

2012

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 6 major awards:

The April Allen Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship for students with high standing in Actuarial Science established by T.A. Townley & Associates to honor the spirit of April Allen.

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.

R. Bruce Coles Memorial Scholarship in Actuarial Science.

The Statistical Society of Canada (SSC) award.

The Statistics and Actuarial Science Endowment Awards funded by earnings on our departmental endowment fund.

April Allen Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship

Brendan Engle - Diana Sirotic

This scholarship is awarded annually to students within their first year of being admitted into one of the Actuarial Sciences programs who demonstrate excellence in academic performance and exhibit potential for success in the actuarial science field. Preference is given to students who have personally been affected by cancer and/or have demonstrated leadership and/or service to an organization involved in cancer research and care. It was established by D.A. Townley

Towers Watson Scholarship

(Raymond) Yejun Song

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.

Pacific Blue Cross Scholarship

(Sunny) Xiaoting Wang

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.

R. Bruce Coles Memorial Scholarship

(Eric) Yunbo Lu – Tommy Yip

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.

Statistical Society of Canada

Jeffrey Ting

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:

Now, three years later, I graduate from Simon Fraser University and set to begin the next chapter of my life as a Master's student in Statistics at Purdue University. With this in mind, I treat this award as recognition of all those around me who helped me get to where I am.

Over the last three years, the Statistics department at SFU has naturally made a significant impact as each professor I have had has prepared me for what lies ahead. As the SSC Award seeks to, among other things, promote high standards of statistical education and practice, my ability to satisfy this requirement is thanks to the wonderful people in the department. In particular, I wanted to thank Robin Insley for his help as the undergraduate advisor as well as, most recently, the supervisor of the Statistics Workshop where I had the opportunity to be a Teachin

Science department. I am completing two of the SOA exams in the upcoming two months, and I am committed to obtain my ASA designation. I am currently studying survivor models and life tables in one of my actuarial courses.

Through past work experiences, I've developed myself into a well-rounded candidate to work in the actuarial field. For instance, as a tutor, I learned to communicate with people efficiently and effectively. My current experience as an Academic Director of a student club also prepares me with willingness to take responsibility and initiative.

Yuefeng Ji writes:

I am Yuefeng Ji, a second degree student at SFU. Before studying at SFU, I finished my first degree at Huazhong University of Science & Technology in China with a major in Applied Physics. Now, I am in the Actuarial Science program and find it really interesting. I believe it is a new beginning of my life and I am so excited that I have the opportunity to be an actuary in the future.

Braden Rustand writes:

Ever since I began school, mathematics has been my favourite academic subject because of its logic. It was also one of my best subjects, and by grade eleven I was tutoring struggling math students. In grade twelve, the material became much more interesting, as I learned about mathematical applications to physics and chemistry, and discovered the incredible versatility of calculus. It was at this time that I decided I wanted to study mathematics of some form in university.

Even outside school I had a fascination with how statistics could be used to make scientific

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I am also studying for Society of Actuaries professional examinations. Using what I learned from ACMA 210 and extensive self-study of the remaining material I will write Financial Mathematics on February 18. I also feel well-prepared for Probability because of my success in STAT 270 and 285, and hopefully 330, which I am enrolled in now. My plan is to challenge Probability in July.

Happier I could not be with my decision to join this program. With the SFU actuarial program's high standing with the Society of Actuaries and my experience with professors thus far, I know I am in the right place to learn and pursue my goals. With such great support, I feel as confident and hopeful as ever that I will continue to succeed if I work as hard as I always have.

Yueren Wang writes:

This is my first term in the Actuarial Science major program and my third year at Simon Fraser University. Before entering this program, I was studying for a Statistics Major, in which I have built a solid foundation in Statistics and Mathematics.

Honestly, when I entered the university, I had not considered choosing Actuarial Science as my major or career, and did not even know much about it. After discovering how hard it would be, I still decided to complete all the pre-requisites. Once I became more familiar with the Actuarial profession I fell in love with the field.

In my view Actuarial Science is special in two ways. First, it is different from the pure Mathematics or Statistics, since it is more practical and requires us thinking deeply and carefully rather than just doing the calculation. Second, it differs from finance or economics because it requires the actuary to pay more attention on the nature or process of evaluating the risk or profit.

I know I have a long road ahead before I become an Actuary, and that will be challenging. But I have the confidence of handling it and I will do my best to achieve it.

Shuai Yang writes:

My name is Shuai Yang, I am an international student from China. This is my third term at SFU and my first term in actuarial science. I have met many excellent professors, like John Hu, Gary

At last, I would like to send my appreciation to the department and the program for giving us so many chances to apply for different scholarships; some of them are from SOA, some from organizations in society, and some from the department. It is no doubt good for us, especially for the international students like me. Thanks again.

Department of Statistics & Actuarial Science Awards/Graduands Reception
12:00 p.m., June 13, 2012, K9509

Undergraduate Awards

Undergraduate Open Scholarships:

(Eric) Xiaoyu Bai 1114, 1117

Scott Brown 1117, 1121

(Jerry) Xuheng Chen 1114, 1117, 1121

Best Guo 1114, 1117, 1121

Jingjiao He 1114, 1117

Phillip Jang 1117

Graduate Awards

Provost Prize of Distinction:

Audrey Beliveau 1117-1134

President's Ph.D. Research Stipend:

Jorge Rodriguez 1117

Jean Shin 1117

MSc Graduate Fellowship:

Alexey Antonitsin 1117

(Ian) Tianyu Guan 1124

Andrew Henrey 1124

Dili

Special Graduate Entrance Scholarship:

Kasra Yousefi 1121

**Randy Sitter Annual Graduate Scholarship in
Statistics & Actuarial Science:**

Zheng Sun

NSERC PGS D:

Oksana Chkrebti 1107-1134

NSERC CGS D:

Audrey Beliveau 1117-1134