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# SPRING/SUMMER NEWSLETTER #21

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## Actuarial Science Club



2015 Eberly Graduates



Club trip to Philadelphia this past semester!



Club introduction and info meeting from the Fall

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# A CHANGING OF THE GUARD

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Former President—Eric Stoltz

It's been a great academic year for the Actuarial Science Club and congratulations to those great club members who get an internship or full-time job. I'm honored to have served as your President this past semester. I plan on continuing to develop our program and expand the foundation that the previous executive board has built.

This year, the Actuarial Science Club is trying to make more connections with other great organizations on campus to create as many opportunities as possible, both socially and academically. We have a fantastic team of officers in our executive board. We will keep helping club members get internships and pass exams. We will keep helping students get over the barriers between upper-class and lower-class students, international students and Native Americans.

There are a lot of great events lining up for next semester. We will have our own actuarial case competition along with all different kinds of workshops for you to develop your technical skills and soft skills. We will keep bringing companies and business leaders to give great talks over the whole semester and maybe more.

I wish you all the best this summer! Congratulations to everyone that just graduated this semester, and we look forward to hearing from you in the future.

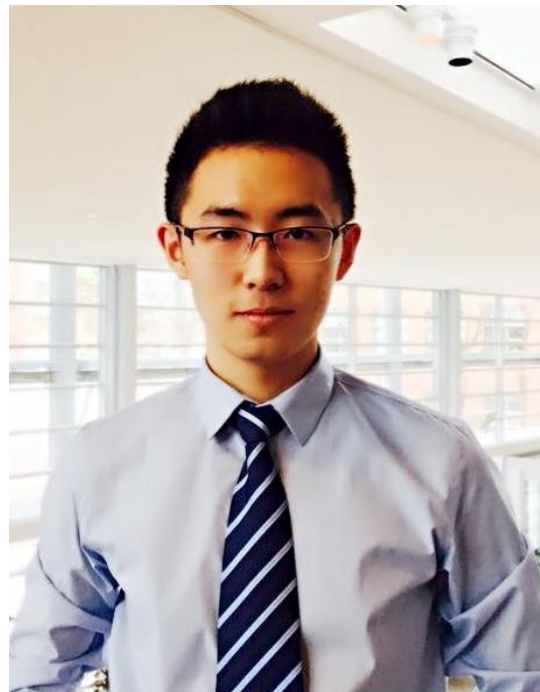
Luke Yang

Congratulations for another amazing year! It is hard to believe that I am writing this as an alumnus, so it only seems fitting to first give a special shoutout to the graduating seniors. It's been a phenomenal four years and I'm glad that I got to experience them with a great group of aspiring actuaries and even better group of people. To the underclassmen, you'll hardly believe how quickly the time will pass until your days as an undergraduate will close, so savor every moment of it. Penn State is a fantastic institution with a breadth of opportunities; my biggest piece of advice to you is to soak up everything that the university has to offer. Continue to push yourself in your classes and in your actuarial exams, but be sure to forge lasting memories that will allow you to look back at your time in Happy Valley with pride.

It has been honor to have had the opportunity to be so deeply involved in the Actuarial Science Club, and I'm excited to see how the program and the club continue to transform. Best of luck to the new executive board. To the new graduates, keep on doing amazing things as you transition from college to professional life. To the rising seniors, keep up the great work and make the most of your internships this summer. To the rising juniors, welcome to the big leagues; don't stress yourself out too much about being in your major courses. And finally, to the rising sophomores, congrats on making it through the first year; be sure to get involved in student organizations and challenge yourself to pass your first actuarial exam.

While I may be a couple hundred miles away in Chicago, I hope to stay connected with Penn State, so feel free to reach me at [ezs5167@gmail.com](mailto:ezs5167@gmail.com) if you need anything.

Eric Stoltz



Current President—Luke Yang



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# THE NEW EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Matt Mielnik is a senior and is the vice president who hails from Holidaysburg, Pa. He is a Smeal student that loves the color red.



Rob Hedges is also a senior who is the new treasurer. Rob is a Smeal student from Allison Park, Pa who is a big fan of the color blue.



Matt Reilly is a senior Smeal student taking over the role of Communications Chair. Matt is from New Hope, Pa and likes the color teal.



Luke Peterson is the new Corporate Liaison from Rockville, MD. He is a senior in Smeal who enjoys the color maroon.



Joe Palladino is the Alumni Liaison who comes to us from West Chester, Pa. He is a senior in Smeal who also likes the color blue.



Max Guo is from China and is our new Webmaster. He is a junior that likes the combination of black and red.

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# THE NEW EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Jason is a junior in Smeal who is also the club's resume officer. He is originally from Honduras but has spent a lot of time in Shanghai. Jason has a few different favorite colors; blue, silver, and black.



Peter is the new Philanthropy chair for the club. He is a Smeal student.



Brigh is a senior in Smeal this coming year and is the new corporate outreach officer. She is from Malvern, Pa and like many others, her favorite color is blue.



Amanda is a Smeal student in her senior year. She is our student relations liaison from Murrysville, Pa. Her favorite color is pink.

## Quotes from the E-Board

"The two most important days in your life are the day you are born and the day you find out why." - Mark Twain

"Do or do not. There is no try." - Yoda

"Life is really simple, but we insist on making it complicated." - Confucius

"Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana." -Groucho Marx

"Believe deep down in your heart that you're destined to do great things" - Joe Paterno



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# LIFE EXISTS OUTSIDE ACT SCI!

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The stories of a few members involved outside the major:

Throughout the past academic year, I have had a few discussions with friends in the major about the “boring actuary” stereotype. Due to our classes and level of difficulty, some find it hard to believe it is also possible to have fun and be involved in extra-curricular activities outside the club. The following few pages share some exploits of members who have seemed to make things work in doing just that.

## Amy Petersen



Where are you from? I'm from Minnetonka, Minnesota.

Why did you choose Penn State? I chose Penn State because when I came on my first visit it just seemed like an overall good fit. Penn State obviously has great athletic programs as well as a great education, both of which are important to me.

Why did you choose actuarial science as your major? Prior to coming to Penn State I really had no idea what I wanted to major in. I ended up deciding on actuarial science because math has always been one of my strongest and favorite subjects. As I've started learning more about what it's actually about it seems to be a good fit for me.

How did you become involved with the hockey team/when did you start playing? I've played ice hockey ever since I was five and knew that playing D1 college hockey was always a dream of mine.

When did you figure out you'd be playing hockey in college? I figured out that I'd actually be playing hockey in college during high school as the recruiting process started and I began talking with and hearing from different coaches.

Is it difficult to balance hockey and the workload of our major? It's definitely a constant challenge trying to balance hockey with the work required in this major. Both actuarial science and hockey are huge time commitments. It has definitely improved my time management skills since I came to college. I just make sure I try to stay on top of all my school work so I don't have to worry about it while I'm at hockey.

Favorite movie? My favorite movie would probably be Christmas Vacation

Favorite food? I definitely love ice cream. You really can't go wrong with Cookies N Cream from the Creamery.

# Tim Koenig



Where are you from? Upper Dublin, Pa

Why did you choose Penn State? I come from a big Penn State family, so it was always in the back of my head. Once I realized all of the great opportunities at PSU through Smeal, Schreyer, and especially Actuarial Science, it was an easy decision because no other school can match the Penn State pride and community.

Why did you choose actuarial science as your major? I always have loved math, but I knew I wanted to apply math in a business setting. Actuarial Science allows you to remain analytical while still communicating with people who aren't necessarily of the same mathematical mindset of you. It always presents itself with new challenges.

What got you involved with the Sapphire Program? I've always strived to remain well-rounded. At PSU, I study actuarial science a lot. As Co-President of the Sapphire Leadership Academic Program, I am privileged to interact with students, faculty members and recruiters representing all majors throughout Smeal. This develops me as a businessman, and more importantly, as a leader.

Favorite movie? Good Will Hunting and Rocky

Favorite food? Philly Cheesesteak (from Dalesandro's)

Advice for other members of the club about getting involved in other things? Always leave your comfort zone. Whether it's attending an info session as a freshman, speaking to a professor after class, or interacting with non-actuaries, experiencing new, sometimes stressful situations is the best way to develop.

Do you believe in the "boring actuary" stereotype? Definitely not. After experiencing two internships and looking toward a third one this summer, I have a bunch of fond, fun memories with actuaries. I loved going out with full-time analysts after work, or taking a half-day to go golfing with some actuaries for my birthday. At times the work does get a little dry, but the people bring me back into the office each day.

# Mary Newman/Matt Reilly



Where are you from? Phoenixville, Pa

Why did you choose Penn State? I originally had no idea what I wanted in a college, so I applied to a variety - small, big, warm, cold, etc. But after touring the schools I was accepted to, Penn State was the obvious choice after I discovered I wanted a big school with tons of school spirit. When I was accepted to the Schreyer Honors College here as well, the decision became even easier.

Why did you choose actuarial science as your major? I was always good at Math in high school, and then I took a statistics class my senior year, and loved it. When I was looking through math majors at Penn State, the Actuarial Science option seemed to blend Math and Statistics perfectly, so I picked it. I didn't really know what I was getting into, but it turned out well, as I'm still enjoying my actuarial classes.

What got you involved with the club lacrosse team? I played lacrosse throughout high school, and I wanted to continue playing once I got to college. I couldn't play D1, so I tried out for the club team freshman year. Lacrosse is a beautiful sport and I very happy I didn't have to lose it coming to college.

Favorite movie? Hot Rod

Favorite food? Grilled Cheese

Where are you from? New Hope, Pa

Why did you choose Penn State? Having come from a small school I wasn't really sure what I wanted. I had been to Penn State's campus numerous times for lacrosse tournaments and soccer camps so when I came to visit it kind of already felt like I belonged here.

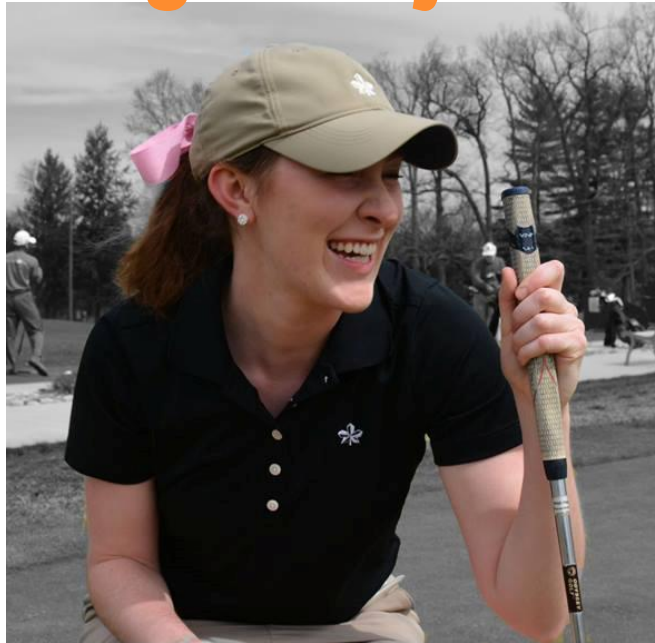
Why did you choose actuarial science as your major? I didn't know what actuarial science was until my senior year of high school. After presenting a project on the field and what actuaries do I thought that I could see myself being one. I was lucky enough to land at a school with one of the best programs in the nation.

What got you involved with the club lacrosse team? I love lacrosse. There was no doubt that I wanted to play either club soccer or club lacrosse when I got to school, since I like lacrosse better I joined the team and it has been one of the best decisions I've ever made.

Favorite movie? Star Wars (The Original Trilogy)

Favorite food? Anything delicious

# Brigh Desjardins



Where are you from? Malvern, PA

Why did you choose Penn State? Honestly, I thought I was headed to Villanova until I returned to PSU for my accepted students day. It sounds cheesy but I just got that feeling when I walked on campus that this was the place I was meant to be. It felt like home.

Why did you choose actuarial science as your major? I realized in high school that the one subject I actually didn't mind doing homework for was math. When applying to colleges, I originally considered pursuing engineering, but after taking AP Physics, I decided it wasn't for me. I entered Penn State as an economics major, but that still didn't quite fit. I wanted a major that combined my love for math and my communication skills. What better option than actuarial science?

What got you involved with the club golf team? I'm pretty sure I had my first pair of golf shoes before I turned one, so you could say I was kind of born into the sport. I started playing competitively in seventh grade, and continued playing throughout high school. Golf is such an individual sport, but playing with a team makes it so much more rewarding. Your teammates push you to play your best and are there for you through the ups and downs. We only lost one match my entire high school career. Naturally, I wanted to have the same type of team experience in college without the pressure of a D1 varsity team.

Is there something that led to you becoming a leader within club golf? Penn State Club Golf is a predominantly male team, which can often be intimidating for girls who want to play golf in college. I wanted to be a leader on the team so that I could be a contact for girls looking to play competitively at school. I want them to know that girls can easily compete with the boys – there's absolutely nothing to be afraid of.

Favorite movie? Love Actually

Favorite food? Brownies



# Exam Passers

## Exam P

Abrahams, Alexa	Eccker, Michael	Koenig, Tim	Palladino, Joe	Wang, Wei
Allen, Kenneth	Eppehimer, Matthew	Kucinski, Paul	Parrish, Kyle	Wang, Xinyi
Backer, Bridget	Evans, Michael	Laudati, Danielle	Patota, Joshua	Wang, Yansheng
Bao, Minglu	Fan, Chao	Lavella, Allison	Peng, Aaron Yuanlong	Wen, Han
Barry, Tim	Fan, Jia	Leasure, Kyra	Peterson, Luke	Williams, Arleen
Bastian, David	Feng, Min	Lee, Won Seok	Phung, Hao	Wilson, Lucille
Bauer, Justin	Fernandez-Caban, Cristina	Lei, Chenyue	Pritsker, Asya	Wolford, Bryce
Bian, Yanan	Fernes, Kevin	Leong, Chi Chio	Rakoczy, Stephen Jurgen	Wu, Haishan (Sophie)
Bin, Lan	Gavetti, Nicole	Leshner, Christopher	Reger, Drew	Wu, Yifan
Bonazelli, Joseph	Ge, Rui	Li, Jiaxin	Reichard, Daniel	Wu, Yue
Bongiorno, Robert	Geller, Adam	Li, Jingyi	Ren, Zongyi Andy	Xu, Siqi
Borrelli, Joseph	Giel, Troy	Li, Michelle	Ross, Kara	Xu, Yuezhi
Breslin, Jim	Gostowski, Evan	Liang, Jing	Rubin, Adam	Yan, Linglong
Brown, Yuriko	Guo, Aipeng	Liu, Yi	Santiago, Luis	Yan, Mingzhang Ryan
Cacciola, Christopher	Guo, Kun	London, Marc	Segala, Zach	Yang, Deye McKayla
Cao, Xukun Kevin	Guo, Tong	Lowry, Sarah	Shao, Zitong	Yang, Jiawei
Cao, Yue	Halpin, Daniel	Lu, Tong	Shapir, Tadir	Yang, Luke
Carroll, Kevin	Han, Chong	Lutz, Corey	Shi, Keyi	Yerger, Elizabeth
Chen, Dong Lu	Han, Siqi	Mao, Qing	Siergiej, Christopher	Yin, Lingxiao
Chen, Junlong Charles	Hanks, Ephraim	March, Rachel	Smith, Logan	Ying, Lan
Chen, Xi	Hawthorn, Brian	Martonik, Joseph	Stoltz, Eric	Yu, Shuaihao
Cherif, Betty	Hayes, Joseph	Mattox, Michael	Su, Eyan	Yu, Yue
Cohn, Joshua	Hedges, Robert	Mcgary, Caleb	Sykes, Jaclyn	Zabelsky, Jason
Connors, Bradford	Heffler, Jenna	McGuinness, Cody	Tang, Ha Fai	Zawawi, Nabila
Coyne, Justin	Hettinger, Allison	Mielnick, Matt	Taylor, Ben	Zhang, Longdai
D'Angelo, Charles	Hu, Wenli	Miller, Phillip	Thompson, Bradley	Zhang, Qiya
Deegan, Dan	Huang, Yuan	Mohd Fuad, N. Husna	Troendly, Kevin	Zhang, Xuanhao
Desjardins, Brigh	Huang, Zhan	Molitoris, Justin	Tygh, Colleen	Zhang, Zhenye
Doan, Khoa	Jalaluddin, Syahmi Izzat	Moody, Jon	Vassil, John	Zhao, Kejian
Dragani, Alex	Jin, Kai	Newman, Mary	Wagner, Rachel	Zheng, Liming
Du, Boya	Kantner, Samuel	Niu, Xiaoyue (Maggie)	Wang, Sihan	Zhou, Siquin
	Kerr, Diana			Zhu, Fengyuan
				Ziegler, Bryan
				Zigarovich, Amanda

# Exam FM

Abrahams, Alexa	Geller, Adam	March, Rachel	Troendly, Kevin
Backer, Bridget	Giel, Troy	Mattox, Michael	Tygh, Colleen
Barry, Timothy	Gostowski, Evan	Mcgary, Caleb	Vassil, John
Bastian, David	Halpin, Daniel	Mielnick, Matt	Wang, Wei
Bian, Yanan	Han, Chong	Miller, Phillip	Wang, Yansheng
Borrelli, Joseph	Hanks, Ephraim	Millstine, Erik	Wen, Han
Brown, Yuriko	Hawthorn, Brian	Moody, Jon	Williams, Arleen
Cacciola, Christopher	Hedges, Robert	Niu, Xiaoyue (Maggie)	Wu, Haishan Sophie
Cao, Xukun Kevin	Hettinger, Allison	Palladino, Joe	Wu, Yifan
Carroll, Kevin	Hu, Wenli	Patota, Joshua	Wu, Yue
Chen, Junlong Charles	Huang, Fuyan	Peng, Aaron	Xu, Siqi
Chen, Xi	Huang, Yuan	Peterson, Luke	Xu, Yuezhi
Connors, Bradford	Huang, Zhan	Pritsker, Asya	Yang, Luke
D'Angelo, Charles	Kantner, Sam	Ren, Zongyi Andy	Yerger, Elizabeth
Deegan, Dan	Koenig, Tim	Sankey, James	Yin, Lingxiao
Doan, Khoa	Kucinski, Paul	Shao, Zitong	Ying, Lan
Dragani, Alex	Li, Jingyi	Shapir, Tadir	Yu, Shuaihao
Eccker, Michael	Li, Yankun	Shemick, Andrew	Zabelsky, Jason
Evans, Michael	Liang, Jing	Shi, Keyi	Zhang, Longdai
Fan, Chao	Liu, Yi	Siergiej, Christopher	Zhang, Qiya
Feng, Min	London, Marc	Smith, Logan	Zhang, Zhenye
Fernandez-Caban, Cristina	Lu, Tong	Stoltz, Eric	Zheng, Liming
Fernes, Kevin	Lutz, Corey	Sykes, Jaclyn	Zhou, Siqin
Gavetti, Nicole	Mao, Qing	Taylor, Ben	Zhu, Fengyuan (Peter)
		Thompson, Bradley	Ziegler, Bryan



## Exam MFE

Bastian, David  
Cacciola, Christopher  
Dragani, Alex  
Hanks, Ephraim  
Hettinger, Allison  
Hu, Wenli  
Huang, Yuan  
Liu, Yi  
Lu, Tong  
Lutz, Corey  
Mao, Qing  
McGuinness, Cody  
Ren, Zongyi Andy  
Shao, Zitong  
Smith, Logan  
Stoltz, Eric  
Taylor, Ben  
Xu, Siqi  
Xu, Yuezhi  
Ying, Lan

## Exam MLC

Cacciola, Christopher  
Conners, Bradford  
Hanks, Ephraim  
Hettinger, Allison  
Hu, Wenli  
Huang, Yuan  
Liu, Yi  
Mao, Qing  
Stoltz, Eric  
Taylor, Ben  
Williams, Arleen  
Xu, Siqi  
Ying, Lan

## Exam C

Hanks, Ephraim  
Hu, Wenli  
Huang, Yuan  
Liu, Yi  
Lu, Tong  
Mao, Qing  
Niu, Xiaoyue (Maggie)  
Taylor, Ben  
Xu, Siqi  
Ying, Lan

Congratulations to all of the graduates who are on to new and exciting adventures and to all of the returning members who are working on continuing their success on campus this coming Fall and Spring semester.