

PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

(Vote for up to three candidates)

Renee West

Rihao Kang

David Elliott

Renee West, FSA, MAAA
Principal
RC West Consulting LLC
St. Paul, MN

Professional Background

Renee has deep expertise and experience in product development and strategy with over 30 years in the industry. She is an independent consultant in the last 18 months helping companies with their product and strategy development and implementation. Prior to that, she was at Allianz Life as senior vice president of Corporate Strategy, New Markets and Global Business Initiatives as well as senior vice president for product development. She has a track record of success of bringing sustainable growth thru understanding customer and market trends, and building innovation, product and market capabilities within the organization.



Society of Actuaries Experience (Section and committee memberships and participation)

Member of the following sections: product development, financial reporting, investments, LTC, Marketing and Distribution, Taxation, Reinsurance

Exam writer, curriculum committee, module team for Corporate Finance and ERM

Other Relevant Volunteer Experience

Board member for Wings for Widows

Mentor for scholarship applicant, MTFC volunteer for Actuarial Foundation

Why are you interested in leading this section?

I am interested in helping develop our capabilities as product development actuaries. As actuaries, we are key to developing the solutions to help meet the challenges that our customers and our companies are facing. We are in the midst of times where the opportunity for actuaries to make a difference is greater than ever. The section can be instrumental in increasing the relevance and impact of our actuaries.

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

**Rihao Kang, ASA,
Associate Director, Pricing IFRS 17 Implementation
RBC Insurance
Toronto, ON**

Professional Background

Rihao has a wide range of experience in insurance pricing, financial reporting, and product development. He began his career with life insurance product development, where he worked on integrating traditional life insurance products with the behavior-science based, Vitality program in the Canadian insurance market. He has also worked in insurance pricing and has technical and product knowledge about various life and health insurance product. Currently, he is leading the IFRS 17 transition-related pricing initiatives as an Associate Director at RBC insurance.



Society of Actuaries Experience (Section and committee memberships and participation)

Coordinated with SOA and influenced future students with the benefit of actuarial science careers; Organized SOA's Student Outreach Day at the University of Waterloo campus – 2018

Other Relevant Volunteer Experience

Led a group of 11 volunteers to help aspiring students with actuarial job search through resume critique and mock interviews; organized multiple networking events between employers and 200+ actuarial science students.

Volunteered and presented actuarial science career path, exam preparation, and multiple technical topics to actuarial students

Coordinated with SOA to better promote actuarial science fields on the University of Waterloo campus.

Why are you interested in leading this section?

I enjoy reading some of the articles and research published in Product Matters. I find great value in these publications because they are relevant and helpful to my daily pricing work. I am interested in leading the Product Development Section because I can provide new perspectives through my Canadian insurance and actuarial experience. I can further contribute to content creation and research topics by leveraging my experience in product development and pricing to provide more value to the section readers.

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

David Elliott, FSA, MAAA, CERA
Manager
Oliver Wyman
Seattle, WA

Professional Background

I am a Manager in the Seattle office of Oliver Wyman, focused on annuity product development, reinsurance, and hedging. I have 11 years of experience covering:

- Development of innovative fixed indexed annuity and registered index linked annuity solutions
- Design of hedging and reinsurance programs to support new product benefits and improve pricing
- Distribution support including competitive intelligence and marketing material development
- Product implementation support including contract drafting, product filing, and administrative system builds
- Development of annuity product education for wholesalers and financial professionals



Prior to joining Oliver Wyman, I worked as a product development actuary at Allianz Life and as a derivatives trader at PPM America.

Society of Actuaries Experience (Section and committee memberships and participation)

- Currently co-authoring a study note for future SOA exams covering registered index linked annuities
- Member of the Product Development section

Other Relevant Volunteer Experience

- Minds Matter Twin Cities: Executive Committee member and Head of Test Prep (2015-2019)

Why are you interested in leading this section?

I believe that developing new and innovative insurance solutions helps our industry better serve the public. The Product Development Section Council has the opportunity to foster innovation throughout the industry by helping actuaries navigate changing economic, demographic and regulatory environments.

I will contribute to the Product Development Section by using publications, continuing education and networking to connect actuaries and support product development across the industry.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦