

# 2005

## Statistics and Actuarial Science Awards

The Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science is pleased to honor its students, staff, and faculty every year during our Annual Awards Reception. A full copy of all of the award winners is available on our web site at

<http://www.stat.sfu.ca/programs/awards.html>

The Department has 7 major awards:

- The Watson Wyatt Scholarship for students with high standing in Actuarial Science established by the Watson Wyatt Company.
- The Pacific Blue Cross Scholarship for students with high standing in Actuarial Science established by Pacific Blue Cross.
- The Statistical Society of Canada (SSC) award
- The Statistics and Actuarial Science Endowment Awards (four awards) funded by earnings on our departmental endowment fund.

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### Watson Wyatt Scholarship

**Ruowei Zhou**

This scholarship is awarded annually to a student in an approved Actuarial Science program who has completed ACMA320. It is granted on the basis of academic performance.

Ruowei Zhou writes:

My first degree and PhD degree are in computer science. After graduation, I spent several years doing image processing and pattern recognition related R&D works in Singapore. In 2003, when my family immigrated to Canada, I found that it was the time for me to replan my future and rethink my career. After some researches, Actuarial Science seemed a good choice for me. It involves a lot of mathematics and statistics. It also plays an important role in people's everyday life: insurance, pension, finance, etc.

I am expecting to graduate in the fall of 2005. After that, I will enter the Statistics and Actuarial Science graduate program of SFU. My goal is to be an expert in Actuarial field. I am confident that I will excel in my studies and future works.

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## **Pacific Blue Cross Scholarship**

**John Kowalik**

One Pacific Blue Cross Scholarship in Actuarial Science will be made available in any semester, based on academic merit, to a 3rd or 4th year student with a declared major in Actuarial Science.

John Kowalik writes:

I came to Canada 12 years ago with my family in search of a better future, so I have always placed school as my first priority. Receiving a scholarship like the Pacific Blue Cross Scholarship is an incredibly rewarding and motivating experience for me.

I first heard about actuarial science from my grade 12 math teacher. I have always had a passion for mathematics so I immediately looked into it and became very interested in the field. I began my studies at Simon Fraser University in 2002 with a slight feeling of intimidation and fear. I knew that the actuarial science program is very competitive and I was afraid that I could drop from being one of the top students in my grad class to a relatively average student at SFU. However, the increasing difficulty of classes only heightened my interest in the material and caused my grades to consistently improve. I am currently at the top of the actuarial science program in SFU with an upper division GPA of 4.30. It will certainly be difficult to bring this up any further.

Last Fall semester I worked as a TA for the Statistics and Actuarial Science Department and I previously volunteered as a Calculus TA for the Mathematics Department. Aside from my studies, I also enjoy playing and recording music with my band, and competing in expert/pro bike trials competitions. I believe that such a well-rounded lifestyle of diverse activities is what allows me to maintain a great attitude.

This scholarship is the first major symbol of achievement to me, as well as a great financial support. It has made me realize that my hard work is paying off, and that I am nearing the transition from school to work and perhaps graduate studies.

Thank you very much for your support!

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# Statistical Society of Canada

**(Kyle) Kuan-Chiun Wu**

The Statistical Society of Canada Award will be presented to an undergraduate student who is a declared major/honors in Statistics and/or Actuarial Science. The criteria for selection for the award are academic merit and a commitment to the mission of the SSC. The SSC is a national organization representing statisticians from across Canada. Its mission is to encourage the development and use of statistics and probability.

To achieve this, the Statistical Society of Canada:

- helps to develop a public awareness of the value of statistical thinking and the importance of statistics and statisticians in Canadian society;
- works to ensure that decisions affecting Canadian society are based on appropriate data and valid statistical interpretation;
- promotes the highest possible standards for statistical education and practice in Canada;
- pro



During the first semester after I was admitted into the program, I was so fascinated by what I was studying in ACMA320 and ACMA315. It was the first time in my life I did realize that the price for an insurance contract was calculated by some scientific and strict assumption. So I can't wait to study other ACMA courses.

Since I arrived Canada, I'm very proud of two accomplishments I have achieved till today. One is I got my first baby, my little son Alex; the other is the program I'm



**Department of Statistics & Actuarial Science Awards Reception**  
**4:00 p.m., May 24, 2005, K9509**

**Undergraduate Awards**

**Undergraduate Open Scholarships**

Andrew Balo 1044  
Ou Dang 1044  
Yanna Hu 1047  
Chan-Sheng Hung 1044,1047  
Aaron Kinakin 1044,1047  
John Kowalik 1044,1047,1051  
Victoria Laan 1047,1051  
Rong Li 1044,1047,1051  
Monica Lu 1047, 1051  
Natalia Lysenko 1044,1047,1051  
Yui Pui Mak 1044,1047,1051  
Eunjoo Park 1044,1047,1051  
(Rina) Meng Wang 1044,1047,1051  
Xiaolu Wang 1044  
Clement Wu 1047  
(Kyle) Kuan-Chiun Wu 1044,1047,1051  
Shih-Wa Ying 1044  
Zhe Zhang 1044,1047

**SFU Alumni Scholarship**

Feng Li 1047,1051  
Rong Li 1047  
Yew-Wei Lim 1044, 1051  
Xiaolu Wang 1044

**Faculty of Science Alumni Scholarship**

Rong Li 1044

**Dean of Science Award**

(Kyle) Kuan-Chiun Wu 1047

**Statistics & Actuarial Science Endowment  
Award for excellent achievement in the  
Majors & Honors program:**

Feng Li  
Yew-Wei Lim  
Xiaolu Wang

**SSC Endowment Award**

(Kyle) Kuan-Chiun Wu

**R. Bruce Coles Memorial Scholarship**

Yanna Hu 1047