

SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES

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New deadlines announced for exam registration

New examination registration deadlines will go into effect this fall. Applications for the November 1997 examination session must be received at the Society office by October 1, 1997. Applications that arrive after that date will not be considered. Applications for the February 1998 examination session must be received by January 15, 1998; for the May 1998 session, by April 1, 1998.

Changes in pension track

Candidates should remember that beginning with the fall 1997 exam session, several changes will go into effect in pension track courses:

 Courses P-560, P-561C, and P-562U will be replaced by a new 25-credit elective, P-567, "Retirement Income Security — A Worldwide Perspective." P-561C and P-562U were offered for the last time in fall 1996, and P-560 was offered for the last time in spring 1997.

- Course P-361C, "Design of Retirement Programs — Canada," will contain material from P-565C, offered for the last time in spring 1997. The number of credits will be increased to 25.
- Course P-362U, "Design of Retirement Programs — U. S.," will contain material from P-566U, offered for the last time in fall 1996. The number of credits will be increased to 20.

Reminder: the SOA calculator The current official calculator is the Texas Instruments BA-35 Solar. Though it is nearly identical to the BA-35 battery-powered model, a few calculations are performed somewhat differently. Candidates may continue to use any previous model which bears the official SOA logo; however, any substitute calculator provided by the exam supervisor will be the BA-35 Solar.

SOA's Web site on 'Top 5' list

he Society of Actuaries' Web site has been selected by Harcourt Brace Professional Publishing as a winner in its "Top Five" Web site contest.

Visitors to Harcourt Brace's Web site nominate their favorites, which are then judged by a team of the publisher's book and newsletter editors. Overall excellence, quality of design, and value of content are considered, and the site must be related to accounting or business consulting.

The SOA Web site (www.soa.org) was designed by Centrax, Chicago, with later modifications by Debbie Jay, SOA Webmaster. Peggy Grillot, SOA online systems manager, and Jim Weiss, SOA director of information services, are responsible for overall management.

The SOA Web site was highlighted on Harcourt Brace's weekly "Top Five" page during the week of April 28. Since then, the SOA site has been hot-linked from Harcourt Brace's archives and directory of top sites (www.hbpp.com/topfive/topfive.html).

Cup of good cheer for puzzle solver



Karen Hanson poses with the latest addition to her mug collection — a prize for being chosen January winner of The Actuary's 1997 puzzle contest. The specially designed mug is a 15-ounce cup in cobalt blue with gold letters designating the winner an "F.S.A.P. — Famous Solver of ActuPuzzles." One mug will be presented for each month a puzzle is published to a winner selected at random from that month's solvers. Names of all solvers will be published in The Actuary's puzzle section. Hanson's name was drawn from 87 January solvers. She is associate valuation actuary, Pioneer Financial Services, Schaumburg, Ill.

Section ballot deadline is August 8

section election ballots will be mailed the week of July 7. Please take an active role in the election process that determines your Section leadership. Review the list of Section council candidates and their biographies and vote for the candidate you'd most like to represent you.

Mail your ballot so it will reach the SOA office by Friday, August 8. If you are a member of one or more Sections and do not receive the election mailing by July 21, contact Lela Long at the Society office (phone: 847/706-3533; fax: 847/706-3599; e-mail: llong@soa.org).