BRUIN ACTUARIAL SOCIETY

2016-2017 Year in Review | Summer 2017 Newsletter

Highlights of 2016-2017

Bruin Actuarial Society is proud to present this recap of the 2016-17 school year. If you have been a member, we hope this brings back some fond memories of your involvement. If you are a prospective member or UCLA student, this will give you a sense of all that BAS does to support UCLA student actuaries.

As the 2015-16 school year began, we saw the tapering off of the period of exponential growth that followed the introduction of the Financial Actuarial Mathematics major in 2013. With the size of our program stabilized at just over three hundred pre-majors and majors, we turned our attention from quantity to quality of the graduates produced by this program. Our events, from Career Fair and Case Competition to member socials and Mentorship, are efforts towards this goal.

Ninth Annual Bruin Actuarial Society Career Fair

Recruitment season is the busiest time of the year for BAS and its members, and Career Fair is the de facto kickoff. In our Ninth Annual Career Fair, held on October 3rd, 2016, nearly 200 students and over 20 firms gathered for this event. Scores of juniors and sophomores connected with companies at which they will intern, and many graduating students found full-time positions. Firms included both insurance and consulting firms from all lines of business: P&C, Health, and Life & Retirement.

Summer 2017

2016-17 Officers:
Man Yee Yu
Brittani Kellogg
Dan Sui
Annie Thornton
Cullen Im
Greta Xiong

Thank You!

The Board of Officers would like to thank our alumni, our members, the Department of Mathematics, and the Actuarial Advisory Council for a world of support. Thank you, as well, to our most generous sponsor, Willis Towers Watson.

Willis Towers Watson
bruinactuaries@gmail.com
BAS Case Competition

Congratulations to Team 5, from UCLA, for their first-place win at our Fifth Annual Case Competition, presented by Molina Healthcare. Pictured from left to right: Kevin Monte (Molina), Timothy Hinh (Junior), Brian Hsu (Junior), and Luna Xu (Sophomore). Not pictured: Alisa Nguyen (Sophomore).

Our Re-designed Website is Live!

The re-designed BAS website, coded by BAS Officers in HTML, CSS and JavaScript, went live over Spring Break at math.ucla.edu/~actuary. This new site incorporates all of the useful resources present in the old website into a modern design. We extend our appreciation to the Department of Mathematics for hosting the site on its server.

Technical Series Workshops

For years now, Excel has been one of the most valuable pieces of software in an actuary’s toolkit. Recently, Access has also become increasingly mainstream, used to handle and process large amounts of data. BAS is dedicated to the preparation of our members for a future as an actuary, and so each Winter Quarter, we hold workshops to teach our members skills in Microsoft Excel and Microsoft Access, including VBA and SQL coding. Topics include the ever-important VLOOKUP, PivotTables, recording and writing macros, and using advanced SELECT statements to query data from Access tables. Next year, we will introduce a third Excel workshop focusing on advanced functions, including INDEX MATCH, and using Solver.

UCLA Recognized by SOA for Advanced Curriculum

In June 2017, UCLA’s Actuarial Program was designated as a UCAP-Advanced Curriculum (UCAP-AC) program by the Society of Actuaries. Among Universities and Colleges with Actuarial Programs, UCAP-AC recognizes schools that have courses covering material from at least four preliminary actuarial exams, as well as all VEE requirements. This is a testament to the growth of the Actuarial Program here at UCLA, as well as the knowledge and preparedness with which students graduate. Visit the Society of Actuaries for more information on UCAP-AC and other designations.

The 2017-18 Board of Officers, At Your Service

We’re looking forward to a great year with everyone! Pictured from left to right: Annie Thornton (Director of Finance), Kevin Zhu (Corporate Liaison), Greta Xiong (Vice President), Dan Sui (President), Cullen Im (Director of Professional Development) and Trace Bechter (Corporate Liaison)