



SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES

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# Winners of the Fourth Annual FROSTie and FRUMPie Awards, Take a Bow!

by Richard H. Browne

**T**he *Financial Reporter* is happy to announce the winners of the FROSTies and FRUMPIes for 2007. These prestigious awards are given annually for **F**inancial **R**eporter **O**utStanding **T**reatises (FROSTies) and **F**inancial **R**eporter **U**niquely **M**emorable **P**apers (FRUMPIes). The actual award ceremony took place at the Financial Reporting Section Breakfast at this year's annual meeting, at which prizes were awarded and lavish praise bestowed upon the recipients.

## FROSTIES

Five Financial Reporter OutStanding Treatises were awarded this year. The committee of judges chose appropriate prizes that are representative of the authors' contributions or their articles. These prizes are subject to change, based on the abilities of our procurement department and market availability.

**Mark Freedman** and **Tara Hansen** received the Distillery Award for effectively distilling the many-paged IFRS discussion paper down to four pages in their article, "An International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) Phase II Discussion Paper Primer." This article appeared in the December issue. Their prize is a bottle of Jack Daniels. Unfortunately, due to budget constraints, they will have to share the one bottle.

Also on the topic of international accounting, Leonard Reback's article, "Potential Implications of IASB's Preliminary Views on Insurance Contracts," appeared in the same issue. He received this year's Wise Man Award for explaining what IFRS Phase II will mean to us. His prize is a stuffed owl.

**Ken Lasorella** won the Baseball Award for his article, "Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 157 (SFAS 157) *Fair Value Measurements* (Including Introduction to Cost of Capital Risk Margins)" in the June issue. Ken had the highest fair (ball) value in the home run contest, and will receive a regulation major league baseball signed by the members of the Section Council.

The Substantially Unchanged Prize was jointly awarded to **Rob Frasca** and **Steve Malerich** this year. Rob's

article, "SOP 05-1: Eleven (or Twelve) New Things to Consider" appeared in the June issue and Steve's article, "A Principled Application of SOP 05-1: Making Sense of the Beast" was published in the September issue. In this election year, when "change" seems to be the buzz word of the day, the appropriate prize is a "Yes We Can," or else a "Country First" button, depending on election returns.

Congratulations to our six FROSTie winners!

## FRUMPIES

We had a number of uniquely memorable papers in 2007 that received the FRUMPie Award.

**Norm Hill** and **Jim Thompson** co-authored an article in March entitled, "Principle-Based Reserves in a Smaller Insurance Company." They are the winners of the Little People Award and will receive a music box that plays "It's a Small World."

"Risk Transfer Dilemma in Triple-X Funding" by **Shanker Merchant** in the March issue, was given the X-Rated Award. His prize is a brown paper wrapper.

The Longest Title Award for 2007 goes to FRUMPie recipient **Chris Perrin** for his article in the March issue, "Context-Sensitive Modeling of Elective Guaranteed Living Benefits in Variable Annuities." Chris will receive a stuffed giraffe for this feat.

"Iron Man" **Ted Schlude**, who won the Iron Man Award in 2005 and the Alphabet Soup Award in 2006 for his continuing coverage of the NAIC/LHATF meetings, has done it again in 2007. He is the recipient of the Decathlon Award for his 10-page article, "Highlights of the June 2007 NAIC Life and Health Actuarial Task Force Meeting and Other NAIC Topics" in the September issue. Ted is awarded a chocolate medal to wear around his neck until eaten.

A copy of the World Almanac will go to **Craig Reynolds** for winning the Globalization Award for his September article, "Financial Reporting for Multinationals: A North American Perspective."



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CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

**Doug Van Dam's** letter to the editor in the June issue on the use of own credit rating in fair value calculations wins the Table Tennis Award for covering a topic that has been battled back and forth a lot lately. His prize, obviously, is a ping-pong ball.

"Financial Disclosures—Cleaning Up the Confusion," by **Lawrence Seller**, appeared in the June issue. He is the recipient of the Mr. Clean Award, and, of course, will receive a can of Mr. Clean cleanser.

The Scales of Justice are awarded to **Darin Zimmerman** for his December article, "A Critique of Fair Value as a Method for Valuing Insurance Liabilities." This was the most balanced presentation of a controversial topic. (His lists of pros and cons also brought back memories of studying for SOA exams.)

to the Non-Market Risks under FAS 157: Suggested Approach" appeared in the December issue. Vadim wins a pair of dice.

**Leonard Reback** and **Darin Zimmerman** are the winners of the Bifurcation Award for their article, "Insurance Bifurcation Invitation to Comment," in the March issue. Not only did their article cover the topic of bifurcation, but they bifurcated the writing responsibilities for the article between themselves, and also each bifurcated their authoring time during the year in order to write other articles for *The Financial Reporter*. For their efforts, they will receive a banana split and two spoons.

Our final FRUMPie, the Shakespeare Award, goes to Paul Margus for his December article, "The Lowly Loss Ratio," for the best use of Shakespeare in a *Financial Reporter* article:

"There are more things in heaven and earth, Loss Ratio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy."

Paul will receive a copy of Hamlet.

Congratulations to all our FRUMPie winners!

To all the authors who contributed articles in 2007, thanks for continuing to make *The Financial Reporter* a top-notch newsletter for the actuarial community. And to all Section members, please consider authoring articles for the newsletter this year. ■

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The Permanent Difference Award for 2007 goes to **Rob Frasca** and **Vincent Tsang** for their article, "FASB Interpretation 48 for Actuaries" in the March issue. For their efforts, they will receive a determination letter from the IRS.

The Weatherwoman Award belongs to **Donna Claire** for her coverage of the March NAIC meeting in the June issue. For telling us the current and near term conditions, she is presented with a weather map.

**Henry Siegel** wrote, "The Siren Call of Models—Beware of the Rocks," in the December issue and wins the Father Knows Best Award for reminding us of the danger of falling in love with our models. For this article, he will receive a photo of Robert Young.

The Statistics Award goes to **Vadim Zinkovskiy** for best use of statistics in 2007. His article, "Risk Margins