SOA Research Strategy

August 3, 2012

Ronora Stryker and Sara Teppema, SOA research actuaries
New Research Strategy

- New strategy approved by the SOA Board:

*The SOA supports research that advances actuarial knowledge, expands boundaries of actuarial science, and develops intellectual capital for use by existing and future generations of actuaries.*
New Research Strategy

- Expanding Boundaries—three “pillars”:
  - Expansion of Practice
  - Public Policy
  - Societal Interest

- Goal: larger, broader, deeper projects with greater impact

- A Research Executive Committee (REC) has been formed to support the new strategy
New Research Strategy

Examples of work within the Pillars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expansion of Practice</th>
<th>Public Policy</th>
<th>Societal Interest</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Retirement 20/20</td>
<td>HARI (Health Actuarial Research Initiative)</td>
<td>Postretirement Needs &amp; Risks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living to 100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Idea: Debt and the Aging Baby Boomers</td>
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<td>Climate Change</td>
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REC Responsibilities

- Recommend funding
  - Annual amounts to committees
  - Research Expanding Boundaries funding pool (REX pool)
- Set quality standards for published research
- Set overall strategy for distribution and communication of research results
- Monitor the success of research projects
- Committee members:

  Ian Genno, Chair  Wai Sum Chan  Minaz Lilani
  Mark Alberts  Tom Getzen  Marcus Robertson
  JJ Carroll  Jennifer Gillespie  Zenaida Samaniego
# REX Pool

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding destination</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Direct SOA funding to research committees(^1)</td>
<td>$400,000</td>
<td>$330,000</td>
<td>$240,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special research pool</td>
<td>90,000</td>
<td>----</td>
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<tr>
<td>REX pool</td>
<td>----</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>800,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total SOA research funding</strong></td>
<td>$490,000</td>
<td>$730,000</td>
<td>$1,040,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional section funding</td>
<td>$410,000</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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\(^1\) The six committees are Finance, Health, Life, Retirement, Risk Management, and Postretirement Needs and Risks
REX Pool Funding Process

Eligible entities

- Established SOA research committees
- SOA section councils
- Committees or task forces of the SOA Board of Directors
- REC-formed ad hoc committees
REX Pool Funding Process

- Entities will submit an application to the REC
- Two decision cycles per year
  - Exceptions for time-sensitive projects
- For more information on the REX pool, visit the SOA Research website:
“REX-worthy” examples
“REX-worthy” examples

- Next Living to 100 Symposium: January 2014
  - Abstracts due September 15, 2012
  - Final papers due May 30, 2013
- Seeking papers on aging, longevity and related subjects that advance current theories and methodologies
- [http://livingto100.soa.org/](http://livingto100.soa.org/)
“REX-worthy” examples

Complexity Science

- Introduction of this new(ish) area for actuaries
- Author/researcher Alan Mills
- Follow up project on behavioral finance currently under way
“REX-worthy” examples

Health care costs at the end-of-Life

- Margie Rosenberg and her team are conducting a literature review in Phase 1
- 20+ articles reviewed, selected for potential interest to actuaries
- Potential future follow up study (Phase 2) to fill in any research gaps
Questions?