

Annual Meeting and Public Policy Forum Highlights Professionalism, Key Policy Issues

THE ACADEMY'S 2018 Annual Meeting and Public Policy Forum spotlighted key public policy and professionalism issues, with attendees hearing from high-profile speakers from government, media, and academia, as well as actuarial experts in practice-area breakout sessions.

At the Nov. 1-2 event in Washington, D.C., Shawna Ackerman became the Academy's 54th president, succeeding Steve Alpert. The Academy also honored recipients of this year's Jarvis Farley Service Award and Robert J. Myers Public Service Award, and bestowed annual Outstanding Volunteerism Awards to four recipients.

Ackerman, in her inaugural address to Academy members, emphasized the Academy's "voice," noting that the Academy "is different because, by design, we are a reflective organization, which synthesizes, develops, and speaks to serious issues affecting thousands of our peers . . . [and] our work also affects millions of our fellow Americans." Read Ackerman's [full](#)



Incoming Academy President Shawna Ackerman accepts the gavel from outgoing President Steve Alpert

[inaugural address here](#), and see the video on the Academy's [Facebook page](#).

Alpert, in his outgoing remarks, noted that in a half-dozen *Contingencies* articles, including in the current November/December issue, the Academy has explored the dimensions of the "public interest"—from the public's expectations for governance of the profession, to the

SEE **ANNUAL MEETING**, PAGE 6

Plenary Sessions Cover Health, Pension, Professionalism, Election Issues

PLENARY SESSION speakers at the Annual Meeting and Public Policy Forum covered everything from the nation's health care and pension systems to professionalism and a timely and on-point political prognostication, just days before the nation's midterm elections.

Charlie Cook, editor and publisher of the *Cook Political Report*, gave the Nov. 2 keynote address, with a "just in time" overview of the midterm elections four days before Election Day. Cook's fascinating deep dive into the numbers

of the nation's electoral map, which was [carried live by C-SPAN](#), was well received at the meeting's final luncheon forum.

The capital pundit accurately forecast Democrats would regain control of the House, estimating the increase at 25 to 45 seats, more than the 23 required. Democrats ended up with a nearly 40-seat increase. Cook also predicted Republicans would retain control of the Senate, holding its slim majority with an even or small seat gain, which also matched the Election Day results.

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Charlie Cook gives his keynote address on the U.S. midterm elections, which was carried live by C-SPAN

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Academy Presents at NAIC Fall Meeting

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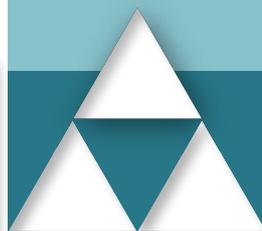
December webinars: Big Data, professionalism

10-11

Annual Meeting Photo Album

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'Professionalism Counts'—The ABCs (and D) of CE



DECEMBER

6-7 [Seminar on Effective P/C Loss Reserve Opinions](#), Chicago (sold out)

18 [Emerging Underwriting Methodologies in a PBR World](#), joint Academy-SOA webinar

19 Webinar: [Big Data and the Role of the Actuary](#)

20 Professionalism Webinar: [More Tales From the Dark Side: Ethical Cases at the ABCD](#)

2019

APRIL

8-10 [PBR Boot Camp](#), Orlando, Fla.

Academy NEWS Briefs

Results of Member Voting on Proposed Bylaw Amendments

THE ACADEMY'S ELECTION vendor, Intelliscan, provided the official results of the online and mailed votes cast by eligible members on two proposed changes to the Academy Bylaws. Proposal 1, a change recommended by the Academy Board of Directors, won a majority of votes but not the two-thirds supermajority required to be incorporated into our bylaws. Proposal 2, initiated by petition, was voted down decisively, with 57.99 percent of votes against. As a result of these two votes, the Academy Bylaws remain unchanged. Read the [member update](#). ▲

Academy Dues for 2019

ACADEMY PRESIDENT Shawna Ackerman's Nov. 7 [letter to members](#) announced the membership renewal period and included a link to "[The Meaning of Your Membership](#)," which highlighted the many mission-critical aspects of the Academy's work in 2018. To conveniently pay your annual dues, you may [log in via the Academy's website](#). ▲

Academy Attends IAA Annual Meeting

ACADEMY REPRESENTATIVES are presently attending the International Actuarial Association (IAA) council and committee meetings in Mexico City through Dec. 3. The Academy has raised governance concerns about some of the activities of the IAA and is participating in robust discussions in Mexico City regarding the possible restructuring of IAA committees and activities that are necessary, in the Academy's view, to sustain our support. ▲



LHQ Seminar Draws Capacity Crowd

MORE THAN 100 PEOPLE attended the Academy's sold-out [Life and Health Qualifications Seminar](#) Nov. 4-8 in Arlington, Va. Now in its 18th year, the seminar and its interactive sessions continue to be highly valued by attendees, with many returning every few years to brush up on skills. Actuaries who attended the seminar had the opportunity to acquire required basic education and continuing education to be qualified to sign statements of actuarial opinion (SAOs) for NAIC Life and Health annual statements. Academy President-Elect D. Joëff Williams was chairperson of the committee that organized the seminar. ▲



For a list of all previous and upcoming Academy events, please visit the Academy's online [Events Calendar](#).

To continue receiving the *Update* and other Academy publications on time, make sure the Academy has your correct contact information. Academy members can update their member profile at the [member login](#) page on the Academy [website](#).

Academy NEWS

Academy Presents at NAIC Fall National Meeting

ACADEMY VOLUNTEERS gave a series of presentations at the NAIC Fall 2018 National Meeting in San Francisco in mid-November, addressing a variety of life, health, casualty, and professionalism topics.

Academy President Shawna Ackerman gave an update on the latest activities of the Academy's Committee on Property and Liability Financial Reporting (COPLFR) and Casualty Practice Council (CPC) to NAIC's Casualty Actuarial and Statistical Task Force (CASTF). The Academy's Health Practice Council/Casualty Practice Council (HPC/CPC) joint work group also gave an update on bond risk-based capital factors.

Past President Mary D. Miller, Actuarial Standards Board Chairperson Beth Fitzgerald, and Actuarial Board for Counseling and Discipline member Godfrey Perrott presented updates on Academy professionalism activities, including to CASTF and NAIC's Health Actuarial Task Force (HATF) and to the Life Actuarial Task Force (LATF).

The Academy also hosted its usual regulator-only professionalism breakfast and discussion forum on Nov. 15, at which Miller, Fitzgerald, and Perrott, along with Tom Campbell, representing the Academy's Committee on Qualifications, presented and took questions at the well-attended session.

The Academy released a [post-NAIC alert](#) on our meeting activity and hosted a Nov. 29 post-NAIC webinar on key life issues from the meeting—slides and audio are available free to members on the [Academy website](#).

Presentations to LATF included:

- ▲ Donna Claire, chairperson of the Principle-Based Reserves (PBR) Governance Work Group [provided an update](#) on the Academy's involvement with principle-based reserves. Claire also alerted attendees about the Academy's 2019 [PBR Boot Camp](#), scheduled for April 8–10 in Orlando, Fla.
- ▲ Chris Conrad, vice chairperson of the SVL Interest Rate Modernization Work Group, [gave an update](#) on modern-



izing the process of setting valuation interest rates for all non-variable annuities.

- ▲ John Miller, co-chairperson of the Annuity Reserves Work Group, [presented an update](#) on recommended changes to VM-22.
- ▲ Arnold Dicke and Sheldon Summers [gave a presentation](#) on behalf of the Life Reinsurance Work Group on potential issues relating to VM-20 Credit for Reinsurance.

Health presentations included:

- ▲ Academy volunteer Dave Plumb presented a new [issue brief](#) that looks at long-term care (LTC) insurance.
- ▲ Warren Jones, chairperson of the Academy's LTC Combo Valuations Work Group, [gave an update](#) on the group's activities to NAIC's LTC Actuarial Working Group.
- ▲ Barb Klever, chairperson of the Individual and Small Group Markets Committee, presented updates to HATF on the HPC's activities.

Also this month, Academy Past President Mary D. Miller [sent comments to the NAIC](#) on CASTF's latest draft three-year experience proposal. ▲

Academy Representatives Attend CAS Meeting

ACADEMY PRESIDENT SHAWNA ACKERMAN and Executive Director Mary Downs attended the Casualty Actuarial Society's (CAS) Annual Meeting in Las Vegas in mid-November to honor Brian Brown on his year as CAS president and congratulate Jim Christie as he begins his year as CAS president. There were many other Academy members and staff at this very well-attended meeting. ASB member Christopher Carlson and incoming ASB member Pat Woods also took part in a roundtable on how the ASB operates. ▲



Professionalism Webinar to Explore ‘More Tales From the Dark Side’

IN A NEW EDITION OF LAST YEAR’S December professionalism webinar, you will see additional case studies in the Academy’s final professionalism webinar for 2018. “[More Tales From the Dark Side: Ethical Cases at the ABCD](#),” set for Dec. 20, will provide interesting and interactive opportunities for discussing ethical issues with examples based on matters that have been brought to the attention of the Actuarial Board for Counseling and Discipline (ABCD).

Presenters David Driscoll and Godfrey Perrott—both ABCD members—will describe reference points actuaries should look to in each case to stay on the right side of the Code of Professional Conduct and discuss illustrative information and guidance the ABCD has provided to actuaries through the ABCD’s Request for Guidance (RFG) process. The Academy believes in good faith that attendees may earn up to 1.8 continuing education credits and 1.8 core ethics continuing professionalism education credits under JBEA rules. The webinar will be held on Thursday, Dec. 20, from noon to 1:30 p.m. ET.

[Register today.](#) ▲

Big Data Webinar Set for December

THE ACADEMY WILL HOST a webinar, “[Big Data and the Role of the Actuary](#),” next month. The webinar will draw from the Academy’s Big Data Task Force [monograph](#) of the same name that was released in June. Task force member panelists—Academy Health Vice President Audrey Halvorson, Bob Miccolis, and Martin Snow—will discuss current and emerging practices, important regulatory and professionalism considerations, and the current state of the InsurTech field. Task force Vice Chairperson Dorothy Andrews will moderate. The Academy believes this event constitutes an organized activity as defined under the current Qualification Standards for Actuaries Issuing Statements of Actuarial Opinion in the United States, and that attendees may earn up to 1.8 continuing education credits for attending the live webinar, which will be held Dec. 19 from noon to 1:30 p.m. ET. [Register today.](#) ▲

Recently Released

IN THE NOVEMBER/DECEMBER issue of [Contingencies](#), the cover story, “The Kids Are Alright,” takes a look at nine actuaries under 40, and finds that the profession is in good hands moving forward. The actuaries share their perspectives about the big picture—and where the profession is headed. There is also a President’s Message on why actuaries need to do the right thing every day; a deep dive into retrospective unlocking; and actuaries’ professional responsibility to “eat their spinach.”

The Academy published a new *Essential Elements* paper, “[Big Data, Big Changes for Insurance and Pensions](#),” which highlights the opportunities and challenges that rapidly evolving advancements in data analysis and storage pose for insurers, consumers, and regulators. The *Essential Elements* series is designed to make actuarial analyses of public policy issues clearer to general audiences.

[The Retirement Report](#) fall issue covers retirement presentations from the Academy’s Annual Meeting and Public Policy Forum, including plenary sessions; and recent legislative and regulatory activity.

The November [HealthCheck](#) recaps health highlights from the Academy’s Annual Meeting and Public Policy Forum, including a reference pricing session based on just released new Academy research that was livestreamed (and is available for replay) on the Academy’s Facebook page. Also in this issue: the Life and Health Qualifications Seminar, the results of health-related Election Day ballot measures in several states, and recent state and federal legislative and regulatory activity. ▲



IN THE NEWS / MEDIA ACTIVITY

A discussion of ensuring Social Security’s ongoing solvency on [Newsradio 740 KTRH](#)’s (Houston) Nov. 13 morning news program mentioned the Academy’s [Social Security Game](#) as a tool for understanding options for addressing Social Security’s financial condition.

The NAIC [congratulated](#) Elise Liebers for receiving the Academy’s 2018 Robert J. Myers Public Service award at the Academy’s Annual Meeting and Public Policy Forum.

An [Adviser Voice](#) (Australia) story on the Actuaries Institute’s launch of the Australian Actuaries Climate index noted that the new index “was built following the establishment of a similar tool in the United States and Canada.” The new index is similar to the Academy’s jointly sponsored [Actuaries Climate Index](#) (ACI), launched in November 2016, which provides a quarterly gauge of changes in extreme weather events and sea levels in the United States and Canada. [Actuarial Review](#), the bimonthly magazine of the

Casualty Actuarial Society, also reported on the ACI.

[Chief Investment Officer, Plan Sponsor](#), and [Plan Adviser](#) reported on the ASB’s [Actuarial Standard of Practice No. 51](#), Assessment and Disclosure of Risk Associated with Measuring Pension Obligations and Determining Pension Plan Contributions, which took effect Nov. 1.

A [Forbes](#) column discussing the option of changing Social Security’s limit on taxable earnings cited the Academy’s [Social Security Game](#), which provides estimated effects of such changes on the program’s financial condition.

A [pet column](#) in [TulsaWorld](#) cited statistics from “[A Policy for Fluffy](#),” a feature about pet insurance from the September/October issue of [Contingencies](#).

[Wolters Kluwer Law & Business](#) cited the Academy’s [issue brief](#) on association health plans. ▲

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Annual Meeting, continued from page 1

value the profession brings to the public, the importance of independence and objectivity in balancing fairness and security needs and building trust, and how both the Academy and individual members' actions are necessary to build and sustain that trust.

He also thanked the Academy's 1,200 volunteers and encouraged members to become active as volunteers. Read his [farewell address here](#), and see the video on the Academy's [Facebook page](#). The Academy also welcomed its new officers and directors (see previous page).

Academy Service Award Winners



Geoffrey Sandler speaks after accepting the Academy's Jarvis Farley Service Award

Geoffrey Sandler received the Jarvis Farley Service Award, which honors an actuary whose volunteer efforts on behalf of the Academy have made significant contributions to the advancement of the profession. Sandler's long and distinguished record of volunteerism includes serving as the Academy's vice president of both health and professionalism, as well as prolific contributions in numerous other volunteer positions.

"There are plenty of opportunities to share our expertise for the good of the public and the profession," Sandler said. "It's easy for us to go about our day-to-day jobs and lose sight of how important our profession is in providing a sound basis for protecting the financial security needs of the public relating to life insurance, retirement plans, health care programs, and property and casualty protections."

Elise Liebers received the Robert J. Myers Public Service Award. Established in 1994, the award is named for the lifelong commitment to public service by Robert J. Myers, who helped structure and establish funding mechanisms for Social Security during his tenure as the chief actuary of the Social Security Administration from 1947 to 1970. Liebers' wide-ranging and impressive public service accomplishments span work at the New York State Insurance Department (now the Department of Financial Services), her work in developing an NAIC risk-based capital formula, building insurance expertise within the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, and for being a leading U.S. voice at the International Association of Insurance Supervisors on financial stability and international standards for insurance supervision.



Elise Liebers accepts the Academy's Robert J. Myers Public Service Award from Steve Alpert

"Thank you to the Academy for acknowledging the contributions of actuaries who devote their careers to public service," said Liebers. "The actuarial skill set, education, independence, and professional requirements combine to make actuaries uniquely qualified to assess the implications of various policy alternatives. The actuary's technical working knowledge of insurance is not at all easily substituted for, and I believe that actuarial perspective has been, and will continue to be, essential for sound policymaking."

Outstanding Volunteerism Awards were given to Academy volunteers Karen Bender (health), Lauren Cavanaugh (casualty); Jason Russell (pension); and Wayne Stuenkel (life), honoring their exceptional volunteerism contributions in these practice areas in the past year. ▲



Karen Bender



Lauren Cavanaugh



Jason Russell



Wayne Stuenkel

2018 Outstanding Volunteerism Awards winners receive their awards from outgoing President Steve Alpert



Plenary Sessions, continued from page 1

GAO Perspective: Retirement Systems and the Economy

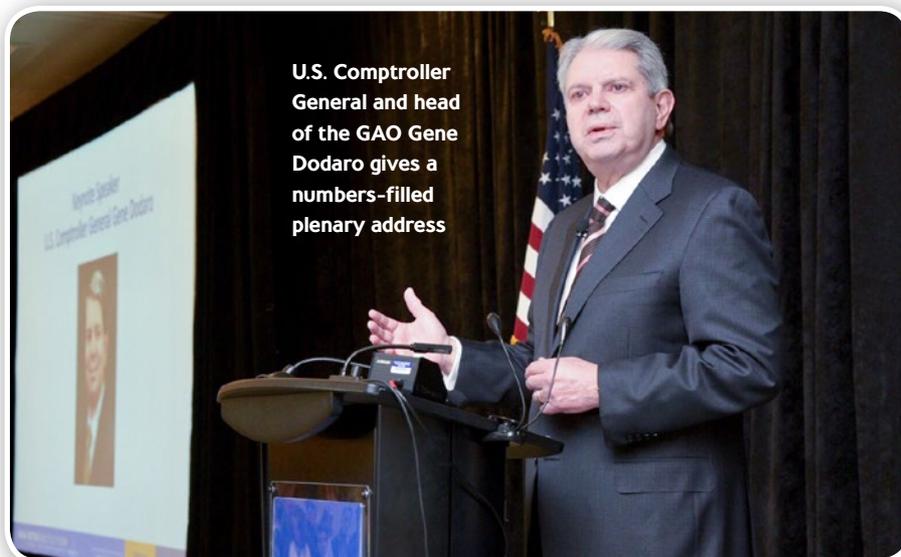
Gene Dodaro, U.S. comptroller general and head of the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO), was the Nov. 1 lunchtime plenary speaker. Dodaro, who also spoke at the Academy's 2015 annual meeting, thanked Academy members for their actuarial assistance and expertise on pension, health care, property/casualty, and life issues. The Academy and GAO are “both in the business of identifying objective, fact-based information that can assist policymakers and advance major public policy issues,” Dodaro said.

As comptroller general, Dodaro helps oversee the development and production of hundreds of reports and testimony each year before various committees and individual members of Congress. GAO reviews all aspects of the federal government's operations, including many on pensions, retirement, 401(k) plans, and related issues, Dodaro said, noting that its 2017 report cautioned a potential “huge, looming retirement security crisis in the United States.” He said fundamental pillars of government- and employer-based retirement systems, along with individuals' plans, “all were experiencing shifts and challenges,” and noted that the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation's multiemployer pension program has a more than 90 percent chance of becoming insolvent by 2025.

By 2034, the Social Security system will only have 77 cents on the dollar to make payments for its programs, while a third of people over age 65 rely solely on Social Security for more than 90 percent of their income. “If Bob Myers was here, he'd be concerned about that,” Dodaro said, referencing Robert J. Myers—who helped structure and fund Social Security during his tenure as the chief actuary of the Social Security Administration from 1947 to 1970, and for whom the Academy's annual public service award is named.

With a relatively low national savings

“If people will have enough retirement savings to last until the end of their life is a big question.”



U.S. Comptroller General and head of the GAO Gene Dodaro gives a numbers-filled plenary address

rate of about 5 percent, “many people don't have any retirement savings at all, or very small amounts,” Dodaro said. Coupled with greater longevity, “if people will have enough retirement savings to last until the end of their life is a big question,” he said.

One of GAO's goals is to try to identify challenges ahead of time in order to alert Congress to act, Dodaro said. “Our major recommendation was that [Congress]

needed to create a commission to look comprehensively at this [retirement] system,” he said, adding that the situation is happening against a backdrop of a large federal debt and deficit, with the cumulative national debt topping \$21 trillion at the end of fiscal year 2018.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates the U.S. deficit will be over \$1 trillion each year between 2020 and 2028, with growing interest that could account for the largest component in the federal budget, Dodaro told attendees. Other deficit drivers include health care spending, which continues to grow faster than the economy in part because of the demographic factor of 10,000 Baby Boomers set to turn 65 every day through 2029. GAO will be issuing its next report on the fiscal health of the federal government in 2019.

EBSA's Rutledge Addresses Proposed Federal Rules

Preston Rutledge, assistant secretary of labor for the U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL) Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA), was the Nov. 1 opening plenary-session speaker. EBSA's mission is to assure the security of the retirement, health, and other workplace-related benefits of U.S. workers and their families by developing effective regulations; and assisting and educating workers, plan sponsors, fiduciaries and service providers.

Rutledge outlined a series of federal health- and retirement-related rules that are in development—with some open to public comment, including a “pooled employer plan,” which is [accepting comments](#) through Dec. 24.

EBSA's agenda includes regulatory, compliance, and enforcement aspects. Its recent activities—driven by the President's executive order of October 2017—were driven by three areas of health care: association health plans (AHPs), short-term limited duration (STLD) insurance plans, and health reimbursement arrangements (HRAs). State insurance commissioners have the same regulatory authority they did before the rule was published, he said. The applicability dates of the rule were Sept. 1, with upcoming dates of Jan. 1 and

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April 1 of 2019 for some self-funded plans.

STLD plans, like AHPs, can typically last for up to 12 months. A 2017 rule reduced that down to three months, but the president directed EBSA to restore the 12-month window, with some possibilities of renewal for up to 36 months. EBSA published a final rule in August that took effect in October, though states have the option to delay the effective date, Rutledge said.

For health reimbursement arrangements, EBSA [proposed a rule](#) in late October that will be open for public comment through Dec. 28. It would allow employees of large businesses to use funds from HRAs to pay for individual health insurance plans, which is prohibited under existing regulations; allow employers that offer traditional group coverage to provide HRAs of up to \$1,800 annually; and include safeguards requiring employers to offer the same type of coverage (either an HRA or a traditional group plan) to all workers within the same class (such as seasonal or part-time workers), as well as a disclosure provision intended to ensure that employees understand the benefits they are receiving.

DOL is also seeking comments on a similar proposed rule in the pension area—"association retirement plans and other multiple-employer plans," Rutledge said. That proposed rule, [published Oct. 23](#), has a goal of "level[ing] the playing field between small- and mid-sized businesses," Rutledge said. If smaller employers band together, through associations or a professional employer organization, that could lower the fees their plans charge, he said. Further, the idea with this proposal is employees for smaller firms would have the ability to accumulate assets in a similar way as someone in a large firm.

"We very much look forward to receiving comments on this rule, and particularly from groups like yours who understand the retirement landscape better than most anybody," Rutledge said. The comment period ends Dec. 24.

Another aspect of the executive order was retirement plan disclosures—to make things like benefit statements, summary plan descriptions, and annual reports more

usable, more understandable and more effective—and less expensive, by potentially utilizing electronic options, Rutledge said. That proposal will likely be out next year. "Be thinking about it, tee it up, have it ready," he said, regarding future comments to that impending rule. "We take the public comment process very seriously."

EBSA's long-term regulatory agenda—which it publishes once a year and is not part of the executive order—includes regulatory ideas in the area of providing lifetime income. "We're going to consider what steps we might take in the area of lifetime income options that would address the issue of mitigating longevity risk in a defined-contribution world," he said. That could include qualified default investment alternatives (QDIAs) and lifetime income disclosures that might leave participants with an overestimation of their financial security if they haven't converted that to a lifetime income stream, and could potentially reduce their future savings plans.

"Any kind of evidence, in the literature or elsewhere, that would convince you, and you could convince us, that these lifetime income illustrations actually affect behavior—do they actually encourage people to save more?...—would be extremely helpful. We have to be able to show an effect," he said, noting that the Office of Management and Budget has the final say.

Big Data's Issues, Implications

Academy Penultimate Past President Bob Beuerlein chaired the Nov. 2 plenary session on Big Data, in which speakers Patrick McPharlin and Cara LaPointe addressed aspects of this topical issue following the Academy's [monograph, *Big Data and the Role of the Actuary*](#), released in June. "Big Data is changing the way we do things," said Beuerlein, who is chairperson of the Academy's Big Data Task Force. "We have new algorithms, new ways of storing and manipulating data. How do they affect the actuarial profession? All these new methods are what I would call 'business disruptors' ... that impact how we price products, how we analyze risk, and how we manage risk."

McPharlin, chair of the NAIC's Technology and Innovation Task Force and Director of the Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services, provided insight on addressing regulatory and public policy concerns associated with the evolution of Big Data. His talk covered everything from rates to facial recognition and autonomous vehicle technology. In determining if rates are valid, a Big Data-related question that might come up is, "Are you actuaries or computer scientists? Or is the next generation going to have to be both to understand the models?" McPharlin said.

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Cara LaPointe, of Georgetown University, speaks at the Big Data plenary session



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LaPointe, senior fellow at Georgetown University's Beeck Center for Social Impact and Innovation, provided perspective on the ethical and governance implications on Big Data and emerging technologies for public policy. LaPointe has spent her career focused on the intersection of leadership, technology, policy, and ethics. She previously served as interim director of the President's Commission on White House Fellowships, a nonpartisan leadership development program, and spent more than two decades in the U.S. Navy, most recently as chief of staff to the deputy assistant secretary of the Navy for Unmanned Systems.

She spoke regarding unresolved ethical issues in Big Data. "Your identity is a collection of digital breadcrumbs that you are leaving—it's all these identifiers that add up, and people can make conclusions about them without you even knowing," LaPointe said. In response to questions about digital footprints losing sight of actual people, and the ethical concerns around that, "it doesn't mean

that you are what these digital representations say," she said. Asked about identity safeguards, she cited Europe's new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which is "an effort to start to aggressively protect people's information and privacy."

Professionalism Game Show

In a game-show style competition that capped off the Nov. 1 plenary sessions, 10 contestants matched wits in an exciting game-show competition dubbed "Who Wants to Be Chief Actuary?" Contestants were given a series of questions that attendees could also vote on via text message in the preliminary rounds. The scenarios covered hypothetical ethical situations actuaries may face—partially based on actual events, and some of which included ethical "gray areas"—and how to handle them.

Incoming Health Vice President Audrey Halvorson was master of ceremonies, and Academy Past President Tom Wildsmith and Vice President of

Professionalism and President-Elect D. Joeff Williams served as judges of the spirited competition. In an introductory discussion about the differences between integrity and accountability, Wildsmith said that "integrity has to do with the way you do your work, and accountability are those back-end processes to make sure it is done correctly."

Williams discussed the quality of the actuarial work product, which involves bringing in elements of actuarial standards of practice and communication. "Competency needs to be there from a foundational standpoint," he said. "Do you have that continuing education, that experience ... that will lead to a quality product?" He added that those elements, plus the Code of Professional Conduct, are "what defines us as a self-regulated profession. The Code is what maintains that, and allows us to be self-regulated."

Ultimately Laura Hanson won the title of "Chief Actuary," but all participants in the interactive session enjoyed themselves—and educated attendees. ▲

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ANNUAL MEETING & PUBLIC POLICY FORUM



Outgoing Academy President Steve Alpert gives his farewell address

“A must for those who want to keep up with actuarial professionalism developments in the U.S.” – 2018 Attendee



President-Elect D. Joeff Williams and Past President Tom Wildsmith were judges for the Professionalism Game Show



Donna Novak (left) and Lisa Slotznick compare answers during the Professionalism Game Show



Patrick McPharlin, chair of the NAIC's Technology and Innovation Task Force, speaks at the Big Data plenary session



Past Academy Life VP Jeff Johnson asks a question at a life session. Elise Liebers (left) was this year's recipient of the Academy's Robert J. Myers Public Service Award.

ANNUAL MEETING & PUBLIC POLICY FORUM



“The place to meet the people who are fighting to give actuaries a voice in the public policy discussions.” –2018 Attendee

Charlie Cook handicaps the 2018 midterm elections in his closing keynote address that was simulcast by C-SPAN



Whodunit? The murder-mystery dinner entertainment

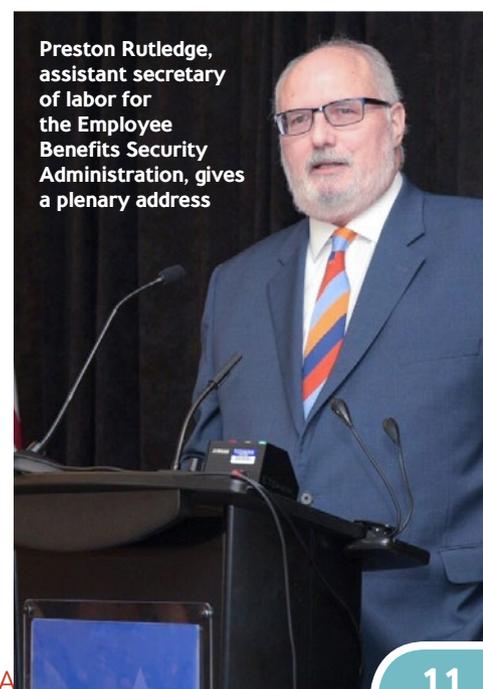


Past President Bob Beuerlein and new Academy President Shawna Ackerman enjoy the Professionalism Game Show



Prohibition-era style fun at the evening entertainment's photo booth

2018 AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ACTUARIES ANNUAL MEETING AND PUBLIC POLICY FORUM



Preston Rutledge, assistant secretary of labor for the Employee Benefits Security Administration, gives a plenary address



Breakout Sessions Cover Key Practice-Area Issues

Breakout sessions at the Annual Meeting and Public Policy Forum featured a wide array of actuarial and public policy experts who addressed key issues in casualty, health, life, and pension practice areas.

Casualty

Casualty Sessions Look at the New Economy

A breakout session on *“The New Economy and Insurance”* drew an overflow crowd. Steve Armstrong, a senior actuary at Allstate and president-elect of the Casualty Actuarial Society, described the rapid expansion of the so-called sharing economy, saying that approximately 80 million Americans currently participate on the demand side while roughly 52 million are on the supply side of these deals.

New models are emerging for insuring private automobiles that sometimes are used as taxis or are rented to other users, according to Armstrong. He noted that “personal lines and commercial lines tend to be regulated separately, but in the sharing economy the lines are blurred.” He expects that various forms of micro-insurance will become more common and says a key question, on both the supply and demand side, is, “How do I know if I am insured?”

David Michaels raised a similar question about workers as he discussed the “gig economy.” He is a professor at George Washington University and is the former head of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Michaels described the trend toward workplaces using contractors, subcontractors, and temporary workers, rather than full-time employees. Numerous studies show that workplace injury rates are highest the first few days that a person is doing a new job. Yet, Michaels says, there are now more than 10 million temporary workers in the U.S. and each of them becomes a new worker five to 10 times per year. Jim Lynch, chief actuary for the Insurance Information Institute and moderator of this discussion, added, “What we’re talking about is fundamental change in the employment relationship.”

In the session on *“Climate Risk and Insurance,”* moderated by Rade Musulin,



outgoing Academy vice president for casualty, the panelists looked at the challenges of protecting property in a time of changing climate conditions.

Shana Urdvary reported on the Union of Concerned Scientists’ recent research into the current and projected future effects of rising sea level on properties located along the U.S. coasts. She said that tidal flooding has increased already and that \$117 billion in current property value is at risk within the next 20 years. Gabe Maser of the International Code Council then discussed the role building codes can play in mitigating damage from flooding and other hazards. Musulin asked whether the code development process takes into account expected changes in the threat from rising sea level and other climate changes. Maser said that not all states are using current versions of the building codes, noting that six states are using versions that are at least 10 years old. “We could use your help” in going to states and regulators to speed up the adoption of the latest code standards, he said.

In the *“Government-Backed P/C Insurance Programs”* session, incoming Academy President Shawna Ackerman opened the program by observing that the Academy’s [monograph on actuarial](#)

[soundness](#) specifically noted that the rules are different for programs that are run or guaranteed by federal or state governments.

Silvia Arbelaez-Ellis described a project she leads at the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to review all of the insurance programs in the federal government’s portfolio. She says there are about 60 loan guarantee programs and 70 programs that offer compensation or coverage. Frank Todisco, chief actuary at the GAO and a former senior pension fellow at the Academy, explained that GAO is wrestling with how to apply the concept of actuarial soundness to programs that may run statutory deficits or where the Treasury is assumed to be the reserve or where subsidies are required by law. He suggested that the phrase “actuarially unsound” might be reserved to describe only those programs where there is an actual risk to the payment of future benefits.

John Pedrick, chairperson of the Academy’s Workers’ Compensation Committee, described some state-run programs and explained how they differ from the private sector. At the top of his list is the fact that most of these programs must take all comers and they often exist to handle risks that the private sector has declined to handle.



Health

Health Sessions Feature New Reference-Pricing Research

After a year of further regulatory changes surrounding the Affordable Care Act, including the implementation of administrative executive orders, representatives from the Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight (CCIIO) provided the audience of the **“Regulating the Affordable Care Act: What’s New for 2019”** session with an overview of market-wide policy updates, rate review actuarial value calculator, 1332 Waivers, risk adjustment updates from the Department of Health and Human Services, and risk adjustment data validation updates. Of particular interest were the recently proposed rule on health reimbursement arrangements as well as the finalized rule on short-term limited duration insurance.

Moderated by Cori Uccello, the Academy’s senior health fellow, the session featured speakers Kelly Drury, director of the Division of Risk Adjustment Operations; Melissa Jaffe, health insurance specialist; Brent Plemons, deputy director, Rates Review Division, Oversight; and Jeff Wu, associate deputy director for policy coordination for all of CCIIO.

Attendees asked how the Academy could better respond to the rule-making

process. Wu said the Academy comment letters were already “extremely helpful” and go all the way up the chain, and they are always looking for quantitative estimates even if there was uncertainty. On the court cases working their way through the judiciary, CMS pushes hard for transition time but noted their role is limited with respect to what happens.

In the session **“Reference Pricing: Can it Reduce Health Spending?”** the Academy Health Practice Council debuted its research study, *Estimating the Potential Health Care Savings of Reference Pricing*. This study was introduced by the Academy’s assistant director of research, Steve Jackson; the panelists discussed the challenges and opportunities facing various stakeholders. Panelists were Shawn Bishop, vice president, “Controlling Health Care Costs and Advancing Medicare,” The Commonwealth Fund; Matthew Fiedler, fellow, USC-Brookings Schaeffer Initiative for Health Policy; and Susan Pantely, chairperson of the Academy’s Health Care Delivery Committee.

From the study, Jackson noted that reference pricing could save up to 28 percent of all spending for shoppable services under the illustrative scenarios and assumptions modeled. During the discussion, Fiedler addressed increasing

policy options on the costs of health care but noted that reference pricing was just “one tool” in addressing U.S. health care system prices.

Pantely brought up the recent joint health initiative among Amazon, Berkshire Hathaway, and JPMorgan as yet another potentially interesting area but noted many remained skeptical of how successful the collaboration could be at lowering costs. Bishop wondered what was missing in the larger discussion of high health care costs, including the will of employers, the congressional efforts to just focus on transparency, as well as the need for much more research and evidence.

While private long-term care insurance (LTCI) is an option for those financing future long-term care needs, LTCI has received much attention due to the relative size and frequency of premium rate increases. As insurance regulators, actuaries, and LTCI companies have assessed the necessity and justification for these premium rate increase requests, some have questioned whether some types of past losses should not be recoverable. The panelists of the **“Long-Term Care Experience”** session—Rhonda Ahrens of the Nebraska Department of Insurance; Robert Eaton, consulting actuary at Milliman; and David Plumb of John Hancock’s LTC Inforce Management—discussed the efforts to increase uniformity, the blocks of business with little historical experience, the recouping of past losses, subsidization among states and policyholders, and meaningful alternatives for customers.

Ahrens mentioned that LTC regulators have come across rate increases of 7,000 percent being actuarially justified while Plumb noted the best way to guide the future of LTCI increases is to now look at older blocks of business. Acting sooner with smaller increases was seen as a better option than one large increase. Some of the meaningful alternatives available to customers include a reduction of benefits within the original premium schedule and benefit offerings, and “landing spots” designed by companies.



Steve Jackson, Academy assistant director for research (public policy), moderates the reference-pricing health session



Life

Life Sessions Look at PBR

As the time for filing PBR actuarial reports is slowly dwindling before the required 2020 deadline, the **“Actuarial Perspectives on 2018 PBR Actuarial Reports”** breakout session offered actuaries multiple perspectives and tips on how to best complete their reports. Larry Bruning and Pat Allison, both of the NAIC, discussed their findings and observations from previously submitted actuarial reports.

During the session, the two presenters provided useful feedback to actuaries regarding common reporting, methodology, and modeling issues they noticed from companies that have already submitted their PBR reports. Bruning and Allison outlined ways of improvement so that actuaries can better prepare for their filings and reduce the chance of errors in their submissions.

Also on the panel, Linda Lankowski, vice chairperson of the Academy Life Practice Council, and Amy Eby of Lincoln Financial Group provided perspective on what it was like to file PBR reports for their respective company. The two described the challenges they faced and the strategy each used in properly completing the reports. The breakout session provided an opportunity for actuaries to ask important questions to the NAIC staff and other Academy members.

The passage of the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) provided many questions and obstacles for life insurers. A breakout session on the subject, **“The Impact of the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act on Life Insurers,”** outlined for actuaries multiple perspectives on how the industry, insurance regulators, tax specialists, and actuaries are adapting to the new provisions and changes in the corporate tax rate structures.

Regina Rose of the American Council of Life Insurers (ACLI) was heavily involved during the development of the TCJA. She provided background on the issue and discussed ways in which the

ACLI helped shape the TCJA to lessen the impact on life insurers; much of the focus was on changes to risk-based capital (RBC) formulas. Philip Barlow of the D.C. Department of Insurance shared the regulatory perspective of RBC, describing ways in which regulators have had to adapt to these changes including how the NAIC plans to move forward.

Wayne Stuenkel, who leads the Academy’s efforts on RBC tax reform, discussed the process his team took in order to help develop guidelines for regulators and actuaries. Barbara Gold, chairperson of the Academy’s Tax Work Group and moderator of this session, discussed how the changes in the tax code will affect life insurers—and what they can expect going forward.

Pension-risk transfers are a complicated transaction, with a lot of unknowns on both the pension and life sides of the actuarial profession. As this topic has gained attention in recent years,

the breakout session **“Pension-Risk Transfers”** focused on the solutions and challenges facing regulators, actuaries, and governmental offices.

Paul Navratil, who oversees pension-risk transfers at Prudential, discussed U.S. market segmentation differences, as well as some of the challenges life insurance companies face when inheriting these pensions. Frank Todisco, chief actuary at the U.S. Government Accountability Office and a former senior pension fellow at the Academy, described the risks and financial incentives with taking lump sum offers.

Seong-Min Eom, chief actuary with the New Jersey Department of Insurance, provided a regulatory oversight perspective on the issue, discussing the challenges regulators face when analyzing the risk management of these transactions. She provided insights to the audience on measures they can take to prevent insolvencies.



New Jersey Department of Insurance Chief Actuary Seong-Min Eom speaks at a life session on pension-risk transfers



Pension

Pension Sessions Examine Multiemployer Plan Solvency

The most anticipated pension session of the week was **“Tasked with Saving a System in Crisis—The Joint Select Committee on Solvency of Multiemployer Plans.”** The Joint Select Committee was given a Nov. 30 deadline to come up with a solution to the looming multiemployer crisis, and the speakers in this session highlighted the urgency of the situation, discussing multiemployer plans from an employer, legislative, and plan trustee and participant perspective. [Editor’s note: *The committee reached the statutory deadline without coming to an agreement—see the Academy’s Nov. 30 [news release](#).*]

The session was moderated by Eli Greenblum, former Academy vice president, pension. He was joined by Kendra Kosko Isaacson, Democratic staff member with the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions; Pamela Nissen, attorney at Leonard, O’Brien, Spenser, Gale & Sayre.; and Aliya Wong, executive director of retirement policy for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Greenblum highlighted the different zone statuses by industry, with manufacturing and transportation seeing the highest rate of declining plans. Wong and Nissen shifted to the employer and plan participant and trustee perspective.

They discussed the difficulties associated with the MPRA application process, withdrawal liability concerns, and plan terminations. Greenblum then ended with a discussion of the options for system-wide reforms, and the role of Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) and potential sources of funding.

“Strengthening Our Retirement System” focused on whether there is a U.S. retirement system crisis and the different challenges associated with making changes to the current system.

The session was moderated by Tim Geddes, chairperson of the Academy’s Pension Accounting Resource Group, and the panel included Zvi Bodie, professor emeritus at Boston University; Deva Kyle, tax counsel for the Democratic staff on the Committee on Ways and Means; Aharon



A pension session on retirement programs was moderated by Bruce Cadenhead (center), chairperson of the Academy’s Pension Committee

Friedman, senior tax counsel for the Republican staff on the same committee; and Monique Morrissey with the Economic Policy Center.

Bodie began the discussion by highlighting the role that Social Security, employer pensions, and self-directed DC plans and IRAs played in an individual’s retirement; he then discussed the changes that could be made to bolster each prong. During this discussion, Bodie highlighted Ibonds and suggested that these were a useful investment tool that were underutilized.

The panel had a discussion regarding whether there is a retirement crisis—with varying views—and Morrissey closed the session by discussing the challenges in the retirement sphere, the problems with the defined contribution system, and challenges with shielding participants from investment risks.

“The Other Side of the Coin—How Employers View the Retirement Programs They Sponsor” focused on employer sponsored retirement programs and how they view such programs. The session was moderated by Bruce Cadenhead, chairperson of the Academy’s Pension Committee. He was joined by

Lynn Dudley from the American Benefits Council; Scott Henderson, former vice president of Pension Investment & Strategy at Kroger Co.; and Rob Wylie, executive director of the South Dakota Retirement System.

Dudley discussed what could happen with certain retirement bills after the midterm elections. Of particular focus were the Retirement Enhancement and Savings Act and the Family Savings Act. Dudley discussed defined benefit pension plan premiums and noted that a study of the PBGC single-employer premiums was dropped from the final version of the Family Savings Act.

The discussion then moved from legislative possibilities to employer realities. Henderson provided an analysis of how Kroger was able to rescue its pensions while other plans failed. He stated that, in his opinion, withdrawal liability was a major impediment to action. He also shared several personal opinions of how other organizations could follow suit. Wylie then closed with an analysis of the South Dakota Retirement System and how it managed its plan with fixed contributions, provided appropriate and adequate benefits, and remained fully funded. ▲



November Was a Busy Month for Academy Professionalism Speakers

THE ACADEMY CONTINUED TO introduce and reinforce the concepts and mechanics of actuarial professionalism and the infrastructure of professionalism to students and practicing actuaries in a series of professionalism presentations this month.

Immediate Past President Steve Alpert presented “Professionalism and the Aspiring Actuary” to Penn State University students on Nov. 5. “Though actuarial students receive a lot of technical training, training on becoming an ethical professional is much less common,” said Paul Birch, president of the Penn State Actuarial Science Club. “It was very valuable for our students to learn about the components of actuarial professionalism from the experts on the subject.”

Actuarial Standards Board (ASB) member Rob Damler presented on professionalism topics at the Indianapolis Actuarial Club’s meeting on Nov. 7, and on Nov. 8, ASB Member Darrell Knapp provided members of the Actuaries’ Club of the Southwest, which met in San Antonio, with an update on the ASB’s work and an overview of the [Applicability Guidelines for Actuarial Standards of Practice](#). Academy Past President Tom Terry was enthusiastically welcomed and thanked for his presentation at a breakout session on “Professionalism and the Public Interest” at the Actuaries Club of Philadelphia’s meeting on Nov. 8.

Actuarial Board for Counseling and Discipline (ABCD) member David Driscoll reviewed the role and function of the ABCD for more than 100 actuaries attending the Sun Life Financial Actuarial Forum in Waltham, Mass., on Nov. 15, walking attendees through case studies with discussion of relevant ethical and disciplinary considerations.

Academy Past President Ken Hohman’s presentation to the Columbus (Ohio) Actuarial Club’s meeting on Nov. 16 examined lessons learned from public discipline and the operation of the disciplinary process, and discussed how disciplinary considerations can inform ethical practice.

Academy President-Elect D. Joeff Williams presented at the opening general session of the Actuarial Society of Greater New York’s annual meeting in New York City on Nov. 19. Williams’ presentation to the approximately 300 actuaries in attendance emphasized the importance of self-regulation and the Academy’s activities promoting a culture of professionalism, while providing attendees with an overview of the infrastructure of professionalism.

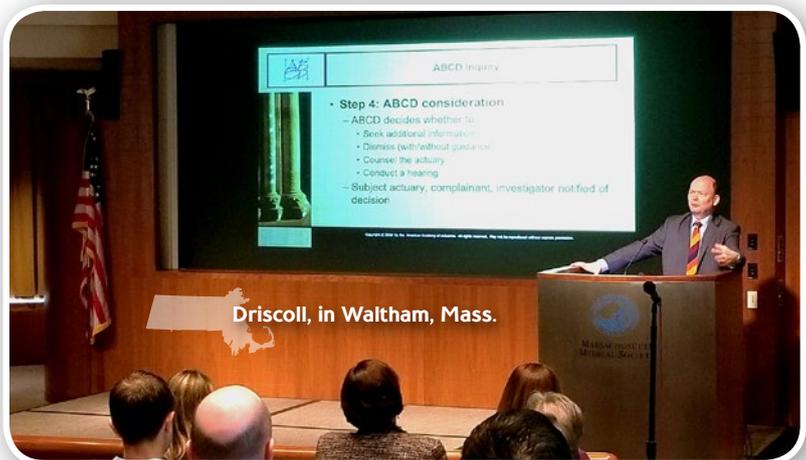
ASB member Cande Olsen on Nov. 29 reviewed the ASB’s work on actuarial standards of practice (ASOPs), including ASOPs



Knapp, in San Antonio



Damler, in Indianapolis



Driscoll, in Waltham, Mass.

that are under review and recently effective and soon-to-be effective ASOPs, and provided an update on the [Applicability Guidelines for Actuarial Standards of Practice](#) at a meeting of the Actuaries Club of Boston. ▲

The ABCs (and D) of CE

The continuing education (CE) requirements under the *Qualification Standards for Actuaries Issuing Statements of Actuarial Opinion in the United States* (the USQS) apply to all actuaries in the U.S. that issue SAOs, and most do. As we approach year-end, a quick review of the ABCs (and D) of CE may help.

A IS FOR ANNUAL. The CE requirements under the USQS are **annual** requirements. An actuary must complete at least 30 hours of relevant CE each year. The 30 hours are usually completed in the year *prior* to the year in which the actuary issues a statement of actuarial opinion (SAO), as defined in the USQS. If you have not accumulated 30 hours of CE by this point in the year, remember, 2019 is right around the corner. If you complete less than 30 hours of CE this year, you can make up the shortfall next year, but must do so *before* issuing an SAO. Just keep in mind that making up this year's CE shortfall next year will not count toward next year's 30-hour requirement. Once the shortfall from a prior year has been made up, the actuary must complete 30 hours of relevant CE in the current year to issue an SAO in the subsequent year.

B IS FOR BETTER. CE should make you a **better actuary**. An actuary is responsible for making “a reasonable, good-faith determination of what [CE] opportunities will enhance the actuary’s ability to practice in a desired field.”¹ The USQS requires an actuary to take CE that is “relevant” or “directly relevant” as these terms are defined in the context of the General or Specific Qualification Standards. Actuarial science is described as a “constantly evolving discipline” in the USQS, and “if actuaries are to provide Principals with high-quality service, it is important that they remain current on emerging advancements in actuarial practice that are relevant to the Actuarial Services they provide.” And, it is not just actuarial science that is evolving: You are, too. During your career, you will take on greater responsibility and face new and different professional challenges. You may even change practice areas. And that means what is “relevant” to you—the CE that will make you a better actuary—will evolve as well. As Academy past President Bob Beuerlein summed up: “CE is part of a lifelong effort to acquire and enhance a continuously changing set of skills. ... Not only do our principals rely on us to keep our skills sharp and up to date ... the well-being of ordinary people—the ultimate beneficia-

ries of the products and programs we work on—often depends on it, too.”²

C IS FOR COUNTING. You have to **count** your CE properly. You need at least 30 hours of relevant CE each year. For the purposes of the USQS, an hour is defined as 50 minutes. Under the General Qualification Standard, at least six hours of the 30 must be CE obtained through “organized” activities, which involve interaction with actuaries or other professionals working for different organizations. You need three hours of professionalism CE. You can take as many hours of general business skills as you please, but you can count only three of them toward your 30-hour requirement. To be qualified under the Specific Qualification Standard, 15 of your 30 hours must be “directly relevant” to the topics listed in USQS section 3.1.1 for the applicable NAIC annual statement, and six of those “directly relevant” hours must be obtained through “organized activities.”

D IS FOR DOCUMENT. Do not forget to **document** your CE. The USQS states that an actuary should “keep appropriate and timely records as evident that their continuing education requirements have been met,” keep these records for at least six years, and be prepared to “substantiate compliance” whenever issuing an SAO.

Now that you’ve learned the ABCs (and D) of CE, review the CE you have completed this year and make sure you have properly counted and documented it. If you find yourself falling short, you have a few weeks to catch up. If you have only a few hours to complete, we strongly encourage you to reread the Code of Professional Conduct and the USQS, as well as standards of practice relevant to your work. And don’t forget the Academy’s online webinar trove—Academy members can listen to archived webinars free of charge at any time they wish. While listening after a live webcast will not count as “organized” activities, it is an economical and easy resource to access if you just need a few more hours outside of that category. ▲

Footnotes

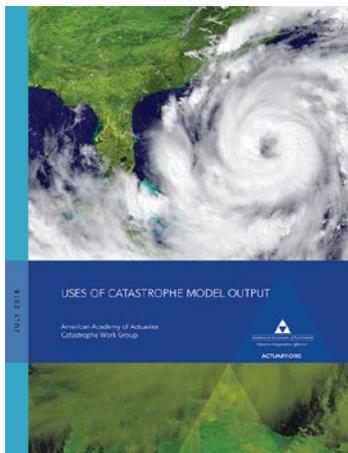
¹ USQS, Section 2.2.7.

² Beuerlein, “Don’t Lose Your Way on CE: Remember the ‘Why!’,” *Actuarial Update*, September 2017, p. 6.



Webinar Looks at Catastrophe Modeling

ALMOST 300 PEOPLE ATTENDED the Academy's Nov. 9 "Catastrophe Modeling" webinar, which focused heavily on the Casualty Practice Council's recent monograph, *Uses of Catastrophe Model Output*. Attendees—including some from three different federal agencies and 13 different state insurance departments—heard an overview of how actuaries work with catastrophe models and what is *not* included in these models. Presenters were Kay Cleary, chairperson of the Academy's Extreme Events and Property Lines Committee, and committee members Howard Kunst and Minchong Mao. [Slides and audio](#) are available free to members. ▲



ACI Winter 2017–18 Data Released

THE FIVE-YEAR MOVING average of the Academy co-sponsored Actuaries Climate Index™ (ACI) rose to a record 1.23 for winter 2017–18, compared with 1.19 in fall 2017, according to data released this month. The seasonal ACI value was 1.08, compared with 2.00 in the fall. The ACI is co-sponsored by the Canadian Institute of Actuaries, the Casualty Actuarial Society, and the Society of Actuaries. Read the Academy [press release](#). ▲

Australian Institute Launches Climate Index

BY RADE MUSULIN

TWO YEARS AGO, four North American actuarial organizations, including the Academy, launched the [Actuaries Climate Index](#) (ACI), which provides a quarterly measure of extreme weather events and sea levels. It compares values from the current period to those from a historical reference period to help users understand how key metrics are changing over time. The ACI has been well received by the news media, public, and actuaries.

This month our colleagues from the Actuaries Institute of Australia launched a "down under" version of the index—the Australian Actuaries Climate Index (AACI). A team led by Tim Andrews, project leader for the AACI, produced the index using data collected from the Australian Bureau of Meteorology (BOM). A group of actuaries from the Institute helped design the index, consulting with many outside parties, including the BOM, Australia's Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization, scientists, and regulators. I served on the actuarial team and was able to bring experience from the North American effort to the project.

The ACI and AACI are similar, though not identical. Both indices provide objective measures of extreme values of various climate metrics, such as temperature, precipitation, wind, and sea level, comparing currently observed values with a baseline period in the past. Both look at sub-regions to identify local variations. The Australian Institute has a [webpage](#) for the AACI and produced a [video interview](#) (via LinkedIn) with Tim Andrews discussing it.

There are three key differences in the indices:

- ▲ The AACI uses the 99th percentile to identify events, while the ACI uses the 90th.
- ▲ The AACI's baseline period is 1980–2010, compared to the

ACI's 1960–1990, reflecting a desire in Australia to provide a more concentrated, contemporary view of changes.

- ▲ The AACI's composite index only includes three components, whereas the ACI includes six. The difference reflects both limitations in the source data in Australia and judgments about which components are most informative.

Both the North Americans and the Australians will be looking to enhance their indices in coming years by examining their correlation with loss data. There is a desire among both groups to collaborate where possible. I hope that other international actuarial associations will consider developing climate indices to provide better global coverage. ▲



Rade Musulin, the Academy's past vice president, casualty (2016–2018), is a member of the Australian Institute's Climate Change Working Group.

CASUALTY BRIEFS

- ➔ **Eduard Alpin** is vice chairperson of the Cyber Risk Task Force.
- ➔ **Michael Henk, Chaim Markowitz, and Laura Maxwell** joined the Casualty Loss Reserve Seminar Planning Committee.
- ➔ **David Ostrowski** joined the Committee on Property and Liability Financial Reporting.
- ➔ **Michael Angelina, Marios Argyrou, and Francois Morin** joined the Property and Casualty Risk-Based Capital Committee.

Available for Order: P/C Loss Reserve Law Manual

UPDATED FOR 2018, the Academy's [P/C Loss Reserve Law Manual](#) is designed to help appointed actuaries know the NAIC annual statement requirements for state-

ments of actuarial opinion. The manual contains a compilation of insurance laws relating to P/C loss and loss expense reserves for all 50 states; Washington, D.C.; and Puerto Rico. It is designed to

allow users to directly access each jurisdiction's laws, making it a useful reference tool for actuaries. The manual will be available for delivery this winter—[place your order today](#). ▲



Health News

Work Group Publishes Issue Brief on LTCI Considerations

THE LONG-TERM CARE (LTC) Past Losses Considerations Work Group released an [issue brief](#), *Long-Term Care Insurance: Considerations for Treatment of Past Losses in Rate Increase Requests*, to identify issues commonly raised in favor of and against recoupment of past losses in various situations.

The issue brief notes that most LTC insurance policies include a “guaranteed renewable” contractual provision requiring an insurance company to offer renewal of these policies every year for a specific premium. However, the insurer may renew these policies at higher rates to reflect emerging experience.

It also notes the 2014 NAIC LTC Model Regulation, which stipulates that any excess of actual past claims over expected past claims cannot be reflected in the loss ratio compliance; that it would be inappropriate to use the “Phantom Premium” methodology alone to determine the amount of an allowable

rate increase; and that restricting premium rate increases in such a way that future claims cannot be funded could have severe financial implications. ▲

HEALTH BRIEFS

- ➔ **Tammy Tomczyk** is vice chairperson of the Health Practice Council and a member of the Health Care Delivery Committee, Medicare/Medicaid Reform Work Group, and the Telehealth Work Group.
- ➔ **Rick Diamond** is chairperson of the Premium Review Work Group.
- ➔ **Joe Korabik** joined the Health Care Delivery Committee.
- ➔ **Amy Kwong** joined the Health Practice International Committee.
- ➔ **Julia Lerche** joined the Individual and Small Group Markets Committee.

Life News

Academy, SOA to Co-Host Webinar

THE ACADEMY AND THE SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES will host a jointly sponsored life webinar in December. “[Emerging Underwriting Methodologies in a PBR World Webcast](#)” will introduce actuaries to the SOA's Delphi study on emerging underwriting methods and their impact on mortality experience. The study's aim was to provide practitioners and regulators with clarity and benchmarks around emerging underwriting techniques and suggest possible adjustments to base mortality tables with respect to VM-20—Principles-Based Reserving for Life Insurance. The presenters are Lauren Cross and Matt Monson, and moderating will be Mary Bahna-Nolan, chairperson of the Academy's Life Experience Committee. The webinar will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 18, from noon to 1:30 p.m. ET. [Register today](#). ▲



Reserve Your Copy: Life and Health Valuation Law Manual

THE LIFE AND HEALTH *Valuation Law Manual* can now be ordered online. The manual is updated annually, and is designed to help appointed actuaries know the requirements of the NAIC model Standard Valuation Law and the Model Actuarial Opinion and Memorandum Regulation. The manual will be available for delivery this winter—[reserve your copy today](#). ▲

LIFE BRIEFS

- ➔ **Cindy Barnard** joined the SVL Interest Rate Modernization Work Group.
- ➔ **Todd Muchnicki** joined the Joint Pension Risk Transfer Task Force.
- ➔ **Leon Langlitz** joined the Law Manual Review Subgroup.

Actuarial Update

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PENSION NEWS



Dec. 7 Deadline for JBEA Advisory Committee on Actuarial Examinations

THE JOINT BOARD FOR THE Enrollment of Actuaries (JBEA) is seeking applications for the next term of the Advisory Committee on Actuarial Examinations, which begins on March 1, 2019, and ends on Feb. 28, 2021. The JBEA asked the Academy to make this opportunity known to our members. The Advisory Committee plays an integral role in assisting the Joint Board to offer examinations that test the knowledge necessary to qualify for enrollment. Its duties include recommending topics for inclusion on the Joint Board examinations, reviewing and drafting examination questions, and recommending passing scores. Information on how to apply is available via the IRS website. Applications are being accepted through Dec. 7. ▲

Public Employment Opportunity

THE PENSION BENEFIT Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) is seeking to fill two senior actuarial positions within its Policy, Research, and Analysis Department (PRAD) in Washington, D.C. PRAD provides strategic and actuarial analysis to public policy development related to PBGC's mission to enhance retirement security by preserving and encouraging the continuation of private pension plans and protecting the retirement income of American workers. This announcement closes Dec. 7; for more information contact Ted Goldman, the new PRAD director, at goldman.ted@pbgc.gov.

The Academy has long supported government employers who are seeking to hire qualified actuaries. See our [Public Employment Opportunity Posting Policy](#) for more information. ▲

Committee Comments on Retirement Enhancement and Savings Act

THE RETIREMENT SYSTEM ASSESSMENT and Policy Committee sent a [comment letter](#) to Congress on the *Retirement Enhancement and Savings Act of 2018*.

The letter addresses the fiduciary safe harbor for selection of lifetime income provider; modification of Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) premiums for Cooperative and Small Employer Charity (CSEC) plans; modifications of required distribution rules for pension plans; and pension variable rate premium payment acceleration. ▲

PENSION BRIEFS

- ➔ **Bruce Cadenhead** is chairperson and **Elena Black** is vice chairperson of the Pension Committee.
- ➔ **Sherry Chan** is chairperson of the Public Plans Committee.

RISK MANAGEMENT BRIEFS

- ➔ **Rich Dailak** is chairperson of the Financial Regulatory Task Force.
- ➔ **Jeff Johnson** joined the Risk Management and Financial Reporting Council.

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