



# NEWS RELEASE

**Immediate Release**

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## **Parks Chosen to Be Next President of the American Academy of Actuaries**

**WASHINGTON – 04 Oct. 2007 – John Parks** is slated to be the next president of the **American Academy of Actuaries**, which serves the public on behalf of the U.S. actuarial profession. The Academy announced yesterday at its annual meeting that Parks, a retired employee benefits consultant and actuary from Pittsburgh, will lead the Academy during the 2008-2009 term. He will succeed **William Bluhm**, who was installed as president during yesterday's meeting. As president-elect Parks will be a member of the Academy's Presidential Advisory Committee, which oversees the Academy's management and makes policy recommendations to the Executive Committee.

Before being selected as the next Academy president, Parks was serving as secretary-treasurer for the non-partisan organization. He also served as the Academy's vice president for pension issues from 2002 to 2003. Parks also previously served as president and member of the board of directors for the American Society of Pension Actuaries (now the American Society of Pension Professionals and Actuaries), and as a vice president and member of the board of directors of the Conference of Consulting Actuaries. He brings to the Academy 45 years of actuarial experience. Before retiring, Parks was president of a consulting firm that ultimately became part of the Actuarial Consulting Group of Principal Financial.

In addition to activities within the actuarial community, Parks, a graduate of Juniata College in Huntingdon, Pa., is involved in a variety of community and civic endeavors. He was previously on the board of directors of Habitat for Humanity in Pittsburgh and the board of management for the YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh. For more information or for digital photographs from the Academy's annual meeting, contact Andrew Simonelli, assistant director of communications for the American Academy of Actuaries, at 202.785.7872.

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The American Academy of Actuaries' mission is to serve the public on behalf of the U.S. actuarial profession. The Academy assists public policymakers on all levels by providing leadership, objective expertise, and actuarial advice on risk and financial security issues. The Academy also sets qualification, practice, and professionalism standards for actuaries in the United States.