



SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES

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OP-ED

Growing with change

by William C. Cutlip

During this summer's editorial board meeting for *The Actuary*, one of the subjects discussed was how to give you, our members, the information you need to grow with change.

Change is all around us — our jobs, our actuarial education system, our employers, our customers, our opportunities, ourselves. (For an observation on some of these changes, see Bob Shapiro's editorial on page 2.)

At our planning session, your editors recommitted themselves to presenting articles in the coming months on critical, emerging issues. These will be designed to help you prepare for the change in actuarial

opportunities and for work that is here and that is coming.

You may see articles which, at first glance, don't seem to have a lot to do with your daily actuarial practice. However, I encourage you to take time to become aware of the issues and opportunities presented. For example, in this issue see the stories on value at risk, equity-indexed products, and using Internet search engines to help actuaries succeed as consultants. Consider not only how they are affecting the profession but also how they can affect you and your work.

We also want to make sure that we present you with information you want and need. Please write to us and let us



know what you would like to learn more about or to see in a clearer focus. We'll do our best to shed light on them in *The Actuary*.

William C. Cutlip, editor of *The Actuary*, can be reached through the SOA office or by e-mail at wcutlip@compuserve.com.

Bolnick is chosen SOA president-elect

Howard J. Bolnick was voted 1997-98 president-elect of the Society of Actuaries in balloting that ended August 12. Formerly president of Celtic Life Insurance Company, Chicago, he is now an adjunct professor of Northwestern University's (NU) Kellogg Graduate School of Management and a fellow of NU's Institute for Health Services Research and Policy Studies.

Also elected were three new Board vice presidents: William F. Bluhm, Robert L. Brown, and Esther H. Milnes.

New members elected to the Board were Gail A. Hall, Stuart Klugman, Ethan E. Kra, Craig R. Raymond, Donald J. Segal, and Jack M. Turnquist.

The Section election results will be announced in the October issue of *The Actuary*.

VIEWPOINTS

New feature

First "question of the month" asks your views of for-profit status

What happens to consumers when nonprofit health insurance payers convert to for-profit status? What's the impact on the insurance industry? Health care providers? Health care quality?

The editors of *The Actuary's* November issue invite you to submit your views for *The Actuary's* first "question of the month" feature,

"Viewpoints." The November issue will report on your answers as part of the issue's theme, "Hot Topics in Health Insurance."

Forward your answers to Jacqueline Bitowt, staff editor, *The Actuary*, at the SOA office (fax: 847/706-3599; e-mail: jbitowt@soa.org). Comments should be received by Oct. 1.