

Academy Deepens International Focus With Election of Wildsmith to Board

THE ACADEMY'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS has elected past president and current international secretary Tom Wildsmith to serve on the Academy's Board to enhance discussions on international issues affecting the U.S. actuarial profession.

"Tom brings thorough, contemporaneous knowledge of international developments affecting the U.S. profession to the table," said Academy President Shawna Ackerman. Wildsmith, who was the Academy's 2015–16 president, has served in numerous Academy volunteer positions, including vice president of the Health Practice Council.

Read the Academy [news release](#). ▲



It's Time to Nominate Academy Directors

IT'S TIME TO [share your recommendations](#) for Academy regular directors, who are elected to the Academy Board of Directors by Academy membership in an online election from a slate of candidates presented by the Academy's Nominating Committee. The committee will meet in the coming weeks to identify new candidates for regular directors in accordance with the criteria provided in the [Nominating Committee Guidelines](#).

"Presenting a slate of candidates who will advance the Academy's mission starts with nominations by members who've directly seen their colleagues' talents, experience, and leadership abilities being used to serve the Academy in our public policy and professionalism committees," said past Academy President Bob Beuerlein, chairperson



SHUTTERSTOCK / SHAMLEEN

of the Nominating Committee. "Making the Academy's Nominating Committee aware of the exceptional individuals you know and the qualities you believe make them suited to serve the Academy through Board service is the critical first step in ensuring the Academy will continue to have effective leadership to serve the U.S. profession and the public."

Please share your recommendation by submitting the member's name and information via the Academy [Board Election Center](#) no later than May 1, 2019. Results of the

nominating process will be announced in future publications of *This Week* and *Actuarial Update*. Academy members are invited to nominate themselves or others for consideration.

The Academy holds uncontested elections. Some will recall that the Board experimented several years ago with contested elections for regular director seats over a two- or three-year period, as a means of testing a voting tradition that some other actuarial associations have. After several years of the experiment, the Board subsequently made a decision to reaffirm the longstanding Academy process of holding uncontested elections.

The Academy's Nominating Committee tries to ensure that the Academy's Board composition reflects our unique position as the U.S. national organization established to include actuaries from all practice areas—as well as an equitable distribution among actuarial specialties, business affiliations, and employers. To achieve such a balance, the Academy's nominating process has long relied primarily on a Nominating Committee process that entrusts that committee with identifying Academy volunteers whose service to the Academy has made them an excellent candidate for service on our Board, which is dedicated to furthering our public policy and professionalism mission. ▲

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Ackerman Highlights Academy Efforts in State of the Union Message

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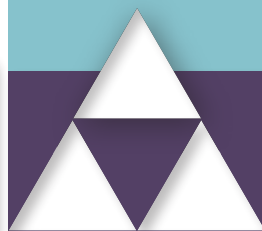
March Professionalism Webinar to Highlight Professional Judgment

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7-8

[New Academy Members](#)



2019

MARCH

21 Professionalism Webinar:
["Making the Right Call: A Discussion of Professional Judgment"](#)

APRIL

6–9 NAIC Spring National Meeting, Orlando, Fla.
 7–10 [Enrolled Actuaries Meeting](#), Washington, D.C.
 8–10 [PBR Boot Camp](#), Orlando, Fla.

AUGUST

3–6 NAIC Summer National Meeting, New York City

SEPTEMBER

16–18 [Casualty Loss Reserve Seminar & Workshops \(CLRS\)](#), Austin, Texas

NOVEMBER

5–6 [Annual Meeting and Public Policy Forum](#), Washington, D.C.
 10–14 [Life and Health Qualifications Seminar](#), Arlington, Va.

DECEMBER

7–10 NAIC Fall National Meeting, Austin, Texas

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

Review Your Membership Profile

To continue receiving *Actuarial Update*, *Contingencies*, and other Academy publications on time, please make sure the Academy has your correct contact information. Academy members can update their member profile, subscribe to Academy alerts, pay their dues, and review archived professionalism and public policy webinars at the [member login page](#).

Academy NEWS Briefs

Academy Sends Two Letters to NAIC Regarding P/C Opinion Instructions

MARY D. MILLER, past president of the Academy, sent two comment letters to the NAIC this month on behalf of the Academy. The [first letter](#), to the Executive (EX) Committee's Ad Hoc commissioner group, pertains to the proposed changes of the Property and Casualty 2019 Actuarial Opinion Instructions, including the Ad Hoc Group's draft definition of "qualified actuary."

The letter is a comprehensive analysis of why the definition should use membership in the American Academy of Actuaries as its reference for qualification. The [second letter](#), to the Casualty Actuarial and Statistical (C) Task Force (CASTF), is in regard to the CASTF's draft qualification and related documentation requirements; it includes a copy of the above letter to the Ad Hoc group. ▲

Recently Released

THE FEBRUARY [HealthCheck](#) covers the Long-Term Care (LTC) Practice Note Work Group's exposure draft of an LTC insurance practice note, comments on which are due April 30. Also in this issue, state and federal legislative regulatory activity, including a White House Council of Economic Advisers report on the Affordable Care Act; regulatory actions by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services; and health-related legislation in several states. ▲



Don't Forget to Order Your Academy Law Manuals

THE LATEST EDITIONS of the *Life and Health Valuation Law Manual* and the *Property/Casualty Loss Reserve Law Manual* are available for order.

- ▲ The *Life and Health Valuation Law Manual* contains a concise summary of the valuation laws (and NAIC regulations) of all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. It has been redesigned for 2019, streamlining the contents so users can easily access information. [Order today](#).
- ▲ The *Property/Casualty Loss Reserve Law 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. [Order today](#). ▲





March Webinar to Highlight Professional Judgment

JOIN THE ACADEMY'S FIRST professionalism webinar of 2019 for an exclusive, engaging discussion with a professor of business law and ethics who focuses on behavioral decision-making and compliance on what the latest research on ethics and compliance can tell actuaries about the common pitfalls of bias and self-interest and how to avoid them in fulfilling your professional responsibilities as an actuary. The webinar, "[Making the Right Call: A Discussion of Professional Judgment](#)," will be held on Thursday, March 21, from noon to 1:30 p.m. EDT.

Adhering to professionalism standards and responsibilities requires having a complete understanding of and

complying with a variety of principles and rules. This means not only being familiar with the current Code of Professional Conduct, qualification standards, and relevant actuarial standards of practice, but also making judgments based on them in your day-to-day work. While in most situations the right call is clear, in other situations judgments can become complicated or blurry very quickly.

The presenter will be Anita Cava, professor of business law and business ethics program director at the University of Miami School of Business. Council on Professionalism member Ken Kent and Lisa Slotznick, the Academy's vice president, casualty, will be on the program. Registration will open soon. ▲

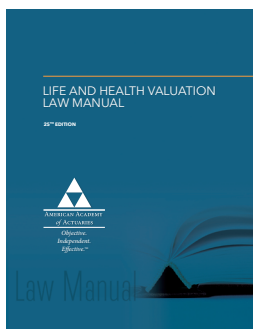
LHQ Seminar to Offer CE, Professionalism Credit

THE ACADEMY'S 2019 [Life and Health Qualifications Seminar](#), to be held Nov. 10–14 in Arlington, Va. (Washington, D.C., metro area) will provide attendees the opportunity to obtain qualifications or relevant continuing education (CE) credit necessary to issue actuarial opinions for either the NAIC Life and Accident & Health (A&H) Annual Statement or the NAIC Health Annual Statement, as well as professionalism credit. Limited space is available for this highly regarded seminar. [Register today.](#) ▲

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THE ACADEMY'S ANNUAL

Law Manuals

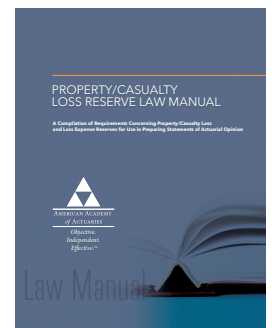


The Life and Health Valuation Law Manual

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 P/C Loss Reserve Law Manual

contains useful information to help appointed actuaries know the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) Annual Statement requirements for Statements of Actuarial Opinion (SAOs).



Both manuals are available in a variety of formats, allowing you to pick the version that best suits your needs.

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Modeling ASOP: Fourth Exposure Draft Open for Comment by ASB

THE ACTUARIAL STANDARDS BOARD (ASB) recently released a fourth [exposure draft](#) of a proposed new actuarial standard of practice (ASOP) titled *Modeling*. The proposed ASOP will provide guidance to actuaries in any practice area when performing actuarial services with respect to designing, developing, selecting, modifying, or using all types of models.

Changes made from the third exposure draft, released in June 2016, include clearer accommodation of other forms of modeling (such as predictive and statistical modeling) different from those of financial projection modeling; a revision of section 1.2., Scope, to remove the concept of “simple models”; and inclusion of new section 3.4, Reliance on Experts. In addition, the section Presentation of Results was deleted.

“Modeling is so fundamental to so many different kinds of actuarial work, having a standard with the right scope and correct guidance is incredibly important,” said Dale Hagstrom, chairperson of the ASB’s Modeling Task Force. “Over the past 11 years, many members of task forces and committees have helped develop the guidance proposed in the exposure draft, as it expanded from a discussion draft for modeling life insurance financial projections. We welcome all comments—either confirmatory agreement or suggestions for improvement.”

Four exposure drafts is a significant and unusual number. It demonstrates the ASB’s continuing commitment to considering public input on ASOPs and also the particular requirements of a standard like this that would apply to all practice areas. As background, the ASB is charged with exposing, promulgating or adopting, and publishing ASOPs in all areas of actuarial practice. Each proposed ASOP is subject to multiple levels of review and comment, and comments are welcomed on every exposure draft. A [diagram](#) of the typical drafting and exposure process is available on the ASB website.

The ASB’s exposure process is robust and transparent.

Members of the profession are encouraged to comment on drafts, of course, but the comment process is also open to interested parties and the general public to ensure that anyone potentially affected by a standard can provide input. All comments received (anonymous comments are not accepted)

are posted publicly on the ASB website so that all may see and understand the input that the ASB is receiving from the profession and the public. During its third exposure, the *Modeling* draft received 28 comment letters reflecting over 150 comments submitted. The first and second exposures received 48 and 37 comment letters, respectively.

The task force summarizes the issue raised in each significant comment and provides a response in an appendix that is published with the next version of the standard, whether a draft or a final ASOP. This highly

detailed and exhaustive review of comments contributes to the transparency and integrity of the drafting and exposure process, as the appendix allows everyone—whether members of the public or the profession—to see each substantive comment and how the task force responded to it. In addition, the appendix allows everyone who took the time to comment to know that their comments have been seriously considered.

In many cases, and clearly in this one, more than one exposure is required. Comments made during an exposure period often result in changes to a draft that require further exposure. The comments received on this draft will determine whether a record-breaking fifth exposure draft is required!

The input gained through the exposure process is invaluable to the ASB, ensuring that the final ASOP not only provides guidance for appropriate practice but also serves both the profession and the public. We encourage you to review the *Modeling* draft and submit your comments, as directed in the transmittal memo, by May 15, 2019.

Information on how to submit comments can be found in the [exposure draft](#). ▲

“Modeling is so fundamental to so many different kinds of actuarial work, having a standard with the right scope and correct guidance is incredibly important. We welcome all comments—either confirmatory agreement or suggestions for improvement.”

— Dale Hagstrom, chairperson
ASB Modeling Task Force





Webinar Dives Deep on P/C Actuarial Opinion Report Writing

A FEB. 1 ACADEMY PROPERTY/CASUALTY WEBINAR explored how to write an effective P/C loss reserve opinion report. “[P/C Actuarial Opinion Report Writing](#),” hosted by the Academy’s Committee on Property and Liability Financial Reporting (COPLFR), included a review of the actuary’s responsibilities, NAIC instructions, and relevant actuarial standards of practice, and featured discussion of how clear communication and documentation of the actuary’s work is handled in each report chapter.

COPLFR Chairperson Kathy Odomirok moderated, and the presenters—COPFLR member and Opinion Seminar Subcommittee Chairperson John Gleba, and subcommittee member Chuck Emma—offered insight on differences in writing the narrative and technical components of the report, what kind of data and disclosures support the report, and what is included in the report to help the intended readers understand and navigate it. Presenters

emphasized that actuaries understand their audience and provide pertinent background and historical information and details to help the reader navigate through the narrative and exhibits, while describing the process and steps along the way. “One of the most important feedback items we get from regulators is that organization is far more important than detail,” Emma said.

[Slides and audio](#) are available without charge for Academy members. ▲

CASUALTY BRIEFS

- ➔ **Dee Dee Mays** is vice chairperson of the Casualty Practice Council.
- ➔ **Melanie Leavy** joined the Committee on Property and Liability Financial Reporting.
- ➔ **Taylor Krebsbach** joined the Cyber Risk Task Force.

HEALTH NEWS



Draft LTC Insurance Practice Note Released

THE LONG-TERM CARE (LTC) PRACTICE NOTE Work Group published an [exposure draft](#) of an LTC insurance practice note on Jan. 31. An update of a 1995 LTC insurance practice note, it is intended to provide a source of information to practicing LTC actuaries seeking to better understand the considerations in evaluating experience, setting assumptions, valuation, and financial reporting. The comment deadline for this exposure draft is April 30.

Issue Brief on LTC & Medicaid

The Medicaid and Long-Term Care (LTC) Insurance Work Group published an [issue brief](#), *Medicaid and Long-Term Care Insurance*, exploring the potential for catastrophic long-term care costs as a major financial risk especially facing older Americans and to help clarify the options currently available for dealing with it.

The expected future increases in LTC service needs and costs will almost certainly stress LTC financing over the next several decades. Given that Medicaid funding already represents a substantial portion of federal and state budgets, its role, without modification/reform, as a long-term option for funding the LTC costs of the Baby Boomers and generations beyond raises many questions.

Increasing awareness of the need to modify/reform Medicaid is but one indication—albeit a critical one—of the need for more comprehensive reviews of the existing LTC financing systems, with the ultimate goal of developing actuarially sound proposals for reform.

Committee Comments on 2020 Payments Notice

THE INDIVIDUAL AND SMALL GROUP Markets Committee and its Risk Sharing Subcommittee sent a [comment letter](#) to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services on the proposed rule for the 2020 notice of benefit and payment parameters. ▲

HEALTH BRIEFS

- ➔ **Emily Bartel** joined the AV/MV Work Group.
- ➔ **Mike Krentzman** joined the Medicare Subcommittee.
- ➔ **Brian Ulery** joined the LTC Reform Subcommittee.

NEW Academy Members

IN THE SECOND HALF OF 2018, the Academy welcomed 413 new members, compared with 429 for the same period of 2017. The new members' average age was 31, and 36.8 percent were women, up from 34 percent a year ago.

The majority of the new members, 287 (almost 70 percent, up from 64 percent a year earlier), are employed by an insurance organization or organizations serving the insurance industry. There were 114 (27.6 percent, down from 34 percent) working as consulting actuaries. Ten work in some form of government service, with one identified as miscellaneous and one in a university position.

Health was the most popular area of practice (158; 38.3 percent), followed by life (105; 25.2 percent), property/casualty (84; 20 percent), pension (47; 11.4 percent), and risk management (9; 2.2 percent), while 11 (2.7 percent) listed other.

At the end of 2018, the Academy had more than 19,000 members.

Matthew Abbrecht	Cassidie J. Cade	Priya Debuka	Evan J. George	John R. Igrec
William C. Abram	Samuel C. Cargnel	Xuan Deng	Cristian Gherghi	John D. Irving
Kevin H. Ach	Maria E. Carnovale	Bingwei Deng	Mary K. Gibbs	Rajshree Jaiman
Janice Akomeah Acheampong	Sara J. Carstensen	Maximiliano Diaz	Nicholas B. Gipe	Cari A. Jamieson
Mary E. Annese	Tory E. Carver	Nicole A. Diebold	Jill H. Gonzales	David J. Jerome
Adam R. Armstrong	Jessica C. Cederquist	Grant T. Dilger	Jessica M. Grow	Hao Jiang
Caleb D. Augspurger	Alexander J. Cha	David E. Disla	Alexander H. Grunder	Xidong Jiang
Michael P. Badome	Anthony Champi	Gina N. Donnelly	Michael J. Guarino	Ruohan Jin
Patrick M. Bagan	Maryellen Chansky	Christina M. Doran	David M. Haas	Charles W. Johnson
Qianwen Bai	Sarah J. Chansky	Robert M. Dougher	Austin D. Haley	Matthew A. Johnson
Carina Balan	Wendy L. Chao	Emily L. Dougherty	Ashkaun M. Hami	Nathan G. Johnson
Michael T. Banker	Christopher J. Chen	James T. Dwyer	Hang Han	Nathaniel T. Johnson
Daniel N. Barasa	Yueting Chen	Courtney L. Ehlert	Chris A. Hancock	Ashlesha Joshi
Cory P. Barnes	Jeremy Chernofsky	Ryan L. Eliason	Trevor J. Hanhilammi	Joseph E. Kablan
Christopher R. Bartley	Jessica Cheung	Andrew L. Ellerbrock	Quanzhen Hao	Ashleigh L. Kahle
Rhett R. Barton	James Scott Childers	Lesley L. Eng	Hannah D. Harber	Kristin N. Kaley
Brian R. Basiaga	Elizabeth A. Chipman	Nicholas T. Erickson	Chuck A. Harvey	Theresa A. Kamykowski
Simone R. Beauford	Hyungjoon Choi	Melinda S. Etschman	Margaret F. Hauser	Kaitlin A. Kane
Mallika Bender	Fiona X. Chong	Yinglu Fan	Raymond D. Hayes III	Connie L. Kang
Aviv Benhamo	Peixian Chow	Yao-Chuen Fang	Xiaojuan Hei	Dzianis Kapylou
Dwayne G. Bent	Julie L. Christy	John M. Farina	Peter T. Heinen	Daniel A. Kee
Brian J. Berkowitz	Maria Cimino	Charles N. Faus	Derek M. Heis	Daniel C. Keenan
Justin D. Bevan	Layne K. Cockcroft	Jing Feng	Paul S. Hendrick	Donald Z. Kellar
Adwaita D. Bhagwat	Nathan J. Comdohr	Ivy R. Feng	William J. Henehan	Alex K. Kigen
Yash Bhalla	Austin R. Conforte	Christopher M. Figaro	Kang Quan Heng	Matthew R. Killam
Kara M. Boehm	Sarah C. Coulson	Aaron D. Fihn	Eric M. Herman	Christopher C. Kinzig
Gregory J. Breda	Joseph J. Cuff	Sara R. Fisher	Julie C. Hernick	Elazar L. Klein
Seamus Breen	Anthony A. Cuny	Jeff Flaster	Alexandre Heroux	John J. Klodnicki
Craig R. Bridge	Mary Jo Curcio	Jacqueline C. Fowler	Aaron N. Hill	Jordan M. Knoop
Matthew L. Briggs	Ilya R. DaCosta	Caitlin M. Freilich	Daniel T. Hoberg	Ernest Seng Yoong Koh
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Alexander Buckley	Joshua J. Daum	Marissa A. Gargano	Jian Hong	Mary A. Korch
Katherine M. Cable	Tyler E. Davis	Christopher M. Gast	Gabriel C. Hopkins	Kevin J. Kowalko
Timothy S. Cabral	Kyle H. De Pew	Travis J. Gaylik	Katsiaryna Hoque	Matthew C. Krasnecky
	Nathaniel S. Deardorff	Alexander D. Geanous	Michael G. Humpherys	Valerie S. Kreda

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Kelly V. Ku	Kevin S. McBeth	Joel D. Phillips	Thomas Sfyris	Connor M. Vredeveld
Abigail M. Kuehner	Brian P. McCoy	Joseph T. Pickett	Joseph V. Shackelford	Alexandra M. Wallace
Cindi M. Kuhlman	Max R. McDermott	Sean A. Pieroni	Jared Shaeffer	Kristin M. Walth
Jeremy D. Lachtrupp	Jessica K. McDermott	John B. Plonka	Laurie E. Shih	Xiaojie Wang
Andrew T. Lafortune	Mark C. McFarlane	Hania Pokora	Byungkeun Shin	Chunwei Wang
Tyler J. Lantman	Robert McGinley	Elisa E. Pollack	Edward K. Shin	Ryan S. Ward
Richard K. Laux	Patrick L. Meagher	Daniel R. Poore	Nicolas J. Shuler	Curtis J. Washburn
Marykate B. Lavell	Jared T. Meehan	Darien S. Porter	Jeremy R. Siborg	Marni J. Wasserman
Sarah J. Lee	Douglas S. Merrill	Joshua T. Poythress	Svetlana S. Sidorova	Kristen R. Watkins
Yoon Hyung Lee	John W. Michael	Jeffrey S. Prince	Maria E. Simmers	Andrew A. Weaks
Yuen Ting Lee	Ivana Mikic	Raymond A. Rabel	Jeremiah D. Sisk	Zachary P. Weber
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Andrew Levine	Adam C. Moorse	Jonathan D. Ravin	Griffin T. Smith	Ashley L. Welker
Austin D. Lewis	Mitchell T. Morin	Heather D. Ray	Kayne M. Smith	Douglas E. Wetterlin
Stephanie Li	Kevin Morrison	Joshua J. Rekula	Logan T. Smith	Molly J. Wickenhauser
Xingfang Li	Kylynn M. Moyer	Cong Ren	Lewis H. Smith	Katharine Wiest
Li Lian	Philipp A. Naegele	Hua Ren	Lindsey M. Smith	Ryan J. Winske
Michael Lin	Ramandeep Nagi	Steven A. Reslie	Tanner J. Smith	Todd F. Witte
Liqian E. Lin	Ankit Nanda	Margaret A. Richard	Karl Song	Alan V. Wood
Yebei L. Lin	Michael A. Neal	Alan J. Richter	Jesse R. Spriggs	Charlotte E. Woodford
Robert W. Liss	Stephen N. Nemrow	Griffin R. Rock	David L. Springston	Cathy Wu
Diana T. Liu	Anh H. Nguyen	Sean-Douglas I. Rodrigues	Adam C. St John	Ping Xiao
Mandy Liu	Linh T. Nguyen	Jeffrey N. Roettgen	Cavan M. Stackpool	Ziyang Xie
Xi Liu	Andrew C. Nichols	Thomas G. Roltgen	Rebecca J. Stanton	Xiao Xiong
Kerri C. Liu	David K. Nickerson	Adam J. Rosenzweig	Besart Stavileci	Eric J. Xu
Xinyi Liu	Rebecca N. Noah	Catherine J. Rosie	Scott P. Steadman	Meng Xu
Nicole Z. Llorens	Arifa Nusrat	Yeshaya Rosner	Caleb J. Stracke	Wei Yan
Joseph M. Lomma	Daniel A. Nysch	Brittini A. Roth	Huijing W. Sullivan	Junyi Yang
Kyle P. Lord	Scott G. Oakes	Kathryn K. Rouse	Keith A. Sutton	Peng Yang
Nicholas W. Lowenberg	Kathleen M. O'Leary	Stephanie L. Rouse	Alex T. Tam	Vincent B. Yang
Gail K. Lundeen	Jessica T. Oliva	Justin M. Runkel	Adam R. Taylor	Gaines F. Yeilding
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Brian C. Madigan	Irmeya I. Ouedraogo	Elspeth E. Sawyer	Luke W. Tremaine	Kylie C. Young
Allison C. Magnuson	Andrea A. Oustimov	Kelsea A. Schaefer	Yoyo Tsai	Mark J. Zaleta
Nancy M. Mahdy	Brian S. Oxendine	Robert L. Schenck	Wesley J. Tucci	Mengyao Zhao
Andrew B. Majors	Robert D. Pacelli	Megan C. Schmelzer	Benjamin J. Tucker	Ou Zhao
Manpreet S. Mann	Jordan R. Paszek	Christopher M. Schneider	Vincent G. Turnbull	Xuan Y. Zhao
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Life Practice Council Groups Comment to NAIC

SEVERAL LIFE PRACTICE Council committee and work groups commented to the NAIC this month.

Comment Letter on 2018 RBC Results

The RBC Tax Reform Work Group submitted a [comment letter](#) to the NAIC's Life Risk-Based Capital Working Group on its exposed guidance document on the interpretation of 2018 life risk-based capital results.

Life Experience Committee Comments on NAIC Fall Meeting Questions

The Life Experience Committee sent a [comment letter](#) to the Life

Actuarial (A) Task Force (LATF) to address questions that were raised during the NAIC Fall 2018 National Meeting regarding the current process used to develop the Actuarial Guideline 38 and VM-20 annual mortality improvement scale recommendations.

Life Reserves Work Group Comments on APF

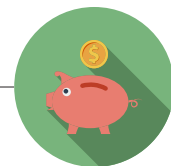
The Life Reserves Work Group submitted a [comment letter](#) to LATF regarding exposed amendment proposal form (APF) 2019-04, which seeks to provide clarification for expense allowance formulas for universal life with secondary guarantee. ▲

Life Illustrations Practice Note Updated

THE LIFE ILLUSTRATIONS WORK GROUP updated its 2018 [practice note](#) to reflect implications from the 2017 passage of the *Tax Cuts and Jobs Act*, pertinent to ASOP No. 24, *Compliance with the NAIC Life Insurance Illustrations Model Regulation*, and to provide information to actuaries on current or emerging practices. Read the [Academy alert](#). ▲

LIFE BRIEFS

- ➔ **Maria Milazzo** joined the Life Capital Adequacy Committee.
- ➔ **Matthew Nezwik** and **Jingjing Xu** joined the Life Financial Reporting Committee.
- ➔ **Chanho Lee** joined the PBR Governance Work Group.
- ➔ **Ramon Casanova** joined the Life Illustrations Work Group.
- ➔ **Aniela Iancu** joined the Annuity Reserves Work Group.



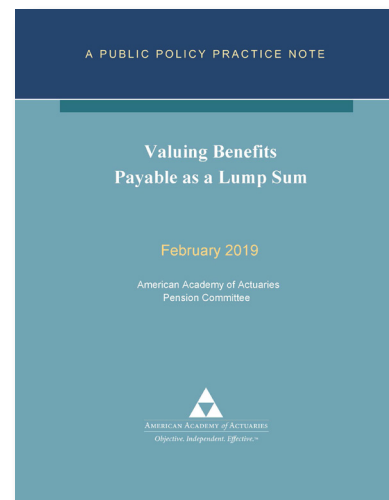
New Practice Note: Investment Returns and Expected Return Assumptions

THE ACADEMY'S PENSION Practice Council (PPC) released a [practice note](#), *Forecasting Investment Returns and Expected Return Assumptions for Pension Actuaries*, intended to help actuaries recommend an expected investment return assumption, assess capital market models from an outside party, or facilitate discussion with investment professionals to better understand the basis for their assumptions. ▲

Lump-Sum Practice Note Released

THE ACADEMY'S PENSION Committee released a new [practice note](#), *Valuing Benefits Payable as a Lump Sum*. The purpose of the practice note—an exposure draft of which was released last September—is to provide information to actuaries on current and emerging practices in the development of liabilities and cost estimates for pension plans, with benefits paid as a lump sum.

Many pension plans offer benefits in the form of a single, lump-sum payment. In recent years, as plan sponsors have looked to manage risk, lump-sum payments have become more common. The practice note discusses the valuation of lump-sum benefits for financial accounting purposes, and utilizes a number of concepts related to interest theory. ▲



Committees Comment to Bipartisan Policy Center

Actuarial Update

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Art Panighetti
Josh Shapiro
Lisa Slotznick
D. Joeff Williams

EDITOR

Michael G. Malloy

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS | PUBLICATIONS

Eric P. Harding

DESIGN AND PRODUCTION

[BonoTom Studio Inc.](#)

DESIGNER

Christopher Specht

PUBLICATIONS AND MARKETING PRODUCTION MANAGER

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American Academy of Actuaries

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Lisa Slotznick

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mary Downs

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

David J. Nolan

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

The American Academy of Actuaries
1850 M Street NW
Suite 300
Washington, DC 20036
Phone 202-223-8196
Fax 202-872-1948
www.actuary.org

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THE LIFETIME INCOME RISK JOINT Committee, Retirement System Assessment and Policy Committee, and Social Security Committee sent a [comment letter](#) to the Bipartisan Policy Center (BPC) on the BPC's 2016 Report of the Commission on Retirement Security and Personal Savings.

The comments cover six areas: improving

access to workplace retirement savings plans; promoting personal savings for short term and preserve retirement savings; facilitating lifetime income options to reduce risk of outliving savings; facilitating the use of home equity for retirement consumption; improving financial capability among all Americans; and strengthening Social Security's finances and modernize the program. ▲

JBEA Seeks Applications for 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. Applications are being accepted through March 19.

Information on how to apply is available via the [IRS website](#). ▲

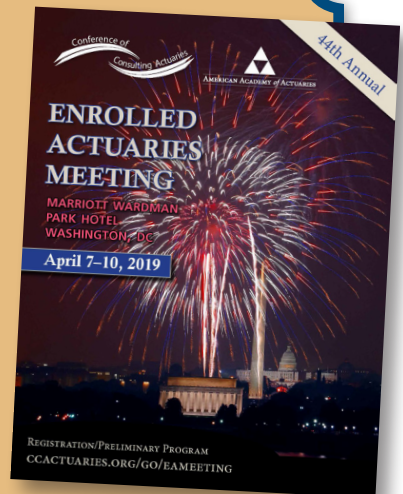
PENSION BRIEFS

- ➔ **Mary H. Stone** joined the Pension Committee.
- ➔ **Todd Tauzer** joined the Public Plans Committee.

Enrolled Actuaries Meeting Discounts Still Available

The 44th annual [Enrolled Actuaries Meeting](#) will be held April 7–10 in Washington, D.C. Sponsored jointly by the Academy and the Conference of Consulting Actuaries, the EA Meeting will offer panels, workshops, and speakers covering a variety of topics and issues relevant to enrolled actuaries and other pension professionals. The [preliminary agenda](#) is available online—[register today](#) for discounts that run through registrations postmarked or entered online by Feb. 28.

2019 Enrolled Actuaries Meeting
April 7–10 | Washington, D.C.



RISK MANAGEMENT BRIEFS

- ➔ **Seong-Min Eom** is chairperson of the new Liquidity Risk Work Group, and the following actuaries are members of the work group: **John Aprill, Nancy Bennett, Charles Ford, Rich Gibson, David Heppen, Liaw Huang, William Jones, Laurel Kastrup, James Reiskytl, Jon-Zeu Wu,** and **Michelle Young**.
- ➔ **Dorothy Andrews** is chairperson of the Data Science and Analytics Committee.
- ➔ **Jeff Johnson** is the chairperson of the Solvency Committee.
- ➔ **Dave Heppen, Clifford Lau, Derek Skoog,** and **Darin Zimmerman** joined the Reinsurance Task Force.