



SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES

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# Pension Section News

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was chosen as Chairperson, Marilyn Oliver as Vice-Chairperson, John Kalnberg as Treasurer, and Eric Freden as Secretary. The Council also recognized its retiring members, Bruce Cadenhead, Adrien LaBombarde, and Sylvia Pozezanac, and expressed appreciation for their contributions and dedication.

10. The status of seminars was discussed. John Kalnberg reported that the Experience Analysis seminar was a success. It will be added to the SOA virtual campus, with some interactive aspects. There will not be a charge for the on-line seminar, but there will be a charge for receiving EA credit from it.

The Executive Compensation Seminar which was scheduled for the latter part of 2001 has been postponed until 2002.

Two other seminars that are planned are EGTRRA and the Retirement Implications of Demographic and Family Change.

11. Topics were chosen for the Spring meeting, and recruiters were assigned. Zenaida Samaniego will coordinate the Section activities with the Society. Sixteen sessions are planned, subject to change. A joint luncheon with the Investment Section and a joint reception with the Health Section are under consideration and will be investigated further.

12. Lois Chinnock will contact Section members to arrange the next conference call. □

## New On-line CE Program Asks: Are You Experienced?

by John Riley

This July, the SOA Virtual Campus adds a new on-line training course titled "Experience Analysis and Actuarial Assumptions: Practical Applications." This program was developed from a live seminar conducted last year by John Kalnberg of Mellon HR Benefit Solutions, Stuart Schulman of Buck Consultants and Douglas Johnson of Mercer. This production was made possible by the Pension Section, and members and non-members will be able to view the course at no charge.

The course introduces and defines experience studies; covers the relevant Actuarial Standards of Practice; explains what steps to take to perform a study; distinguishes between types of assumptions; and covers pertinent client presentation issues. The program uses Shockwave software, which is downloadable at no charge from the SOA site and provides streaming audio, text transcripts and full-color graphics. There are also some multiple-choice questions within the program to test the student's knowledge of material presented earlier. With nearly 300 slides in the seminar, this course is recommended to satisfy five hours of core

continuing education credit for Enrolled Actuaries. While the SOA recommends topics to satisfy core and non-core continuing education credit, the final decision as to meeting those requirements rests with the Joint Board for the Enrollment of Actuaries.

Anyone can view the seminar by signing up through the SOA Virtual Campus, but there is a fee to obtain the course questionnaire and certificate of completion from the SOA Continuing Education department. A questionnaire to verify completion of the material is a requirement for individual study programs. The questionnaire processing fee is \$250 for non-members of the Pension Section, \$150 for members of the Pension Section, and \$75 for anyone who is enrolled in the Pension/EA Distance Learning Subscription Program. Instructions for obtaining the questionnaire will be posted under the course catalog per Web site section at the Virtual Campus as soon as the program is available. A portion of the fees generated by the questionnaires will be returned to the Pension Section to defray the cost of producing the seminar on-line. □



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