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Up Front with the SOA Staff Fellow

By Joe Wurzburger

With this being the first issue of 2018, I thought it would be a good time to share an overview of Society of Actuaries (SOA) long-term care activities—both from my perspective working with the Long Term Care Section as well as with the SOA overall.

LTC THINK TANK

You've read about the LTC Think Tank in the past several issues, and hopefully you've even heard a little bit about it at one of the many sessions in which it has been featured over the past year or two (SOA Health Meeting, ILTCI, etc.). Recall that there are many elements to the Think Tank, which we like to think has morphed from a think tank to a "do tank." The three platforms that are being worked on by subteams are:

- Data Driven Support
- Service Evolution and Expansion
- Paying for Care

We have reached an exciting milestone in the Paying for Care platform. An extensive research project that utilized actuarial modeling and consumer testing has recently wrapped up, and the final report's release is imminent.

The group's work doesn't end here. Next steps are already being analyzed in the hopes of keeping the momentum alive. This group has made significant progress so far, and they remain in good position to make a true impact in the industry.

Be on the lookout for more related to the Think Tank by checking in regularly at its landing page: www.soa.org/lctthinktank.

LTC EXPERIENCE STUDY

Most of you are familiar with the LTC experience studies that the SOA releases every few years or so. While it's too early in the process to share anything meaningful, I can assure you that a project team has convened to work on the next iteration of the LTC experience study. Be on the lookout for more to come as the year progresses. Check out www.soa.org/research for information about this and other SOA research projects.



LTC REGULATORY RESOURCE

The SOA's Regulatory Resource has been in existence now for more than a year. Feedback that I receive from users suggests that people find it very useful. Visit this resource to find a curated list of primary sources you can consult for significant regulatory information. And take advantage of its newest feature by signing up to receive email updates when changes are made to the site.

Visit www.soa.org/regulatoryresource and click on LTC.

MEETINGS

Once again in 2018 there will be no shortage of meetings available for LTC professionals to attend, both for continuing education purposes and for networking.

- I enjoyed seeing many of you in Las Vegas for the ILTCI Conference. Feel free to provide feedback for ways to make this event even better next year.
- The SOA's Life and Annuity Symposium takes place May 7–8 in Baltimore. For the first time there will be sessions at this event sponsored by the LTC Section! The registration deadline is fast approaching, so please sign up soon.
- The SOA's Health Meeting returns following a hugely successful rendition in 2017. Look for LTC sessions at this can't-miss event taking place June 25–27 in Austin.
- With a slightly different name but the same caliber of top-notch LTC-focused continuing education, you won't want to miss the Supplemental Health, DI & LTC Conference. The SOA is once again co-sponsoring this with LIMRA and LOMA. This year, it will take place in sunny San Diego on Aug. 6–8.

- Later that same month, LTC sessions will be featured at the SOA's Valuation Actuary Symposium. After last year's hurricane, I'm reasonably confident that this year's event should not be impacted by any tropical storms as it takes place in Washington, DC, on Aug. 27–28.
- Finally, don't miss the SOA's marquee event, the 2018 Annual Meeting & Exhibit, in Nashville on Oct. 14–17. Once again, it will be a great opportunity to get LTC continuing education as well as network with your fellow actuaries.

Find out more information about these events, as well as webcast opportunities, by visiting www.soa.org/calendar.

With so much going on at the SOA related to long-term care, it can be difficult to keep it all straight. So let us do the hard work for you. Bookmark www.soa.org/ltc, and come back regularly to see everything that you need to know about LTC and the SOA. ■



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