

The Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science is pleased to honor its students, staff, and faculty every year during our Annual Awards/Graduands Reception. A full copy of all of the award winners is available on our web site at <http://www.stat.sfu.ca/people/awards.html>

The Department has 5 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 Towers Watson Scholarship for students with high standing in Actuarial Science established by the Towers Watson 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 Statistics and Actuarial Science Endowment Awards funded by earnings on our departmental endowment fund.

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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.

I was very happy to learn that I was a recipient of the Towers Watson scholarship. I wish to express my thanks to Towers Watson for their generosity. The financial support will go towards my higher education.

I am a fourth year Actuarial Science student who wants to become an actuary in the future. To realize my career goal, I study hard and maintain my CGPA around 4. In addition to my academic achievements, I try to gain various experiences outside of classrooms. I have successfully completed a co-op term last summer, which allowed me to learn how to work in a real firm. And I am currently working as a research assistant at SFU, which is allowing me to improve my research and analyzing skills.

So far, I have completed two SOA exams, P and FM. I am planning to take C in June 2015. I think I have already found the field that I want to devote myself to. I like what actuaries do, and I want to be an actuary.

The Towers Watson scholarship will allow me to concentrate on my education. Their financial generosity brings me one step closer to my goal and inspires me to help others by giving back to the community. I hope one day I will be able to help other students achieve their goals just as they have helped me.

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This award is offered to an undergraduate student who is a declared major/honors in Statistics and/or Actuarial Science and who is promoting Statistics and Probability. The criteria for selection for the award are academic merit and a commitment to the mission of the Statistical Society of Canada (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.

First of all, I would like to thank the Statistical Society of Canada (SSC) for having the generosity of providing this scholarship. Being selected as the 2014-2015 recipient of the award is an honour.

In 2013, I returned to Vancouver from my four-month formal exchange in Kansai Gaidai University, Japan. The journey gave me “buffer time” to make up my mind and step into the world of actuarial science after business school. ACMA210 was the first course I took in the actuarial program, and it was also the first course that made me feel like the workload was twice the usual amount. Not only did the material cover the intricacies of mathematics and finance but also economics and business, which totally opened my eyes to this discipline.

In 2014, I finally understood how insurance companies price their life insurance products after taking ACMA320 with Ms. Barbara Sanders. I would like to thank Barbara for patiently explaining the concepts to me in her office (many times!) as well as for her generous help as the reference and consultant for my professional career. Many things have happened in the summer of 2014. I was selected as one of the 12 students to assist professor J.F. Williams with a summer project for Fraser Health Authority. This project helped me develop my statistical analysis skills and strengthen my “nerves” to do the presentation in front of the executives of the institution. My team received the first place undergraduate project award at the Symposium on Mathematics and Computation organized by SFU. Here I would also like to thank J.F. for all his help during this past summer and for his help towards my professional life over the years. Even more exciting, I passed Exam FM and P and was selected as one of the two actuarial students to fly to Chicago to represent SFU at the SOA 2014 CAE Summit.

After this experience, I began another journey and went to the capital city of my home country, China, to do my first co-op with PricewaterhouseCoopers.

A big year for both my professional and academic career was 2015. In the Spring, I was elected as the president of SASSA. The SASSA executive team worked its best to serve all students by creating a friendly and positive community, providing networking opportunities between the faculty and industry. We did a great job, and I had the pleasure to serve students in the Statistics and Actuarial Science Department this year. I was taking two ACMA courses, 425 and 315 with Professors Yi Lu and Cary Tsai this spring. I want to thank both of them for helping me understand actuarial science in depth thanks to their excellent professional knowledge and patience. Apart from the homework and extracurricular activities in SFU, I also collaborated with three other smart and enthusiastic actuarial students in the program to participate in a national case competition with Munich Re. From this three month case, we have learnt how to analyze a problem and create models like an actuary, and we finally went to Toronto and presented our project to the executives of Munich Re. Lastly, I would also like to thank the program coordinator, Dr. Gary Parker. Thank you for encouraging me to keep on working when I was taking ACMA320, which gave me a great amount of confidence to continue working very hard to become a good actuary.

My small achievements would not have been possible without the help of excellent fellow students and professors along the way in the past two years. I am now working on my third co-op term with Bank of Canada as research assistant. By working alongside with these brilliant economists, their enthusiasm and professionalism inspired me to become a professional who is truly enjoying and skilled at what she is doing.

My final year in the actuarial program will be 2016. I will keep on working and honing my skills to become a great actuary like the people who have inspired me.

This award is offered to students who are registered honors or major students in Actuarial Science or

tutor of the Student Offering Support (SOS) association. Through volunteering, I made a lot of friends, and also improved my communication and interpersonal skills a lot.

Finally I want to thank my parents, all my friends, advisors and professors who help me a lot. I believe that without their help, I

Dongli Chen
Yee Wai Kwan
Shuai Yang

Yun Ting Mabel Ang
Thomas Dodge
Renhe Huang
Shang Shang Liu
Ming Jun (Nicholas) Lu
Charles (Jonathan) Royalty

Aurelea Au
Leo Chan
Senyang (Sen) Chen
Siwei Chen
Stanley Chow
Wenting (Wendy) Dang
Patrick Daniele
Christoffer Dharma
Chao Du
Zheng Fa
Zhihong Fang
Naiyuan Guo
Sung Woo Ha
Yugenia He
Pei Shi (Nicole) Hong
Yi Hong
Shu Jiang
Minjoo Kang
Hang Li
Licong (Summer) Li
Tu Li
Jing Han (Fiona) Liu
Yongxu Liu
Xumin Lou
MinJae Park
Qianwen Qiu
Sarah Rathwell

Dandan Song
Hailun (Helen) Sun
Sonja Surjanovic
Terry Tang
Miguel Valdez
Haixu Wang
Jie (John) Wang
Ni Wang
Xi (Joey) Wang
Hao Wu
Huan Yu Xiong
Biyang Xu
Haiyun Xu
Ji Yeon Yoo
Sung-Eun Yu
Chanfan Zheng
Dongnan Zheng
Haoxuan (Charlie) Zhou
Liji (Christy) Zhou
Yu Zou

Xiaoxia Bian
Hai Bing (Kevin) Chen
Chantal Cruickshank
Rui Di (Lindsey) Gao
Kwok Hay (Alfred) Ng
Sayeemin Rahman
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