

# Actuarial Science Club Newsletter

Issue 12  
May 2012

*Highlights of the Actuarial Science Club*  
*By Tiffany Mosier, President*

I am amazed that it is already time for me to write this recap for the end of year newsletter. The Actuarial Science Club has had a great year, and I'm honored to have served as your President. From the major meeting to THON to the field trip, the club has sponsored a lot of great events, but more importantly, the feedback from all of these events has been overwhelmingly positive.

We kicked off the fall semester with a packed room for our Major Meeting, where we overviewed the major and all of its requirements. Then, we had outstanding attendance at both the Resume and Interview Workshops. It was great to see the seniors who attended sharing their experiences with the underclassmen. These informational meetings were followed by the highlight of our fall semester, the Actuarial Science Career Fair. We had a record number of employers attend and received numerous comments about the high caliber of Penn State's actuarial students.

Spring semester was highlighted by THON and our Speaker Series along with the field trip for freshmen and sophomores. THON is always a breathtaking experience, and the Actuarial Science Club raised more than \$9,000 for the cause this year! Our dancers, Tyler Fondrk and Jaime Kaslander, were outstanding through the whole weekend, and I'm proud that we're part of such a great Penn State tradition. We were fortunate to have the President of the Society of Actuaries, Brad Smith, visit Penn State to kick off the Speaker Series. Brad shared lessons that he's learned from his 35 year actuarial career

with the students in attendance. The Speaker Series also included Javier Rodriguez from Geico and Jeff Scheib from Highmark. There has already been discussion of a past SOA President speaking next year, and I am confident that the new Executive Board will continue to improve the Speaker Series. Near the end of the semester, a small group of freshmen and sophomores accompanied by myself and next year's Alumni Liaison, Young Zhan, visited Prudential in Newark, NJ and Towers Watson in New York, NY. This trip gave them exposure to careers in insurance and consulting as well as provided them the opportunity to network with some Penn State alumni at each firm. It was a valuable experience for all of the students!

I don't think I can put into words how it feels to be graduating and passing on my role as President to Ben Pugh, but I am confident that he will be a great leader for the organization next year. I want to thank my Vice-President, Tyler Fondrk, as well as the rest of the Executive Board for a great year. In addition, Actuarial Science at Penn State would not be where it is today without the dedication of our advisor, Ron Gebhardtsbauer. There is no professor more dedicated to and enthusiastic about his students than Ron, and I cannot thank him enough for everything he has done and will continue to do for our major.

I wish you all good luck in your upcoming actuarial exams, internships, and full-time careers. Enjoy your summer, and I hope to see you all at the career fair in the fall when I come back as an alumnus to recruit! Thanks again to everyone for a fantastic year!

*THON 2012 Recap*  
*By Angie Shaffer, THON Chair*

The Actuarial Science Club was involved in THON this year for the third time and it was a huge success! THON, the largest student-run philanthropy in the world, raises money and awareness for pediatric cancer and culminates in a 46 hour no-sitting, no-sleeping dance marathon. This year Penn State raised an astounding total of \$10,686,924.83



The club worked extremely hard this year to raise record amount of money for this great cause. I am so proud to say that we raised \$4000 more than they have in the past, raising...\$9375.72!!!! I first want to thank all of you contributed through donations, canning trips and participating in fundraisers. We truly would not have been able to achieve this without your support. I would

also like to congratulate Jaime Kaslander and Tyler Fondrk for being chosen to represent the Actuarial Science Club and dance in THON!



Both Tyler and Jaime did an incredible job and were so happy to have the opportunity to dance for the kids! They especially wanted to thank all of you who supported them on the floor! Next year, your 2013 THON Chair will be Zach Koller and I know he will lead the club to break our record again. Please make sure to attend canning trips and fundraisers next year if you aren't graduating.

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*Professor Profile: Evan Morgan*  
*By Derek Walker*

As some of you may know, the Risk Management Department added a new member this past spring semester: Evan Morgan. For those interested in actuarial mathematics, Evan brings forth a youthful and unique point of view.

Despite his young age, Evan has traveled all around the United States before ending his journey here at PSU. He recently earned his Ph.D. in Mathematics from Louisiana State University. Within the last year, Evan has taken and passed exams P, FM, MFE, and C. In addition, he will be sitting for MLC in May. It would be wise of future students to take advantage of this. Many of you will be taking the aforementioned exams in the coming years. Take the time to ask

questions, as Evan would be more than willing to help.

Current students are most likely familiar with Ron Gebhardtsbauer's teaching style. Evan differs from Ron in a few ways. You won't have to worry about scribbling down tons of equations and notes because all the relevant information is carefully explained in easy to access PowerPoint slides. I would think twice about skipping class as well. Daily quizzes are used as a way to measure attendance and comprehension. Don't let that scare you though; most of the quizzes are incredibly easy if you can remember simple shortcuts.

Evan is currently researching actuarial applications of complexity science. From Wikipedia, complexity science "is a new approach to science that studies how relationships between parts give rise to the collective behaviors of a system and how the system interacts and forms relationships with its environment." Evan also would like everyone to know his two favorite pastimes are Ultimate Frisbee and Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu. Whether you need help understanding some complex mathematical theory, want to play a fun game of Frisbee, or feel the urge to hone up your martial arts skills, Evan's the guy for you.

Looking back at the semester, I can say that I'm proud to be one of Evan's first seven students at PSU. We were slightly intimidated the first class of the semester (a new professor combined with a pop-quiz at the end of class). In fact, 33% of the students enrolled dropped the class (RM 420) after the first week. Any one of the seven students that remained will tell you they have no regrets; no one can even muster the slightest criticism. Evan made every class interesting, despite the complexity of the course. If I wasn't graduating this semester, I would most definitely enroll in another course taught by Evan Morgan.

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## *Corporate Field Trips*

### *By Young Zhan*

On Friday, Apr. 13th, the Actuarial Science Club organized a field trip to visit an insurance company, Prudential in Newark NJ, and another actuarial consulting firm, Towers Watson in Manhattan, NY. The field trip was attended by freshman actuarial students and some sophomores, aimed to provide a closer look at the "day-in-life" of actuaries. The field trip was purposely arranged to visit an insurance company and a consulting firm, in order to let students listen to the voice from both branches. Due to the limited seats we could provide for the transportation, we are sorry about not taking more of you.

I was very fortunate to be the driver and join the field trip. I would like to share some gains with you.

One of the words we heard the most frequently in the day was communication. Recruiters want to hire people who are able to develop into future leaders of the business, not just someone who does the number crunching. For those who have taken Prof. Gebhardtsbauer's class, you might think about that he always asks us to express our actuarial knowledge in common terms like we are talking to our friends in McDonalds in downtown. That is exactly a skill needed in the real business world.

While we are working in an insurance company for example, we will be facing people from the whole company. If we want some non-actuarial background people to understand our work, we need to be armed with the skills to explain our “actuarial present value” in the terms which they could easily catch.

Both companies held a panel discussion to allow students ask questions. One question that students concerned was choosing a career as an actuarial consultant or choosing to work for insurance companies. One answer we heard is that consultants are closer to the front office, which means the company’s profit could be tighten with the consultants. Actuaries for insurance companies are essential too. Actuaries in insurance companies not only need to understand their data, but also need to understand the overall business of the company. That’s why communication is important and why Prudential’s Actuarial Leadership Development Program positions their actuaries in different lines of business in their first three years.



*Left to right:*

*Front: Young Zhan, Jordan McClane*

*Back: Chang Deng, Lisa Schmidt, Chloe McIntyre, Tiffany Mosier, Justin Molitoris, Arleen Williams, Andrew Shemick, Xiaoru Liu, Gege Nie*

There are much more stories I would like to share from this field trip than the limited words in this article. The most important thing I want to deliver to you is that we need to be trained well with our communication skills no matter which company we want to work for. If you want to know more about the field trip, please don’t hesitate to reach out to me and I would like to share with you as much as I could.

Thank you very much!

## *P Exam Passers*

AINSWORTH, SIMON  
ZACHARY

Altman Zachary H.

AMER,ATHIRAH

ANDRASSY,KIRSTYN

Appman William D.

Aquilino Ian M.

Bazzo Jay-David A.

BETZLER,MATTHEW

Bonczek Matthew F.

BROSER,MARTIN

Buckley, Alex

Chan James V.

CHANG,HSUAN WEI

CHEN,YI

CHIEFFE,EDWARD

COSTELLO,MICHAEL

CROSBY,BRENDAN

D'Armi Matthew J.

DICELLO,DANIEL

DIORIO,BRIAN

DONNELLY,GINA

Dwyer Timothy J.

Erickson Michael S.

Farina Marielle A.

Feng Luna

FONDRK,TYLER

FONTANA,JAMES

Franquet Robert E.

GAO, HONGYI

GARBOSKI,DYLAN

GEESEY,DOUGLAS

Gismondi, Michale

GOLDING,MICHAEL

Gostowski, Evan

Grant Joseph G.

GUO, SIYUAN

Hamilton Jeffrey C.

HAN,JIHUN

Holden Ryan W.

Hu, Wenli

HUANG,JESSE

Huh, Andrew

Hui, Xiaotong

INGRAM,CORY

ITZCOWITZ,JACOB

JONES,CHRISTIAN

Jordan Alexis R.

KASLANDER,JAIME

KEEN,JUSTIN

Kelly Daniel P.

KERN,MALLORY

Kessler Adam S.

KIM,SOOYEON

King Ryan M.

Kober, Jesse

Korostin, Stan

Kwak Meong H.

KWON,YOUJIN

Lam, Andre C.

LAM,LOK YI

Li, Mu-Chen

Li, Qiyuan (Clifford)

Li, Ran

Lin, Fangxi

LISSES,ERICA

Liu, Jack

Liu, Lin

LIU, YI

Lu, Boyi

Madia Matthew R.

MAHR,JASON

Mao, Qing

McCartney Chelsey E.

McInturff, Kevin

MCNAMARA,LEAH

Middlebrook Brandon L.

Miller Brian A.

Miller, Laura

MONTEMAYOR,BLAKELY

MOSIER,TIFFANY

NOLEN, SCOTT

NYSCH,DANIEL

Pournaras Nicholas J.

Pugh Benjamin C.

Rajaraman Prathap

ROGERS,ROBERT

ROUSE,KATHRYN

RUGGIERO,MICHAEL

SHAW,TAYLOR

Shen Zhenghao

SHI,KEYI

SHIVY,RYAN

SIDHU,JASDEEP

Sokol, Mason

STACKHOUSE,MATTHEW

Sun, Fang

SZE,ANDREW

TAO,XUEYING (Shirley)

TAPPE,JOSEPH

Tripp Shawn T.

Tsang, Peter

Underwood Ellen M.

VACCARO,MICHAEL

VERDI,KAITLYN

VOTTERO,CECILY

Waldron Andrew B.

WALKER,DEREK

Wang Dapeng

WANG DONGNI

Wang Jiali

Wang, KAICHENG

WANG, LINZI

WARNICK,BRITTA

Williams Gene A.

Yener, Suzan

Zhan Hongyuan

Zhang Jundi

ZHENG,QUN

Zhou, Yunhua (Ruby)

ZHOU,XIN

## *FM Exam*

### *Passers*

ALPIZAR, RAQUEL

Altman Zachary H.

AMER, ATHIRAH

ANDRASSY, KIRSTYN

Appman William D.

Aquilino Ian M.

Arnold Jacob J.

BETZLER, MATTHEW

Bonczek Matthew F.

BROSER, MARTIN

CASTILLO, AARON

CHANG, HSUAN WEI

CHEN, YI

CHIEFFE, EDWARD

COSTELLO, MICHAEL

CROSBY, BRENDAN

D'Armi Matthew J.

DICELLO, DANIEL

DIIORIO, BRIAN

DONNELLY, GINA

Erickson Michael S.

Farina Marielle A.

FISHER, TODD

FONDRK, TYLER

GARBOSKI, DYLAN

GEESEY, DOUGLAS

GOLDING, MICHAEL

Grant Joseph G.

Hamilton Jeffrey C.

HAN, JIHUN

Holden Ryan W.

Hu, Wenli

HUANG, JESSE

Hui, Xiaotong

ITZCOWITZ, JACOB

JONES, CHRISTIAN

KASLANDER, JAIME

KEEN, JUSTIN

Kelly Daniel P.

KERN, MALLORY

Kessler Adam S.

KIM, SOOYEON

KWON, YOUJIN

LAM, LOK YI

Li, Mu-Chen

Li, Ran

LIU, YI

Lu, Boyi

LU, TONG

Madia Matthew R.

MAHR, JASON

Mao, Qing

McCartney Chelsey E.

MCNAMARA, LEAH

MOHD JAFFAR, NURAINI

MONTEMAYOR, BLAKELY

MOSIER, TIFFANY

NOLEN, SCOTT

NYSCH, DANIEL

Pugh Benjamin C.

Quin Robert A.

Rajaraman Prathap

REVTAI, DAVID

ROGERS, ROBERT

ROUSE, KATHRYN

RUGGIERO, MICHAEL

SHAFFER, ANGELA

SHAW, TAYLOR

Shen Zhenghao

SHI, KEYI

SHIVY, RYAN

SIDHU, JASDEEP

STACKHOUSE, MATTHEW

Sun, Fang

TAO, XUEYING (Shirley)

TAPPE, JOSEPH

Tripp Shawn T.

VACCARO, MICHAEL

VERDI, KAITLYN

VOTTERO, CECILY

Waldron Andrew B.

WALKER, DEREK

Wang Dapeng

WANG DONGNI

Wang, KAICHENG

WANG, LINZI

WARNICK, BRITTA

Yener, Suzan

Zhan Hongyuan

ZHENG, QUN

## *MLC Exam Passers*

DIORIO, BRIAN  
HUANG, JESSE  
ITZCOWITZ, JACOB  
KEEN, JUSTIN  
Mao, Qing  
MCNAMARA, LEAH  
MOSIER, TIFFANY  
RUGGIERO, MICHAEL  
SIDHU, JASDEEP  
TAPPE, JOSEPH  
VACCARO, MICHAEL  
VOTTERO, CECILY

## *MFE Exam Passers*

MOSIER, TIFFANY  
SIDHU, JASDEEP  
GARBOSKI, DYLAN  
LIU, YI

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## *Internships*

Wang Jiali	ACE (Philly)
Snyder, Justin	Aetna
Shen Haoyang	AON
Appman William D.	Buck (Secaucus)
Altman Zachary H.	Chartis
D'Armi Matthew J.	Chase (Wilmington, DE)
Kelley Allison M.	Chase (Wilmington, DE)
Lam, Andre C.	Chase (Wilmington, DE)
Yang Fanchen	Chase (Wilmington DE)
Bonczek Matthew F.	CIGNA (Hartford)
Waldron Andrew B.	CIGNA (Hartford)
Ab Wahab Fatin Farhana	CimBank (Malaysia)
Hardenstine Jonathan R.	Cost Department, Naval Air Systems Command (Patuxent, MD)
Middlebrook Brandon L.	Country Financial (Bloomington, IL)
Zhan Hongyuan	Deloitte (Beijing)
Farina Marielle A.	Deloitte (Human Capital Consulting)
Miller, Laura	Eire Insurance

Kwak Meong H.	Genworth
NOLEN, SCOTT	Hartford
Jordan Alexis R.	Health Now - BC/BS of Western NY
Tripp Shawn T.	Highmark (Camp Hill)
Buckley, Alex	Highmark (Camp Hill)
Thomas Sarah A.	Highmark(Pittsburgh)
Grant Joseph G.	IBX
Hui, Xiaotong	ING (West Chester w DiRico)
Wang, KAICHENG	ING (West Chester)
Zhou, Yunhua (Ruby)	ING (West Chester)
Bee, Lourdes	Mapfre
Rajaraman Prathap	Met Life (Bridgewater, NJ)
Wang Dapeng	Minsheng Life Ins
Aquilino Ian M.	New York Life
Graney Michael H.	New York Life (Philly)
Franquet Robert E.	Phoenix
King Alexander W.	Phoenix
Korostin, Stan	Phoenix
Dwyer Timothy J.	PNC
Kessler Adam S.	Prudential
Kelly Daniel P.	Prudential (Hartford - Pension Consulting)
King Ryan M.	Prudential (Hartford - Pension Consulting)
WANG DONGNI	PwC Beijing (P&C)
McCartney Chelsey	Sun Life (Boston)
Underwood Ellen M.	TMNA (Bala Cynwyd, PA)
Chukwueke, Theo	TMNA (Bala Cynwyd, PA)
Kober, Jesse	TMNA (Bala Cynwyd, PA)
Arnold Jacob J.	Towers Watson (Boston)
Holden Ryan W.	Towers Watson (Cleveland)
Yener, Suzan	Towers Watson (DC - Ret)
Pugh Benjamin C.	Towers Watson (DC-Ret)
Hamilton Jeffrey C.	Towers Watson (NYC - Pensions)
Pournaras Nicholas	Towers Watson (NYC)
Williams Gene A.	Towers Watson (Pittsburgh)
Madia Matthew R.	UHC
LIGALI, FUAD O.	UHC (CT)
Gates Robert A.	XL Insurance



## *Full Time Jobs*

SHIVY,RYAN	ACE INA (Philly)
DIIORIO,BRIAN	Aetna
KWON,YOUJIN	Aon Hewitt (Somerset, NJ H&W)
TAPPE,JOSEPH	Aon Hewitt (Somerset, NJ H&W)
CHAN,RICKY	Bank of China
FONDRK,TYLER	Buck (Pittsburgh)
INGRAM,CORY	Buck (Secaucus, NJ)
VERDI,KAITLYN	Buck (Secaucus, NJ)
JONES,CHRISTIAN	Capital One
REESE,EVAN	Capital One
KEEN,JUSTIN	CIGNA (Philly)
MOSIER,TIFFANY	CIGNA (Philly)
CEPHAS,CHELSEA	CIGNA (Underwriting - Philly)
Han, James	Columbia Univ (NYC) in Actuarial Science
GOLDING,MICHAEL	E&Y (P&C - Philly)
ITZCOWITZ,JACOB	Fannie Mae
SHAW,TAYLOR	General Reinsurance (Stamford, CT)
DICELLO,DANIEL	Generali (Parsippany, Brussels, London, NYC)
VOTTERO,CECILY	Genworth Financial
KERN,MALLORY	Independence BC/BS (Philly)
ALPIZAR,RAQUEL	Liberty Mutual (Syracuse, NY)
CHRISTY,JAMES	Marines
MONTEMAYOR,BLAKELY	Mercer (Boston - Retirement)
SPOTTS,KEVIN	Northwestern Mutual (State College)
MOHAMAD RODZI,IYLIA AYUNI	Petronas, Twin Towers, Kuala Lumpur
RUGGIERO,MICHAEL	Progressive Pru or HTH Worldwide
TURPACK,BRYAN	(actuarial/underwriting/IT/Analyst) in Radnor, PA
BROSER,MARTIN	Prudential
GARBOSKI,DYLAN	Prudential
ROGERS,ROBERT	Prudential
SIDHU,JASDEEP	Reliance Standard
WARNICK,BRITTA	Sibson Consulting (NYC)
SHAFFER,ANGELA	SwissRe
CROSBY,BRENDAN	Towers (Philly)

CHIEFFE,EDWARD

Towers (Pittsburgh)

MCNAMARA,LEAH

Towers Watson (DC)

ROUSE,KATHRYN

Towers Watson (DC)

CASTILLO,AARON

Towers Watson (NYC)

VACCARO,MICHAEL

United Healthcare

Eastman, Evan

University of Georgia - Risk Management

NYSCH,DANIEL

Willis (NYC)