



## AEN Newsletter

## Number 13

Welcome to the thirteenth newsletter for Actuarial Educators Network members. This edition follows a [call for engagement](#) launched a month ago with the objective of increasing the participation of actuarial educators on various IAA initiatives of importance for actuaries around the world. Please do not hesitate to submit information of relevance for actuarial educators to [Karla Zúñiga-Cortés](#) from the IAA secretariat as we are looking to increasing the exchange of information amongst actuarial educators around the world.

### AWB launches a pilot program for remote mentorship and exam tutoring services

Following the its mission of promoting the public good in countries that lack the actuarial resources needed to create productive, sustainable, and stable markets and where the actuarial profession is not fully developed, AWB is launching a pilot program focusing on remote mentorship and remote exam tutoring services. This program provides assistance in the development of professional actuarial career where there is a lack of such resources.

Initially, this program will be rolled out in a limited scale and it will focus on actuarial developing countries. Once the infrastructure is established, this program could be expanded globally to cover many countries in the world.

In May 2016, a project team completed a new design of the program which was presented to AWB members. Originally the design included only a mentorship-only program but this its scope was expanded to include an additional exam tutoring feature. The new program design was well received by AWB members participating at the AWB's Annual General Meeting at St. Petersburg on May 28, 2016. In June 2016, AWB Committee approved to launch the program in a pilot mode – limited scale roll out.

In the pilot phase, AWB invited each IAA Advice & Assistance Subcommittee to identify one local actuarial association in its jurisdiction to participate in the pilot program. Preference will be given to countries less developed, actuarially, or to countries that can benefit from better awareness of the actuarial profession. A country manager, from each selected country, will be invited to participate and to guide the communication with the local actuarial associations to promote this program to local people. Successful completion of the pilot phase is critical to the IAA as this will allow the development of the program's infrastructure which will become the foundation for the future global launch of the program.

For more information about this initiative, please contact the AWB Executive Director, Renata De Leers ([awb-ed@actuaries.org](mailto:awb-ed@actuaries.org)), or the project manager, Bosco Chan ([AWB-MET@actuaries.org](mailto:AWB-MET@actuaries.org)).

### AWB: Book donation program

Actuaries Without Borders (AWB) is a section of the Internation Actuarial Association (IAA). AWB works in coordination with the IAA in meeting a key strategic objective; the development, organization and promotion of the actuarial profession in areas of the world in which it is not present or is not fully developed.



The Book Donation Program is a new initiative of AWB, in conjunction with The Actuarial Bookstore (TAB), to meet the increasing demand for actuarial books in areas where the actuarial profession is not present or not fully developed. The program is available to libraries of universities offering a bachelor or master in actuarial science or which support students preparing for professional exams of a full member association of the IAA.

We are happy to announce that a request for a donation has been made by the School of Mathematics, University of Nairobi, Kenya. The program website hosted by TAB shows the requested books: <https://actuarialbookstore.com/donate.aspx>. If you have any of the requested books gathering dust on your bookshelf, please pledge to send it to actuarial students in need! For more information, please contact Hilda van der Veen at [awb-book-donation@actuaries.org](mailto:awb-book-donation@actuaries.org).

## The Actuarial Education & Research Network (AERN)

The actuarial academics in Ireland have recently got together to form the Actuarial Education & Research Network (AERN).

AERN is being set up to foster a better sense of community amongst those who are teaching and carrying out research in actuarial science in Ireland. Actuarial academics are typically in a minority in their schools and departments and the idea for AERN is that coming together and working together should make actuarial academics stronger and more effective.

Coming together is also an opportunity for them to create a forum to discuss issues of common interest and for them to work together to run an actuarial lecture series to foster more actuarial research in Ireland. No Irish university is big enough yet to set up and run such a series, but collectively they have critical mass to do so. AERN will initially be based in University College Dublin (UCD), but it will go on tour around the other universities.

The establishment of AERN has been aided by funding from UCD and the Society of Actuaries in Ireland. Their first event will be on October 5<sup>th</sup> in UCD. There will be a lunch meeting before a series of afternoon lectures and followed by dinner afterwards. Three prestigious speakers have been lined up for the lectures: Andrew Smith, a partner in Deloitte and one of the most famous actuaries in the world; Professor Elena Kulinskaya from University of East Anglia, who recently won funding for the first major data analytics research project to be funded by the Institute & Faculty of Actuaries; and Professor Ray Bates from UCD, a former NASA scientist, former assistant director of the Irish Met Office and a former IPCC expert reviewer.

For further details of the event, contact Colm Fitzgerald in UCD ([colm.fitzgerald@ucd.ie](mailto:colm.fitzgerald@ucd.ie)) and further information will be posted on the website of the Society of Actuaries in Ireland in due course.

## CPD Opportunities

ACTEX is much more than Exam Prep. As part of our company's transformation, we now offer a variety of training and learning opportunities to fulfill professional development requirements through on-demand e-courses, webinars, and live sessions. Our new and growing line of professional development opportunities are designed for actuaries and candidates looking to deepen and broaden their understanding of actuarial work, or expand actuarial knowledge outside of their specific area of practice. Past session topics have included: best practices in Excel and VBA, predictive analytics and baseball, GAAP, and microinsurance. Future session topics include ERM,



communication and leadership, entrepreneurship, and the social role of an actuary. Contact us if you are interested in a particular topic, and we will do our best to meet your needs. Participants can register for these events as an individual, or actuarial teams can register multiple participants at a group rate. Site licensing available: contact [Stephen@ACTEXMadRiver.com](mailto:Stephen@ACTEXMadRiver.com).

Highlights from our fall webinar schedule include:

- September 13: Enterprise Risk Management with Sim Segal, Killer Risks  
Most organizations commonly overlook several “killer” risks that share three characteristics: they are (1) politically difficult to discuss; (2) apparent to everyone; and (3) potential leading indicators of high-severity risk events. In this webinar, we identify these killer risks, discuss their root causes and characteristics, and offer practical suggestions on how to partially mitigate these challenging risk exposures.
- September 14: Minding the GAAP, Benefit Reserves
- September 21: The 10% Entrepreneur for Actuaries (co-sponsored by the SOA)

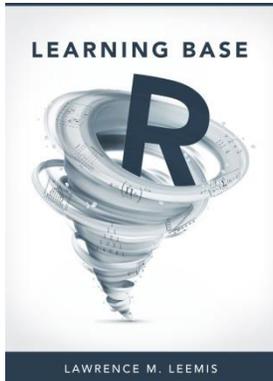
Do not hesitate to visit [ACTEX CPD](#) for a full list of CPD opportunities.

## Future Meetings for Actuarial Educators

Country	Event	Dates	Host
Kenya	The Micro-Insurance Acceleration Workshop 2016 To register contact Daniel Chege at <a href="mailto:chege@delightsummits.com">chege@delightsummits.com</a>	12- 13 October, 2016	Sarova Panafric Hotel, Nairobi
Argentina	XVII Actuarial Colloquium To register contact <a href="mailto:jornaclatact@gmail.com">jornaclatact@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:dpm@fce.uba.ar">dpm@fce.uba.ar</a>	9-11 November, 2016	Facultad de Economía, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires.
South Africa	<a href="#">4<sup>th</sup> African Congress of Actuaries</a>	November 22, 2016	The Avenue, V&A Waterfront, Cape Town.
South Africa	Actuarial Society of South Africa Convention	23 - 24 November, 2016	Convention Centre, Cape Town.
Mexico	PBSS Colloquium <a href="#">Call for papers</a>	4 – 7 June, 2017	TBA
Panama	ASTIN/AFIR-ERM Colloquium <a href="#">Call for papers</a>	20 – 24 August, 2017	Sheraton Panama Hotel and Convention Center, Panama City.



## Recent Publications



### Learning Base R

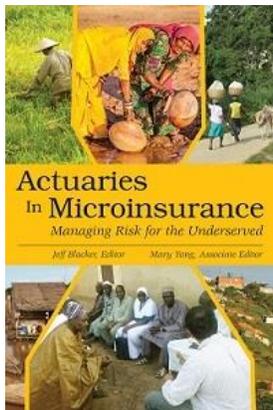
**Author:** Lawrence M. Leemis

**Edition:** 1<sup>st</sup> Edition

**Publisher:** Self-published (available on Amazon)

**Date:** July 2015

**Description:** R is an open source programming language and interactive programming environment that has become the software tool of choice in data analytics. R has flexible data structures for organizing and storing data, graphics tools for displaying data, and sophisticated data analysis procedures for statistical inference. In addition, R supports the traditional programming constructs of conditional execution, looping, and recursion. Learning Base R provides an introduction to the language for those with and without prior programming experience. It introduces the key topics that you will need to begin analyzing data and programming in R. The focus here is on the R language rather than a particular application. Nearly 200 exercises allow you to assess your understanding of R.



### Actuaries in Microinsurance, Managing Risk for the Underserved

**Authors:** Jeff Blacker and Mary Yang

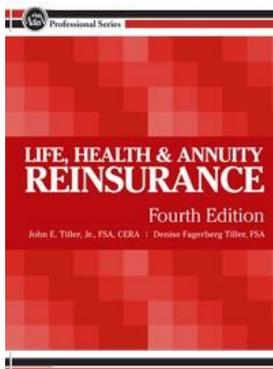
**Edition:** 1st Edition

**Publisher:** ACTEX Publications

**Date:** October 2015

**Description:** Microinsurance, insurance designed for underserved populations, is a growing market with an increasing need for actuarial knowledge, interest and expertise. Actuaries in Microinsurance aims to help develop the actuarial capacity in the MI market, improve the relevance and sustainability of products, and ultimately assist individuals, families, and communities escape poverty. This ground-breaking book intersperses technical chapters and short anecdotes. The personal anecdotes give first-hand account of what it is like to work in developing regions while the technical chapters cover a wide variety of topics directly relevant to actuaries interested in this field.

This landmark text provides an educational and enjoyable read for actuaries working in tradition markets, young actuaries living in developing regions, and Microinsurance specialists who desire to learn more about the actuarial aspects of this market.



### Life, Health & Annuity Reinsurance

**Authors:** John E. Tiller, Jr., FSA, CERA and Denise Fagerberg Tiller, FSA

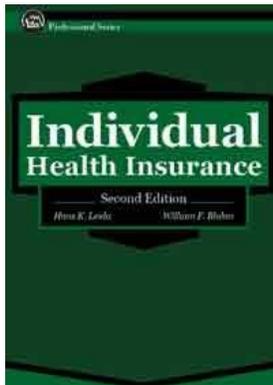
**Edition:** 4th Edition

**Publisher:** ACTEX Publications

**Date:** October 2015

**Description:** Life, Health & Annuity Reinsurance addresses the many issues and considerations involved in reinsurance for life, health and annuity companies. Although written by actuaries, it may be read by anyone interested in the topic and does not require an actuarial background.

The fourth edition of the text is a significant update from the third edition, reflecting the many changes that have occurred in the past ten years, especially in the areas of risk transfer, regulation and taxation, and adds considerable Canadian reinsurance content.



### Individual Health Insurance

**Authors:** Hans K. Leida and William F. Bluhm

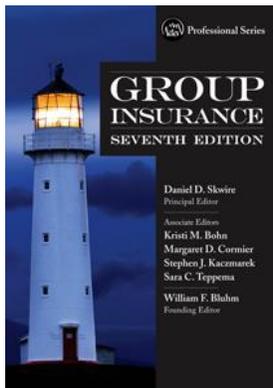
**Edition:** 2nd Edition

**Publisher:** ACTEX Publications

**Date:** December 2015

**Description:** This second edition of Individual Health Insurance has been updated for the vast, and still-unfolding, tapestry of changes made by the Affordable Care Act. At the same time, it also features updated and expanded material on many other topics, such as Medicare Advantage and Part D. The authors are internationally known experts on individual health insurance, and their knowledge was supplemented with specialized expertise from several colleagues.

This book covers the history of the individual marketplace, the role of government health policy, products currently available, regulation, and all aspects of the development and management of this business. It is a valuable comprehensive resource for those working in the field, whether they are actuaries, managers of payors or providers, or policymakers.



### Group Insurance

**Authors:** Daniel D. Skwire, Principal Editor, and William F. Bluhm, Founding Editor.

**Edition:** 7th Edition

**Publisher:** ACTEX Publications

**Date:** May 2016

**Description:** The seventh edition of Group Insurance contains a number of important changes and enhancements. Every chapter in the book has been revised and updated to reflect the latest developments in the group insurance market. There are also new chapters on Group Insurance Reserves and Estimating Pharmacy Claim Costs, along with a greatly expanded treatment of the impact of the Affordable Care Act in the United States. Finally, improved organization should provide a logical guide to the detailed content of this text.

## Other projects

### On-line text – Loss Data Analytics Project from the University of Wisconsin

Tired of hearing from your students about the exorbitant price of textbooks?

Want to help provide a modern text for actuarial students in developing (e.g., Latin American) countries?

We (a group of actuarial educators) invite you to learn more about an exciting project just underway. The initial focus is on what we are calling "Loss Data Analytics" although this may be the start of something broader. It is meant to cut across traditional boundaries by being available freely, have interactive capabilities, and be translatable (is that a word?) on the fly. As with statistical software (e.g., "R"), we hope to develop an actuarial community that will work collaboratively in developing our textbooks of the future.



Rather than write a lot here, please check out the following URL where we describe the project <https://sites.google.com/a/wisc.edu/loss-data-analytics/>

Specifically, at the site you will see opportunities for commenting our proposed syllabus as well as suggestions as to how you can become involved.

Thanks for considering this request.

For the project team,  
Edward W. (Jed) Frees  
Margie Rosenberg  
Emil Valdez

## **XVII Actuarial Colloquium, 2016**

The Faculty of Economics of the Universidad de Buenos Aires is organizing the XVII Actuarial Colloquium 2016, November 9 to 11<sup>th</sup> 2016.

AEN members are invited to register and participate actively in this Colloquium by registering and submitting a paper abstract to: Jornadas Nacionales Latinoamericanas Actuariales [jornaclatact@gmail.com](mailto:jornaclatact@gmail.com); Dto. Matemática FCE-UBA [dpm@fce.uba.ar](mailto:dpm@fce.uba.ar); [eduardo.melinsky@fce.uba.ar](mailto:eduardo.melinsky@fce.uba.ar)

## **Fundación MAPFRE**

The *Fundación MAPFRE* has opened its call for scholarship applications for 2016 for post graduate students interested to pursue their actuarial education in Spain. Applicants entering a post graduate program in the fields of: technical-actuarial analysis, social protection, insurance law, management and organization of insurance companies, accounting and financial analysis for insurance companies, are invited to submit their application until September 23, 2016.

For more information, please visit the [website](#) of the *Fundación MAPFRE*. Please note that the information is in Spanish only.

## **Opportunities around the World**

### [ACTEX Learning](#)

ACTEX is actively seeking actuarial experts and educators to partner with us in presenting online content for CPD as well as early career training. Our webinars and e-courses reach a broad audience and we provide full technical support and compensation. Please contact [Stephen@ActexMadRiver.com](mailto:Stephen@ActexMadRiver.com) directly if you are interested in presenting a Continuing Professional Development webinar or e-course with us.



## Final Comments

We are currently welcoming any education news article, information on future education conferences, lecturing opportunities around the world, or publications on actuarial science. Should you have any such information, please do not hesitate to forward it to Karla Zuniga ([karla.zuniga@actuaries.org](mailto:karla.zuniga@actuaries.org)) for consideration on future newsletters. We are looking forward to receiving your material.

If you know of any educators, or people interested in actuarial education, who would be interested in the network, please encourage them to join by filling out this online form (<http://www.actuaries.org/AEN/Membership.cfm>).

You are receiving this newsletter because you are currently on our e-mail distribution list. We would very much like you to remain part of the network, but if you do want to opt out, or are receiving this e-mail in error, please inform Karla Zúñiga ([karla.zuniga@actuaries.org](mailto:karla.zuniga@actuaries.org)) who will remove you from the distribution list.