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SOA and 13 International Organizations to Establish CERA as Globally Recognized ERM Credential

The Society of Actuaries has signed a treaty with 13 other international actuarial organizations to establish the Chartered Enterprise Risk Analyst (CERA) as the **globally recognized enterprise risk management (ERM) credential**. In making this announcement, Mike McLaughlin, SOA president, stated that this move is a significant endorsement by the global actuarial profession of the need for an international ERM credential.

Spotlight on Section Activity ...

Visions for the Future of the Life Insurance Sector—Essays Now Online

The economic crisis that dominated the news during 2008 and 2009, the expansion of technology, changing accounting standards, access to capital, and changing demographics are some of the challenges facing the life insurance sector. To provide a catalyst for discussion and to showcase the thought leadership of actuaries, the Financial Reporting, Product Development and Reinsurance Sections of the SOA sponsored “Life Insurance 2020 Foresight – A Call for Essays.” Members of the SOA responded by authoring short essays with their unique and thoughtful vision of the future. We are proud to be able to present this [collection of essays](#) selected from among those submitted.

SOA Forms New Professional Development Committee (PDC)

If you have experience developing and delivering continuing education, belong to a section, and desire to lead your profession, act now! [Access additional information and the application.](#)

Doctoral Stipend Program Applications Open

The Society of Actuaries is accepting applications for the 2010-2011 [Doctoral Stipend Program](#). The program was established to increase the number of academic actuaries in the United States and Canada who hold a Ph.D. and an actuarial designation. Stipends will be provided to doctoral candidates who will, through their studies, address the research and education needs of the profession, including both the theoretical and practical aspects. The amount of each stipend will be generally \$20,000 per academic year, renewable up to four times upon evidence of satisfactory progress on both the doctorate and an actuarial credential. **Applications are due to the SOA office by Feb. 15, 2010.**

There’s Still Time to Register for ICA 2010—United in Our Diversity!

The early registration discount for the International Congress of Actuaries’ ICA 2010 conference **has been extended to Nov. 23, 2009**. The event is scheduled to take place in Cape Town, March 7-12, 2010. Take advantage of this opportunity and [register now!](#)

“Quench The Thirst” Campaign ... Interested?

Over 400 schools are looking for actuaries to help! Give students a reservoir of financial knowledge they can draw upon for the rest of their lives through the Foundation’s [“Quench The Thirst” campaign](#). Learn how you can help and view the schools requesting program materials.

Pay 2010 SOA Dues and Section Memberships Online

Please pay your 2010 dues and section memberships via our easy-to-use payment process.

Using your credit card and our simple online payment system, you can [pay your dues](#), renew section memberships or sign up for new section memberships or IAA special interest sections.

Upcoming Professional Development Opportunities ...

Global Best Practices in ERM for Insurers and Reinsurers Webcast

On Dec. 1 you’ll get a sneak peek at the emerging enterprise risk management practices from international industry leaders around the world. Listen to different risk officers as they share [emerging risk management practices](#) across different geographical regions. **Online registration closes Nov 24.**

An Overview of New IRS Regulations – Sections 430-436 – Part II Audiocast

Register for the Nov. 19 Part II of the New IRS Regulations Section 430-436 series. Part II will review Section 430 and provide an [in-depth focus on Section 436](#). **Online registration closes at 9 a.m. CST Nov. 19.**

Group Ltd Benefits Offset Research Results Webcast

The Health Section Disability Income Special Interest Group is hosting an [in-depth webcast](#) on the SOA-sponsored research project that was performed by Milliman, Inc. The project provides insight into the nature of these benefit offsets based on intercompany data. On Dec. 2 review key results from the research report and discover how this data may be useful in pricing and reserving group LTD plans. **Online registration closes Nov. 30.**

Actuarial Leadership: A Call to Action Webinar

Jointly sponsored by the Casualty Actuarial Society and SOA, the webinar will address the [challenges many actuaries face](#) that prevent them from becoming truly effective business leaders and identify ways in which these challenges can be overcome. **Save \$25 by registering before Nov. 23.**

Economic Scenario Generation for Financial Institutions Webcast

Register today for the Dec. 8 webcast and get a sneak peak at the various tools available to actuaries in the [forecasting of economic variables](#), notably interest rates and inflation and associated financial market returns. **Online registration closes Dec 6.**

Dental Trend: Drill Down Your Trend Through Product and Network Webcast

In today's very tight and competitive dental insurance market you need to extract the techniques and best practices behind some of the various options and considerations necessary to retain a [profitable and growing dental product](#). On Dec. 8, plug into this exciting webcast and prepare to drill deeper into this exciting topic. **Online registration closes Dec. 4.**

Financial Reporting Issues and Considerations for Year-End 2009 Webcast

You don't want to miss this important end-of the year webcast. The past year has brought about a sea of change in the actuary's view of risk, but also in the regulations that define the accounting for it. Register by Dec. 13 to learn more about the [important GAAP issues](#) and other year-end financial considerations. **Online registration closes Dec. 13.**

Just Added Pandemic Flu Webcast

Register now for this Dec. 16 webcast focusing on the SOA's [pandemic flu research initiative](#). Among the results to be presented includes a tool health insurers can use to model the potential impact of H1N1 or other flu strains on their blocks of businesses.

On the Research Front ...

SOA Releases New Report: Measurement of Healthcare Quality & Efficiency

The SOA's Health Section is pleased to make available a [research report](#) that reviewed and inventoried the range of quality and efficiency measures currently available.

Deadline Extended: Migration-Immigration & Emigration Abstracts

The deadline to submit abstracts for the Migration-Immigration & Emigration Call for Papers has been extended to Nov. 30. Read the [Call for Papers](#).

RFP Released—Impact of Climate Change on Insurance Risk

The Joint Risk Management Section and the Committee on Life Insurance Research along with the Casualty Actuarial Society, Canadian Institute of Actuaries and American Academy of Actuaries are seeking a researcher for the project, [Determining the Impact of Climate Change on Insurance Risk and the Global Community](#).

Proposals are due by December 11, 2009.

Increase Your Value With the CERA Credential

The Chartered Enterprise Risk Analyst (CERA) credential is the most comprehensive and rigorous enterprise risk management (ERM) training available in the marketplace. Learn more about the [CERA credential](#).

Submit a Paper to *The APF*—Share Your Knowledge With Your Fellow Members!

All SOA members are invited to submit a paper to *The Actuarial Practice Forum*, an electronic journal designed to help fellow practitioners in their day-to-day work by conveying current thinking on actuarial methodology, regulatory requirement analysis, product design, analysis techniques and other areas of actuarial work. For more information, or to [submit a paper](#), contact Kathryn Baker, SOA senior communications associate, at kbaker@soa.org.

The Actuarial Research Exchange

The Committee on Academic Relations has an [actuarial research matching service](#) that links faculty and business or government actuaries for collaborative work on practical business and societal problems.

Listing of Deceased Members

Visit the SOA Web site for a [listing](#) of the names of deceased members and information on how to [submit an obituary](#). The SOA extends its condolences to the families and friends of James A. Beirne, ASA 1969; Asutosh Chakrabarti, FSA 1976; Beda Chan, ASA 1979; Harry C. Eyre, FSA 1949; Eli A. Grossman, FSA 1953; and David Angelo Ricci, FSA 1977.

Past Issues of *SOA News Today*

Missed an issue of *SOA News Today*? Just [visit](#) the SOA Web site.

Send Us Your Feedback About *SOA News Today*

SOA News Today is published twice a month. Comments and feedback are welcome. Just e-mail Jacque Kirkwood, senior communications associate, at e-news@soa.org. If you'd like to print a copy of *SOA News Today*, set your "view" setting to "plain text." We hope you enjoy *SOA News Today*—news when you need it—news you can use!