

2007

Statistics and Actuarial Science Awards

The Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science is pleased to honor its

Pacific Blue Cross Scholarship

Yi Zhang

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.

Yi Zhang writes:

Almost

Statistical Society of Canada

Feng Gao

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;
- promotes the development of statistical methodology;
- promotes a sense of community among all statisticians in Canada;
- provides a forum for the exchange of ideas between theoreticians and practitioners of statistics.

This award was generously endowed by the Statistical Society of Canada using proceeds of the net revenue from the SSC Annual Meeting held at Simon Fraser University in 2001.

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Feng Gao writes:

Two years ago, I made degree in actuarial
degree in computing science, which was the major of my first
degree. The past two years turned out to be the most important period in my life; I have found not only where my strength is but also a career to which I can devote myself.

Along with being exposed to a number of subjects in actuarial science and statistics, I have also taken two Society of Actuary (SOA) exams, P and FM, and completed the economics Validation of Education Experience (VEE) course requirements.

I have a strong intention to work toward a PH.D. degree in actuarial science after my graduation. In terms of a long term career goal, I would prefer doing research and teaching in an academic environment. In the fall of 2006, I was granted a teaching-assistant work term at Simon Fraser University, which helped me value this career goal more. I enjoyed the discussion with people on statistical issues. More important, I found out that teaching is not only about how to

While school has taken much of my time, I had been working as a part-time waiter and occasionally on a second job until the end of last year. That has enabled me to improve my time-management skills and provided valuable life experience. Also, for this spring semester, I have been doing a co-op work term in the Household Survey Methods Division at Statistics Canada, where I am familiarizing myself to the practical statistics tools and application and honing my interpersonal skills.

Statistics and Actuarial Science Endowment Awards

These awards are presented to students in the major/honor program with high academic standing.

(Robbin) De Hu

Many people thought I was crazy. I gave up a stable position in a successful family business, and immigrated to a new country without knowing how the future is going to unfold. But three years later, with a confident smile on my face, I can proudly say that this was the best decision that I have ever made. By rejecting everything that had been planned for me, I finally fulfilled what had been missing from my life: my desire for challenges and competitions.

Shortly after arriving in Canada, I decided to go back to school and was admitted to SFU. Knowing my strength and my interest had always been in working with numbers and logic, I took many mathematics courses during the first two semesters. Although I have been out of

continued to amaze myself because the more I was challenged, the better I performed. I became addicted and it was hard to quit. When I heard about the highly competitive Actuarial Science

immediately set another goal; I became a student in the Actuarial Science Program despite a matriculation ratio of 1 to 5.

Being probably the oldest student among the class, I again challenged my aging memory while fully exerting my capacity to learn. Even though some courses were known to be notoriously tough, I still strove to maintain an outstanding GPA in this highly selective program, and found my passion for the actuarial profession growing day after day.

Shuo Lu

Three years ago, I moved to Canada with my family for a better education opportunity
clear idea about my career.

At first, I thought that commerce is interesting and maybe a good major to choose. Without further concerns, I started at Langara College, where I finished most of my lower division courses. Since I am interested in economics and finance, I took a lot of econ and accounting courses at that time. One day, my statistics instructor talked about actuarial science in get interested in this academic field, and I thought that being an actuary might be a good choice choose actuarial science which is related to both of the two areas. Since then, I set my career goal as being an actuary.

Last year, I took ACMA 210 and successfully got the admission of the actuarial science challenging, fascinating, and very helpful for prep

