

Asked whether he thought he also had a high IQ, the Gen-X celebrity replied: "No. I know I don't."

IN THE NEWS

Tom Campbell, the Academy's vice president for life issues and vice president and corporate actuary with Hartford Life in Weatogue, Conn., was quoted in a Sept. 10 *National Underwriter Life & Health* article on stochastic modeling. Campbell said a stochastic approach involves a broad range of scenarios that would cover losses in later periods.

A letter to Congress from the Academy's Flood Insurance Subcommittee on a proposal to expand the National Flood Insurance Program was discussed in a Best Wire article on Sept. 27 and in two *Insurance Journal* articles on Sept. 28. The letter, signed by **Stuart Mathewson**, subcommittee chairperson and the chief pricing actuary for the industrial risk insurers division of Swiss Re in St. Louis Park, Minn., stated that with the current flood program over \$17 billion in debt, "adding wind peril coverage would increase the potential for further large losses in excess of available funds."

Ron Gebhardtsbauer, the Academy's senior pension fellow, was quoted in a Sept. 22 *Newsday* financial feature explaining the benefits of not collecting early Social Security benefits. Gebhardtsbauer said one-third of retirees rely on Social Security for 90 percent of their income and that collecting

early benefits would permanently reduce benefits for the rest of their lives.

The Academy was a source of longevity and life expectancy statistics in articles published in the Sept. 2 *Arizona Republic*, the Sept. 2 *Coloradoan*, and the Sept. 10 *Asbury Park* (N.J.) *Press*.

Findings from the Academy's September **issue brief**, *Social Security: Evaluating the Structure for Basic Benefits*, were discussed in a National Underwriter Life & Health web-edition article on Sept. 20 and a Bureau of National Affairs article on Sept. 24.

Dale Yamamoto, a member of the Academy's Joint Committee on Retiree Health and a consulting actuary with Hewitt Associates in Lincolnshire, Ill., was quoted in a number of media outlets in September, including in a Sept. 22 *Washington Post* article about the workings of voluntary employees' beneficiary associations. Better known as VEBAs, the union-controlled trust funds gained national exposure during U.S. automakers' negotiations with the United Auto Workers.

Bruce Schobel, a member of the Academy's Board of Directors and vice president and actuary with New York Life Insurance Co., was the source for a Sept. 24 Bureau of National Affairs article on projected personal exemption increases. Each year Schobel provides reporters

MEDIA RELATIONS ACTIVITY REPORT—SEPTEMBER 2007

7 Requests 6 Interviews 47 Placements

Media Impressions:
994,483

Web Impressions:
24,503,912

Note: Media impressions are a combination of readership, listenership, and viewership. Web impressions are distinct from media impressions and reflect the number of daily, unique individuals who access a website. A placement is an article containing an Academy reference and/or a quote or attribution from an Academy spokesperson. A pickup is the publication of an Academy news release, media alert, statement, or letter to the editor.

DISCIPLINARY NOTICE

The Discipline Committee of the American Academy of Actuaries (the Academy), acting in accordance with the Academy's bylaws and under recommendation from the Actuarial Board for Counseling and Discipline, hereby reprimands Ronald F. O'Connell for failure to comply fully with Precept 2 of the Code of Professional Conduct in effect in 1999-2000.

with estimated tax deductions and thresholds.

KUDOS

Dean Stiller, actuary for the Sons of Norway in Minneapolis, was named the National Fraternal Congress of America's 15th annual Jacobson Rugland Award winner. The award, which recognizes a fraternal actuary who has been a notable contributor to the profession and fraternal benefit industry, was established in 1993 by Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, to honor the late Reuben Jacobson and the late Walter Rugland Sr., the Academy's fifth president.

Carol Bogosian, a consultant with the Segal Co. in Chicago; **Julie Durkin**, a consultant with Watson Wyatt Worldwide in Chicago; and **Anna Rappaport** of Anna Rappaport Consulting in Chicago were panelists at a Sept. 27 symposium entitled "Women at Risk: Timing, Financing, and Coping with Retirement." The symposium was organized by the Chicago Bar Association and the Women's Bar

Association of Illinois and sponsored by the Actuarial Foundation.

Anita Sathe, a senior consultant with Deloitte Consulting in Hartford, Conn., this year attained her fellowships in the Casualty Actuarial Society and the Society of Actuaries and was accepted as a member of the Academy. At the age of 27, she is currently the youngest member of the Academy to hold all three designations.

ON THE MOVE

Craig Merdian has joined New York Life International as executive vice president and chief financial officer. In that position, he is responsible for managing several of New York Life International's core functional areas, including all financial, accounting, investment, and actuarial matters. He is also a member of the company's senior leadership team, which is responsible for establishing management policies in all areas of its business and affairs. He most recently served as vice president within the international insurance business at Prudential Financial. ▲