



AEN Newsletter

Number 5

Welcome to the fifth newsletter for members of the Actuarial Educators Network. These newsletters are intended to provide information that we believe will be of interest to members of the network, and through this improve the quality of actuarial education, and global access to this education. In this edition, we focus on the results of the recent membership survey and have exciting news about an actuarial education conference next year.

Survey Results

In the previous newsletter, we asked members of the network to complete a short survey. There was a reasonable response, and below are the key results.

What is your role as actuarial educator?		
Full time actuarial educator at a university or similar institution	29	66%
Full time actuarial educator –not at a university or similar institution	1	2%
Part time actuarial educator	7	16%
Retired actuarial educator	0	0%
Actuarial researcher	3	7%
Not currently an actuarial educator or researcher	4	9%
TOTAL	44	100%

What do you see as the main functions of the Actuarial Educators Network? (select all that apply)		
Create networking opportunities for actuarial educators around the world	36	82%
Improve the quality of actuarial education globally	33	75%
Facilitate greater global access to actuarial education	24	55%
Create opportunities for collaborative research across different countries	26	59%
Organize study/discussion groups of actuarial educators with common interests (e.g. Enterprise Risk Management, Life Contingencies)	21	48%
Sharing teaching resources on the website	27	61%
Other, please specify	4	9%

What would you like to see the Actuarial Educators Network start doing/doing more of? (select all that apply)		
Putting resources onto the website	26	59%
Database of actuarial educators around the world	20	45%
Host conferences	14	32%
Other, please specify	8	18%



If the AEN held a conference in the Netherlands in May 2013 , focusing on improving the quality of and access to actuarial education, would you:

Be likely to present at this conference	5	11%
Be likely to attend the conference	9	20%
Possibly attend/present at the conference	20	45%
Definitely not be at the conference	10	23%
TOTAL	44	100%

Based on these responses, there appears to be general support for the current aims and activity of the AEN. However, there is a strong indication that people would like to see more resources on the AEN website, and I would really encourage members to contribute papers and teaching resources so that we can significantly improve the content of our pages.

If you have a contribution to the website, please send it to [Christian Levac](#)

There was reasonable support for an education conference next year in the Netherlands, and this event is in the process of being organised with further details later in this newsletter.

Membership Directory

We have now further developed the membership directory to allow search functionality; you can now search for all educators in a particular country, university, teaching area or other specialisation. You can find this at: www.actuaries.org/AEN/Directory_Login.cfm and access it with the username and password issued in the e-mail accompanying this newsletter.

If you don't see your own name in the directory, this means you haven't entered your details on your website.

Please then take the opportunity to enter your details; this can be done at:

www.actuaries.org/AEN/Membership.cfm.

Future Meetings of Actuarial Educators

Please note this updated list of upcoming conferences for Actuarial Educators –we hope that you will be able to take part in some of these opportunities from around the world.

Region	Event	Dates	Host
Australasia	5 th Australasian Actuarial Education & Research Symposium	6-7 December, 2012	Monash University Melbourne, Victoria (Australia)
North America	48 th Actuarial Research Conference	1-3 August, 2013	Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (USA)



IAA/Groupe Consultatif Education Conference

As mentioned earlier, the IAA and Groupe Consultatif have agreed to organise an education conference in the Netherlands in May 2013. This will be in conjunction with the IAA meetings that month and the venue will be in The Hague. The conference is now planned to start after lunch on 26 May and continue until the end of the day on the 27th. The Actuarial Educators Network has been invited to play a significant role in planning the content of the conference.

The initial focus of the conference will be on improving access to actuarial education in countries with a developing actuarial profession. On the second day, the intention is to look at improving quality in education to equip future actuarial professions. Focuses on this day could include teaching methods, professional education and syllabuses that will be relevant in the future.

While some preliminary planning has been done for the conference, there is still an opportunity for members to suggest content for the conference, and particularly, to volunteer to present. Please contact [Andrew Gladwin](#) if you have any suggestions.

A small amount of bursaries may be available to attend the conference. If you would like to apply, please contact [Christian Levac](#).

International Congress of Actuaries 2014

Please note the following message from Bob Conger on the ICA 2014 Organising Committee:

Dear Members of the Actuarial Educators Network,

I would like to call your attention to the [Call for Presentation and Papers for ICA 2014](#) (link below).

Due to the planning timeline for the International Congress, the deadline to submit a proposal is coming up very fast – September 30, 2012. But the Scientific Committee has made the proposal process extremely easy:

- The Scientific Committee is encouraging proposals to give a presentation without requiring that the presenter submit a formal scientific paper. (But also will happily accept a proposal to submit a formal paper.)*
- The proposal process requires only that you submit a short description of the subject matter*
- The Call for Presentations includes a link to an online tool through which you may submit your proposal. Based on my trial run, it should require less than 20 minutes of your time to submit your idea of a topic that you would like to present.*

The Scientific Committee will provide feedback on your proposal within 2 months, thus giving you plenty of guidance before you actually need to begin your preparation.



Please consider yourself invited to submit a brief proposal to make a presentation, or to submit a scientific paper, at ICA 2014. And please forward this invitation to anyone in your actuarial network who might be interested.

Thanks!

Bob Conger
ICA 2014 Organizing Committee

<http://www.ica2014.org/congressprogram/index.cfm?fa=callPapers>

Actuaries Without Borders

The Actuaries Without Borders website (www.actuaries.org/index.cfm?LANG=EN&DSP=AWB&ACT=COURSES) now contains a list of course offerings that its members are willing to teach, either as seminar instructors or tutors preparing students for actuarial exams. For each course listed, the IAA secretariat maintains a list of interested AWB members.

If there are AEN members who are interested in participating in AWB educational projects, they are welcome to join AWB and have their courses listed on the website.

To join, please go to www.actuaries.org/SECTIONS/SECTION_MEMBERSHIP_EN.cfm.

New Probability Textbook

One of our members, Larry Leemis, has written a textbook on Probability that covers the syllabus of Exam P of the Society of Actuaries. He is looking for instructors to class test the book; you can obtain the book on-line at: <http://www.actexamdriver.com/showproducts.cfm?FullCat=739&step=2>.

Final Comments

If you know of any educators, or people interested in actuarial education, who would be interested in the network, please encourage them to join by filling out the online form:

(www.actuaries.org/AEN/Membership.cfm)

Finally, you are receiving this newsletter because you are currently on our e-mail distribution list. We would very much like you to remain part of the network, but if you do want to opt out, or are receiving this e-mail in error, please inform Christian Levac (christian.levac@actuaries.org) who will remove you from the distribution list.