

NORTH AMERICAN ACTUARIAL COUNCIL | Annual Report 2010–2011

Moving the actuarial profession forward in North America



▶ TABLE OF CONTENTS

What NAAC Does

Participating Organizations	1
Guiding Principles of NAAC	2
Looking Ahead	3

2010–2011 NAAC Accomplishments

Organization Staff Collaboration Meeting	4
Promoting Continuity.....	4
NAAC SharePoint Site	4
NAAC Collaborative Research Group	4
NAAC at the International Association of Actuaries	4
Increased information-sharing among NAAC Member Organizations.....	5

NAAC Members and Staff

Council Members.....	7
Council Photos	9
Staff	11

Appendix

Participating NAAC Organizations.....	12
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▶ WHAT NAAC DOES

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

The North American Actuarial Council (NAAC) brings together the nine national actuarial organizations on the North American continent:

- American Academy of Actuaries (Academy) (U.S.-based)
- ASPPA College of Pension Actuaries (ACOPA) (U.S.-based)
- Asociación Mexicana de Actuarios (AMA)
- Asociación Mexicana de Actuarios Consultores (AMAC)
- Canadian Institute of Actuaries (CIA)
- Casualty Actuarial Society (CAS) (U.S.-based)
- Colegio Nacional de Actuarios (CONAC)
- Conference of Consulting Actuaries (CCA) (U.S.-based)
- Society of Actuaries (SOA) (U.S.-based)

The primary purpose of NAAC is to build solid and lasting bridges between the professional actuarial organizations of North America. It provides a forum to promote coordination, cooperation, and trust among the leadership of the participating organizations, who represent actuaries in Canada, Mexico, and the United States. In this spirit, NAAC members exchange and share information on significant current activities, discuss profession-wide issues (not necessarily involving all Participating Organizations) and, wherever possible, develop an action plan to address those issues.

For example, NAAC:

- Seeks to develop a coordinated vision of the future direction of the actuarial profession in North America.
- Discusses international issues from a North American perspective and, if appropriate, establishes joint positions and strategies for pursuing those positions outside of North America.
- Serves as a forum to encourage the resolution of conflicts between two or more of the Participating Organizations.
- Works in a coordinated manner to address issues—where overlap of efforts exist—to make the most efficient use of the North American actuarial profession's resources.
- Identifies and promotes forums, activities, contacts, and events that can broaden organizational communications among other leaders and members of the profession.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF NAAC

Section 2 of the North American Actuarial Council Working Agreement provides the official description of NAAC's purpose. It is published in the NAAC Manual and is included in publications distributed by the Participating Organizations to their members.

The Participating Organizations jointly acknowledge that:

- The operating environments in the three North American countries are very different,
- The Participating Organizations' members expect the organizations to leverage resources and take appropriate advantage of synergies, and
- Increased information sharing and dialogue among the Participating Organizations has the potential to yield collective insights valuable to each organization.

Accordingly, the Participating Organizations define NAAC's purpose as follows:

1. NAAC is to be a catalyst for dialogue on key issues facing the North American actuarial profession.
2. NAAC is to be a facilitator of opportunities for leveraging of resources across organizations.
3. NAAC is to be a source of knowledge in identifying conditions, trends, assumptions, and key issues affecting the North American actuarial profession and benchmarking best practices among member organizations.
4. NAAC is to be a forum for information sharing on current and potential activities among the North American actuarial organizations.
5. NAAC is to be a forum where networking occurs and camaraderie is built among the leaders of the North American actuarial organizations.

In fulfilling its purpose, NAAC shall abide by the following guiding principles:

- The conditions, cultures and perspectives of each individual country and their member organizations will be respected and valued.
- The autonomy of each member organization to pursue its mission and purpose will be preserved.
- The public interest will always be a primary consideration.
- The best interests of the profession will always be considered.

LOOKING AHEAD

Leaders of NAAC member organizations are responsible for supporting the spirit and communicating the content of the Working Agreement to their respective organizations. In the years to come, NAAC shall serve as a forum for the exchange of ideas, common problems, and common solutions for the myriad issues facing the North American actuarial community.

▶ 2010–2011 NAAC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

ORGANIZATION STAFF COLLABORATION MEETINGS

In accordance with a NAAC recommendation, staff from all the actuarial organizations—primarily those who report to the executive directors—continue to meet regularly. The executive directors and approximately 25 staff members from various organizations discuss how to share work, such as research, event planning, and communications resources. The presidents of each organization also attend this meeting. To date, Collaboration Meetings have taken place in January 2008, August 2008, January 2009, September 2009, August 2010, and September 2011.

PROMOTING CONTINUITY

NAAC maintains its recurring annual process for orienting new NAAC members and sustaining momentum from year to year. This process also includes orientation related to NAAC member organizations' involvement at the International Actuarial Association, to soften the learning curve in a time of intense activity related to the development of model International Standards of Actuarial Practice. Outgoing presidents report on current and resolved NAAC issues. The NAAC Manual, posted on NAAC's SharePoint site and updated as needed, as well as current and past annual reports, also help to create continuity.

NAAC SHAREPOINT SITE

The NAAC SharePoint site enables NAAC members to share files and documents, including meeting materials, approved minutes, the NAAC manual, the NAAC annual report, policy statements, and other information. Access is limited to authorized users only.

NAAC COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH GROUP

The NAAC Collaborative Research Group was created at NAAC's February 2009 meeting. The Collaborative Research Group has been holding monthly conference calls. One project that resulted is joint SOA and CAS funding of a study on the risk of severe inflation and deflation, with the suggestion that the experience of Mexican actuaries in factoring inflation and hyperinflation into actuarial work be leveraged. The group also has been sharing information on ongoing projects, which include the Actuaries' Climate Volatility Index, the work of the Joint Risk Management Section, and research on retirement and systemic risk.

NORTH AMERICAN PROFESSION AT THE INTERNATIONAL ACTUARIAL ASSOCIATION

Each member organization of NAAC participates actively in the work of the International Actuarial Association, bringing the perspective and the expertise of Canadian, Mexican, and U.S. actuaries to the twice-yearly meetings and ongoing work of the body that brings together actuaries from across the globe.

Development of Model International Standards of Practice for Financial Reporting

NAAC member organizations have shared information on their divergent approaches to the issue of model International Standards of Practice.

Creation of the Interim Actuarial Standards Subcommittee (IASSC) at the International Actuarial Association

NAAC member organizations have been sharing information related to the development of this subcommittee. They have discussed its role in supervising five task forces charged with developing model standards related to general practice, International Financial Reporting Standard (IFRS) 4, International Accounting Standard (IAS) 19, social security, and Enterprise Risk Management.

INCREASED INFORMATION SHARING AMONG NAAC MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Disciplinary Reform in the United States

Ken Hohman, a member of the Council of U.S. Presidents (CUSP), reported to NAAC on developments related to implementing the reform of the U.S. profession's disciplinary system and processes.

Mexican Members' Presentation on Implementing Solvency II in Mexico

NAAC's Mexican members shared information on how Mexico is undergoing the change to a financial reporting system based on Solvency II principles. They have described the economic, political, and regulatory challenges arising from Solvency II and updated NAAC members with respect to a survey carried out by FIDES, the Federación Interamericana de Empresas de Seguros, or Interamerican Federation of Insurance Companies, among its member countries to gauge companies' familiarity with and implementation of Solvency II requirements.

U.S. Members' Presentation on the National Association of Insurance Commissioners' (NAIC's) Solvency Modernization Initiative (SMI)

U.S. members gave a presentation on how the Solvency Modernization Initiative is meant to serve as a critical self-examination of state-based insurance regulation with the aim to update the United States' insurance solvency regulation framework. This initiative includes a review of international developments regarding insurance supervision, banking supervision, and international accounting standards and their potential use in U.S. regulation.

Managing Reputational Risk Related to Public Pension Plans

NAAC members discussed their countries' varying public pension plan funding rules and

how those rules affect the actuarial profession's reputational risk differently. They decided to have an ongoing conversation on how to manage that risk and gain perspective from each other's approaches.

Developing Soft Skills among Actuaries

Mexican members gave a presentation on how to develop soft skills among actuaries, either by seeking out or offering courses on communication skills, planning and organization, management and empathy, and negotiation. They also discussed bridge-building techniques between soft and hard skills, such as cognitive mapping, structuring decisions, requisite models, planning theory, and scenario and strategic thinking.

Leveraging Social Networking

A social networking professional offered NAAC member organizations advice on identifying the objectives of their use of social media, which can include turning monologue into dialogue with members, reaching more members when and where it is relevant to them, building deeper relationships with members and others, joining and influencing conversations about the profession, and reducing reputation management risks.

The North American Actuarial Council is composed of up to two officers of each Participating Organization. One of the two officers is the President of the Participating Organization, and the other is usually the President-Elect, although an organization can appoint another officer it considers more appropriate.

▶ NAAC MEMBERS AND STAFF

2011 NAAC COUNCIL MEMBERS

Academy

- President:..... Mary Frances Miller
- President-Elect: David K. Sandberg

ACOPA

- President:..... Annie B. Voldman
- President-Elect: Joseph A. Nichols

AMA

- President:..... Luis J. Álvarez Marcén
- Vice President:..... Crisóforo Suárez Tinoco

AMAC

- President:..... Armando Raúl Orta Gutiérrez

CIA

- President:..... James K. Christie
- President-Elect: Simon R. Curtis

CAS

- President:..... Ralph S. Blanchard, III
- President-Elect: Patricia A. Teufel

CONAC

- President:..... Jesús Zúñiga San Martín
- Vice President:..... Gerardo Sánchez Barrio

CCA

- President:..... Adam J. Reese
- President-Elect: Donald E. Fuerst, Dale H. Yamamoto*

SOA

- President:..... Donald J. Segal
- President-Elect: Bradley M. Smith

*Donald Fuerst was the CCA's President-Elect until Friday, August 5, when he resigned to accept appointment as the Academy's Senior Pension Fellow. Dale Yamamoto was named President-Elect for the remainder of his term.

2010 NAAC COUNCIL MEMBERS

Academy

- President:..... Kenneth F. Hohman
- President-Elect: Mary Frances Miller

ACOPA

- ASPPA President-Elect:..... Thomas J. Finnegan
- ACOPA President-Elect: Annie B. Voldman

AMA

- President:..... Luis J. Álvarez Marcén
- Vice President:..... Crisóforo Suárez Tinoco

AMAC

- President:..... Jorge Fonseca Campos
- Vice President:..... Armando Raúl Orta Gutiérrez

CIA

- President:..... Micheline Dionne
- President-Elect: James K. Christie

CAS

- President:..... Roger M. Hayne
- President-Elect: Ralph S. Blanchard, III

CONAC

- President:..... María de los Ángeles Yáñez Acosta
- Vice President:..... Jesús Zúñiga San Martín

CCA

- President:..... Lawrence J. Sher
- President-Elect: Adam J. Reese

SOA

- President:..... S. Michael McLaughlin
- President-Elect: Donald J. Segal

COUNCIL PHOTOS



Mary Frances Miller
Academy
President 2011
President-Elect 2010



David K. Sandberg
Academy
President-Elect 2011



Ken Hohman
Academy
President 2010



Annie Voldman
ACOPA
President 2011
President-Elect 2010



Joseph A. Nichols
ACOPA
President-Elect 2011



Thomas J. Finnegan
ACOPA
ASPPA President-Elect
2010



Luis J. Álvarez Marcén
AMA
President 2010–2011



**Crisóforo Suárez
Tinoco**
AMA
Vice President 2010–2011



**Armando Raúl Orta
Gutiérrez**
AMAC
President 2011



**Jorge Fonseca
Campos**
AMAC
President 2010



James K. Christie
CIA
President 2011
President-Elect 2010



Simon R. Curtis
CIA
President-Elect 2011



Micheline Dionne
CIA
President 2010



Ralph S. Blanchard, III
CAS
President 2011
President-Elect 2010



Patricia A. Teufel
CAS
President-Elect 2011



Roger M. Hayne
CAS
President 2010



Adam J. Reese
CCA
President 2011
President-Elect 2010



**Donald E. Fuerst,
Dale H. Yamamoto***
CCA
President-Elect 2011



Lawrence J. Sher
CCA
President 2010



Jesús Zúñiga San Martín
CONAC
President 2011
Vice-President 2010

*Donald Fuerst was the CCA's President-Elect until Friday, August 5, when he resigned to accept appointment as the Academy's Senior Pension Fellow. Dale Yamamoto was named President-Elect for the remainder of his term.



**Gerardo Sánchez
Barrio**
CONAC
Vice-President 2011



**María de los Ángeles
Yáñez Acosta**
CONAC
President 2010



Donald J. Segal
SOA
President 2011



Bradley M. Smith
SOA
President-Elect 2011



S. Michael McLaughlin
SOA
President 2010

STAFF PHOTOS

The executive directors of the Participating Organizations attend and participate in NAAC meetings, but are not members of NAAC and do not vote.

Chief Staff Officers



Mary Downs
Academy
Executive Director



Judy Miller
ACOPA
*ASPPA Chief of Actuarial
Issues and Director of
Retirement Policy*



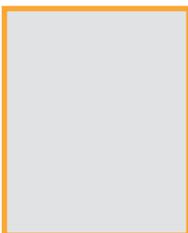
Michel Simard
CIA
Executive Director



Cynthia Ziegler
CAS
Executive Director



Rita DeGraaf
CCA
Executive Director



TBD
AMA, AMAC, CONAC
*Executive Director
2010-2011*



Greg Heidrich
SOA
Executive Director

OTHER STAFF

When appropriate, the Academy agrees to make its legal counsel available to NAAC; and to coordinate, upon request, with counsel for the CIA and the Mexican organizations.

Academy Senior Policy Analyst Claire Mickelson provides staff support for NAAC and for the Council of U.S. Presidents (CUSP). She can be reached at 202.223.8196 or at mickelson@actuary.org

PARTICIPATING NAAC ORGANIZATIONS

NAAC brings together the five national actuarial organizations in the United States, the three in Mexico, and the Canadian Institute of Actuaries. The missions of the nine Participating Organizations may be summarized as follows:

American Academy of Actuaries (Academy)

The Academy serves the public and the U.S. actuarial profession. To accomplish this, as the public voice for the United States actuarial profession, the Academy provides independent and objective actuarial information, analysis, and education for the formation of sound public policy; provides for the establishment, maintenance, and enforcement of high professional standards of actuarial qualification, practice, and conduct; advances actuarial practice by informing and educating its members on public policy and professionalism issues and current and emerging practices; identifies and addresses issues on behalf of the public interest on matters in which actuarial science provides a unique understanding; increases the public's understanding and recognition of the value of the actuarial profession; provides opportunities for professional development of its members through volunteerism and service to the profession; facilitates and coordinates response to issues of common interest among the U.S.-based actuarial associations; and coordinates the representation of the U.S. profession globally. The vision of the Academy is that financial security systems in the United States be sound and sustainable, and that actuaries be recognized as preeminent experts in risk and financial security.

ASPPA College of Pension Actuaries (ACOPA)

All credentialed actuarial members of ASPPA are members of the ASPPA College of Pension Actuaries (ACOPA). ACOPA is a part of the American Society of Pension Professionals and Actuaries (ASPPA). The major goal of ASPPA and ACOPA is to educate all retirement plan professionals and to preserve and enhance the employer-based retirement system as an essential part of a national retirement income policy in the United States. ACOPA is responsible for identifying and addressing the professional development needs of the actuarial membership of ASPPA. ACOPA is also the primary source of professional organizational support for pension actuaries, and is charged with carrying out ASPPA's responsibilities as one of the recognized U.S.-based actuarial organizations and as a member of NAAC.

Canadian Institute of Actuaries (CIA)

The Canadian Institute of Actuaries is the national organization of the actuarial profession in Canada. The Institute is dedicated to serving the public through the provision by the profession of actuarial services and advice of the highest quality. To this end, the Institute promotes the advancement of actuarial science and sponsors programs for the education and qualification of members and prospective members. It maintains programs to ensure that actuarial services provided by its members meet accepted professional standards. The Institute also

provides services to actuaries in Canada to assist them in the discharge of their professional responsibilities. The vision of the CIA is for actuaries to be recognized as the leading professionals in the financial modeling and management of risk and contingent events.

Casualty Actuarial Society (CAS)

The purposes of the Casualty Actuarial Society are to advance the body of knowledge of actuarial science applied to property, casualty, and similar business and financial risks, to establish and maintain standards of qualification for membership, to promote and maintain high standards of conduct and competence for the members, and to increase the awareness of actuarial science. The vision of the CAS is to be the pre-eminent resource for education, knowledge, experience and applied research for those actuaries who specialize in property, casualty, and similar business and financial risks, including the field known as general insurance.

Conference of Consulting Actuaries (CCA)

The Conference of Consulting Actuaries advances the quality of consulting practice, supports the needs of consulting actuaries, and represents their interests.

Mexican Association of Actuaries (AMA)

The Mexican Association of Actuaries supports the Mexican actuarial profession in maintaining high standards of professional integrity and technical expertise, and thereby promotes the dignity of the profession and enhances the public's recognition of the profession's value.

Mexican Association of Actuarial Consultants (AMAC)

The purpose of the Mexican Association of Actuarial Consultants is to advance the quality of actuarial consulting practice in Mexico by providing continuing education and business support services to Mexican actuaries in consulting practice.

National College of Actuaries (CONAC)

The National College of Actuaries serves as the professional membership organization for all the actuaries licensed to practice in Mexico, regardless of their specialty area; advises the Mexican government concerning public policy matters with actuarial implications; and fosters actuarial education and research in Mexico.

The Society of Actuaries (SOA)

The Society of Actuaries is an educational, research, and professional organization dedicated to serving the public and Society members. Its mission is to advance actuarial knowledge and to enhance the ability of actuaries to provide expert advice and relevant solutions for financial, business, and societal problems involving uncertain future events. The vision of the SOA is for actuaries to be recognized as the leading professionals in the modeling and management of financial risk and contingent events.