



SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES

Article from:

Pension Section News

February 2003 – Issue No. 51

Controversy Presented and Discussed Live at a June Symposium

Current Pension Actuarial Practice in Light of Financial Economics

The Society of Actuaries and the American Academy of Actuaries joined forces to release a call for papers on the possible intersection between the financial economics model and the pension measurement, accounting and funding models. One introduction to this controversy is included in the paper, with discussions, "Reinventing Pension Actuarial Science" in the January 2003 issue of the *Pension Forum*. We will have accepted at least 19 papers on topics ranging from funding, smoothing, investment strategies and the sponsors viewpoint.

The papers we have received in response to this call will be presented at a two day symposium, during the Society of Actuaries' Spring 2002 meeting in Vancouver on June 24 & 25.

Consider the appropriateness of new, and old, ways to look at pension finances. Find out where you stand and discuss the issues with all sides of the controversy. Attend the symposium.

Investment Strategies Key Focus First LIMRA/LOMA/SOA

Jointly-Sponsored "The Pension Conference"

by John Riley, Managing Director of Continuing Education

Whether or not self-funded retirement is an irresistible trend in the retirement market, the need to plan and administer funds effectively stands as a critical challenge to administrators and workers alike. The Pension Conference, the inaugural event of LIMRA, LOMA and the SOA, will devote a lot of energy to dealing with the difficult investment environment as well as the increased choice and competition that accompanies it. The conference takes place on April 6-8, 2003 at the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront. Complete conference information and registration can be found at <http://www.loma.org/pension.htm>.

Investment strategy takes center stage in the opening keynote. Peter Ricchiuti, the assis-

tant dean at Tulane University's A.B. Freeman School of Business, will address "*Market Signal: What the Financial Markets are Telling Us Now*" in the general session, Monday, April 7. Other sessions of interest include:

- **Redefining the Retirement Market: It's Not Your Father's 401(k) Market** — Trends such as declining plan fees, loss of proprietary assets, lower cost investment vehicles and asset leakage to rollover program lay the groundwork for dramatic change in the 401(k) industry. This session will provide perspectives on the size of the retirement market, the future of the full-service business and the role of scalable advice and strategic partnering.

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Redefining the Retirement Market: It's not your father's 401 (k) Market.

- **Market Timing and Market Timers: Overcoming the Epidemic**—With the market fluctuations and current market conditions, plan participants might go to extreme measures to “beat” the market. Gain insight into the financial implications of market timers on organizations’ portfolios.
- **Choosing and Forming Alliance Partners**—Investment product manufacturers are increasingly embracing the concept of utilizing non-affiliated investment managers. Learn the pro’s and con’s of utilizing various relationship types within insurance trusts and consider what role the product manufacturer plays in the utilization of external managers.
- **Exploring the Retirement Process**—In an environment where retirement is increasingly self-funded, workers are faced with a myriad of decisions. How do people plan and manage retirements? What tools are available to help them do so? What do workers do with a lump sum opportunity from their retirement plans at work? Hear the research that answers these important questions.

- **Value of the Group Annuity Contract vs. Net Asset Value Products**—The group annuity contract has been the cornerstone of many insurance companies’ qualified plan business since the inception of ERISA. The recent introduction of no-load “R” shares by more fund families’ advisors has brought the inherent flexibility of a group variable annuity to light. Hear some perspectives on the value of this for both the organization and the plan sponsor.
- **412(i) Plans—Better Than a Traditional DB Plan?**—Changes to pension law that began in 200 and continue have made 412(i) plans increasingly attractive. Hear an indepth overview of 412(i) plans and advantages over a traditional DB plan and gain insight into situations where this type of plan might be most effectively employed.

Pension actuaries should note that registered attendees of The Pension Conference may also attend sessions at the Seventh Annual Annuity Conference at no additional charge. The Annuity Conference program takes place concurrently and contains more than 30 unique sessions. Session descriptions can be found at <http://www.loma.org/annuity.htm>. ☘



THANKS, JUDY!!

Judy Anderson receiving the “Jolly Good Fellow” award from retiring Pension Section Chairperson, Paul Angelo. Longtime SOA Staff Fellow, Judy is leaving the Retirement Systems Practice Area to become SOA Staff Fellow of Actuarial Education.

“Judy has been a tireless source of ideas, support and wisdom for the volunteers in the Retirement Systems Practice Area. She’s fostered and championed projects at the SOA that have increased our profession proficiency and expanded our possibilities as actuaries. We will miss her greatly.”

—Marilyn Oliver and Paul Angelo, on behalf of the Pension Section