having mentors. I do not mean mentors in any formal or contractual sense; I mean people who, especially upon reflection, you see had interest and influence in your career and development.

While working on assignment at Allianz in Germany in 1983–1986, the CEO of Allianz Life in Minnesota, the company I was “sent” from, asked me to send him a letter each month to explain what I was learning overseas. (Skype, FaceTime, email, etc. did not exist then.) The CEO also committed to send me a letter each month to keep me up to speed on what was going on back at Allianz Life and in the U.S. insurance industry. He included various personal and professional insights in most letters. I still have his letters!

Very admirable leadership that has benefited me in numerous ways over the years. ■



Ed Bonach, FSA, CERA, MAAA, is CEO of CNO Financial Group in Carmel, Indiana. He can be reached at ed.bonach@cnoinc.com.



Exams



Research Support



Professional Development

Volunteer Now

Help Support the Actuarial Profession

Become an SOA Volunteer today! There are opportunities in research support, exam grading, professional development and much more. There are volunteer activities specific to Canada and other countries, too. Visit SOA.org/Volunteer to gain new experiences and expand your network.

