Another successful year has gone by and it is time once again to report to you on the many exciting developments over the past year. Let me begin by sharing the good news that Professor Joyee Ghosh has been promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. Congratulations, Joyee! Let me also congratulate Professor Emeritus Russ Lenth on being recognized as the 2015 recipient of the American Society for Quality Statistics Division’s Lloyd Nelson Award. You can read more about our award-winning faculty in this newsletter.

We welcomed many new faces this fall. The halls and offices are bustling with our many new undergraduate and graduate students. The main department office also includes a couple new faces. We are delighted to have Heather Roth and work-study student, Angela Fiore, join our extraordinary staff duo, Tammy Siegel and Margie Ebert. Heather took over for Irina Bassis, who is enjoying a new adventure with the Iowa Department of Transportation.

Last fall I wrote to you about the significant growth in numbers of undergraduate majors and pre-actuarial interest students. This growth continues in step with the explosion of interest in data science. Reflecting this increased interest, our department is happy to report that two new courses are being introduced this year. Professor Sanvesh Srivastava is teaching our new Statistical Learning course this fall and Professor Luke Tierney will introduce a Data Visualization course this spring.

This has once again been a successful year for our students. Three Ph.D. students, Feiran Jiao, Ziqian Zhou and Harsimran Somal, graduated from our program. Feiran received her Ph.D. in May 2016 and has taken a position as a Statistician with the US Food and Drug Administration in Silver Spring, Maryland. Ziqian successfully defended his Ph.D. thesis in the spring and graduated in August 2015 and is now working as a Senior Biostatistician at Gilead Sciences. Harsimran also defended his Ph.D. in June and graduated in August 2015. We also awarded 15 MS degrees and 16 BS degrees in Statistics last year.
Our outstanding Actuarial Science program, which has been recognized as one of very few Centers of Actuarial Excellence since 2009, had another very good year. The Actuarial Science program awarded 20 MS degrees and 13 BS degrees. Our students’ pass rates on the SOA exams continue to be exceptional. Just this past year, 14 alumni became Fellows of the Society of Actuaries (FSA); 38 became Associates of the Society of Actuaries (ASA); and 8 alum became Chartered Enterprise Risk Analysts (CERA). Additionally, 3 alum became Fellows of the Casualty Actuarial Society (FCAS) and 4 became Associates of the Casualty Actuarial Society (ACAS). Congratulations!

Among other things, we are very proud of our student success. Such success would not be possible without talented, hard-working students, faculty, and staff, and, of course, your support. We are very grateful for the generous donations from alumni, friends, and companies who allow us to attract and support the best students. During the 2015-16 academic year we spent more than $355,085 on our students, the vast majority in the form of scholarships, actuarial exam fee reimbursements, and prizes. This is a big investment, but having the best students makes it worthwhile. Thank you for helping to make our programs successful!

I hope you will enjoy reading the news about our department, students, faculty, and alumni on the following pages. We would be happy to include any news you would like to share with former classmates in next year’s newsletter. Please use the enclosed sheet to send your information, or send us an email. Finally, I would like to extend an invitation to visit me and the department any time you find yourself in the area.

All the best from Iowa City,

Joseph B. Lang
Professor and Chair
Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science
University of Iowa
Elias Shiu gave a talk at the Taiwan Insurance Institute and also addressed the Taiwan Risk and Insurance Association Annual Meeting in December 2015, and in June 2016, he attended the Sixth International Gerber-Shiu Workshop hosted by Renmin University of China in Beijing. He was very pleased to be able to visit with many alumni in Taipei and Beijing.

Aixin Tan gave a presentation, “On statistical methods for searches of new physics” at the Phy-stat-Nu International Workshop on Statistical Issues in Experimental Neutrino Physics, Fermilab, Batavia, IL, September 2016. She also gave a talk on “Combining multiple Monte Carlo samples using the importance sampling technique” at the Department of Statistics, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, March 2016.


Ignacio Alvarez is our new undergraduate advisor for students studying Actuarial Science Interest, Actuarial Science and Statistics. Ignacio is from Southern California and has his BA and MA in History. He has been advising students for over 10 years and came to the University of Iowa from the University of Illinois in Springfield, IL. Welcome Ignacio to our program!

Joseph Cavanaugh, in December of 2015, was appointed as Head of the Department of Biostatistics at the University of Iowa for a term that extends through June of 2021. Joe also has a secondary appointment in the Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science.

Joyee Ghosh gave an invited talk at the International Indian Statistical Association (IISA) Conference in Corvallis, Oregon, during August 2016. The title of her talk was “On the choice of prior distributions for Bayesian binary regression models.” She was the chair of an invited session, “Inference from regression models.” She also gave a talk in a topic contributed session, “Bayesian prediction,” at the Joint Statistical Meetings, in Chicago in August. Joyee was awarded a grant (as sole PI) for “Scaling up Bayesian variable selection for high dimensions,” by the National Science Foundation for the period August 2016-July 2019.

Jian Huang was named a 2016 Highly Cited Researcher by Thomson Reuters in the field of mathematics. This distinction is awarded based on the number of citations a researcher’s publications indexed in the Web of Science Core Collection between 2004 and 2014. Jian was also a Highly Cited Researcher in 2015.

Russell Lenth received the Lloyd S. Nelson Award for his article, “The Case Against Normal Plots of Effects,” published in Journal of Quality Technology, Volume 47. The award is granted to the JQT paper judged to have the greatest immediate impact to practitioners. A related talk will be presented in an invited session at the 2017 Joint Statistical Meetings in Baltimore. The ASQ Statistics Division established the Lloyd S. Nelson Award in 2002 to recognize the paper in the ASQ journal, Journal of Quality Technology, with “the greatest immediate impact to practitioners.”

Joyee Ghosh gave an invited talk at the International Indian Statistical Association (IISA) Conference in Corvallis, Oregon, during August 2016. The title of her talk was “On the choice of prior distributions for Bayesian binary regression models.” She was the chair of an invited session, “Inference from regression models.” She also gave a talk in a topic contributed session, “Bayesian prediction,” at the Joint Statistical Meetings, in Chicago in August. Joyee was awarded a grant (as sole PI) for “Scaling up Bayesian variable selection for high dimensions,” by the National Science Foundation for the period August 2016-July 2019.
Xuemiao Hao, who graduated from our department in July 2009, was promoted to associate professor of actuarial science with tenure at the University of Manitoba in 2015.

Congratulations to the Actuarial Science Club and its new Board and Officers for 2016:

JT Crowley - President; Elle Qi - VP of Finance; Michael Hackbarth - VP of Social Programming; Sara Chen - VP of Media; Sam Werner - Underclassman Ambassador; and Justin Serebro and Xinping Yuan - Graduate Ambassadors.

Our Actuarial Science Club held the first Iowa Excel Competition in April 2016! The competition tested student knowledge of built-in Excel features. 1st Place - Weijuan Luo; 2nd Place - Tenghe Li; and 3rd Place - Xinping Yuan. Congratulations to all winners and participants!

Congratulations TEAM Hawkeye Solutions for your 3rd place finish in the CASE STUDY Challenge in May 2016! The Society of Actuaries (SOA) is dedicated to advancing education and research for the actuarial profession. As part of its mission, the SOA recognizes the importance of partnering with colleges and universities to help develop future actuaries. With this in mind, the SOA launched its first-ever Student Case Study Challenge, which provides an opportunity for teams of students to apply their actuarial skills on a real-world problem. Over the course of eight weeks, teams of up to five students researched a case study situation, conducted actuarial analysis, formulated solutions, and presented recommendations. The work required a team approach to identify issues and organize priorities. The team needed to understand and select from potential data sources, develop models with appropriate accuracy metrics, summarize relevant results, and then present recommendations in a written format. Teams were encouraged to seek guidance from a faculty advisor to assist them in their overall approach. Teams showcased their creativity while building synergies within an actuarial setting. Team members include: Xinxin Ren, Zongsheng Sun, Yi Zheng, Liyun Ma, and Ke Ren.

The Sixth International Gerber-Shiu Workshop was held at Renmin University of China, Beijing, on June 8 and 9, 2016. Professors Elias Shiu and Qihe Tang and students Haibo Liu, Liyang Sun, Zhaofeng Tang, and Siyang Tao attended the meeting. This workshop has been held biennially since 2006 and has become an important platform for exchanging research ideas and disseminating recent advances in risk theory and related fields. It welcomes academic researchers and industry practitioners from all over the world to participate. Topics of the workshop ranged over recent theoretical and methodological developments in risk theory and related fields as well as novel applications to insurance, finance, and risk management.
The fourth annual Actuarial Science, Insurance & Risk Management Fair was held on September 28, 2016. Over thirty-five companies came to meet our students! This fair was phenomenal! The employer feedback was that it was a great venue, great number of employers, smooth program and the volunteers were helpful especially with unloading and clean-up! Thank you student volunteers and thank you to all of the companies that came!
Ph.D. Graduates

Feiran Jiao received her Ph.D. in May 2016. Her thesis was titled “High-dimensional inference of ordinal data with medical applications” and her advisor was Kung-Sik Chan. Feiran has taken a position as a Statistician with the US Food and Drug Administration in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Ziqian Zhou received his Ph.D. in August 2016. His thesis was titled “Statistical Inference of Distributed Delay Differential Equations” and his advisor was Kung-Sik Chan. He is working as a Senior Biostatistician at Gilead Sciences in San Francisco, California.

Harsimran Somal received his Ph.D. in August 2016. His thesis was titled “Heterogeneous Computing for the Bayesian HNICAR Model with Incomplete Data” and his advisor was Mary Kathryn Cowles.

The following undergraduate students were admitted into the Actuarial Science Major in 2016!

Winter

Summer
Collin Abeln, Kai Bian, Carter Burns, Xuan Yun Chan, Justin Dickinson, Peiwen Gu, Nathan Halko, Joshua Hetzler, Qianping Liu, Jason McDowell, Sam Werner, and Ziqi Xiao.

Mr. Terry Lillis, Executive Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer at Principal, spoke to our students in November 2016 and his talk was titled “Global Outlooks: An Actuarial Perspective.” Currently, Mr. Lillis is the most senior UI alumnus at Principal Financial Group in Des Moines. He received an M.S. degree from us in 1982. (He was a high school teacher before coming to UI for the M.S. in Actuarial Science.) It was wonderful for him to meet with our incredible students!
We want to hear from YOU!

The Sampler newsletter is sent to alumni and friends of the Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science at The University of Iowa. As always, we like to hear from our alumni. Please drop us a line and let us know about recent promotions, job changes, professional designations, name changes, etc. Please email us at statistics@uiowa.edu or actuarial-science@uiowa.edu or send updates to us at 20 East Washington Street, 241 Schaeffer Hall, Iowa City, IA 52242-1409. Thank you!

Questions, comments, address changes and alumni news can be sent to:

Newsletter Updates
Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science
The University of Iowa
241 Schaeffer Hall
Iowa City, IA 52242-1409

Telephone: (319) 335-0712
FAX: (319) 335-3017
Email: statistics@uiowa.edu or actuarial-science@uiowa.edu

Please Print:
Name ___________________________ (maiden name when appropriate) ____________________
Year Graduated from Iowa ___________ Degree __________ Major __________________________
Professional Designations
☐ ASA  ☐ ACAS  ☐ FSA  ☐ FCAS  ☐ MAAA  ☐ Other

Address Update
Street ______________________________________________________________________________
City _______________________________________ State ________ ZIP  _______________________
Home Phone _______________________________Email  ___________________________________

Employer Update
Employer/company name ________________________________________________________________
Employer address ______________________________________________________________________

News Update
What is happening in your life and career?
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

May we share this News Update in our next department newsletter?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
Newsletter Updates
Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science
The University of Iowa
241 Schaeffer Hall
Iowa City, IA 52242-1409
Congratulations to Iowa alumni who became Associates or Fellows in the Society of Actuaries and the Casualty Actuarial Society!

**SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES**

**Fellows (FSA)**

- **June 2016**
  - Elizabeth Davis Alexander (née Scott) (BS 2003)
  - Sean Jackson (2011)
  - Yaotian Lei (MS 2011)
  - Yi Wang (MS 2009)
- **March 2016**
  - Wee Keat Tan (BS 2005)
  - Myung Koo (Richard) Kim (BS 2007)
  - Kimberly Marie Lund (née Cessna) (BS 2009)
- **December 2015**
  - Katherine R. Geller (BS 2009)
  - Kelli Jo Kregel-Thorp (BS 2011)
  - Zhekan Wang (MS 2012)
  - Yuan Zhang (MS 2008)
  - November 2015
  - Xiang Wang (MS 2003)
  - Yan Wu (MS 2004)
- **October 2015**
  - Kevin P. Donnelly (BA Math 1998)

**SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES**

**Associates (ASA)**

- **October 2016**
  - Caitlin Colleen Carney (BS 2014)
  - Yichao Ren (MS 2013)
  - Dylan Schwers (BS 2015)
  - Yimeng Wu (MS 2011)
- **September 2016**
  - Kun Liu (MS 2013)
  - Julie Maller (BS 2015)
  - Maria Matar (née Dolsky) (BS 2012)
  - Benjamin Mitchell (BS 2015)
  - Joo Yong Chong (BS 2015)
- **August 2016**
  - James Conway (BBA, BS 2013)
  - Rebecca Chen (MS 2014)
  - Zhongyi Yuan (PhD 2013)
- **July 2016**
  - Jong Hyuk Kim (MS 2015)
  - Cody King (BS 2015)
- **June 2016**
  - Feng-Yi Leu (MS 2005)
  - Christopher Matthew Nienart (BS 2012)
  - Meilin Liu (MS 2014)
  - Junga Seo (MS 2015)
  - Nur Atikah Mohamed Rozali (BS 2012)
- **April 2016**
  - Bryan Benson (BS 2010)
  - Qianya Sun (BS 2013, MS 2014)
  - Rui Luan (MS 2014)
  - Kevin John Owens (BS Sociology & Economics 2007, MS 2012)
- **March 2016**
  - Weiye Xu (MS 2009)
  - Kelly Gamlin (MBA 2011)
  - Lu Yu (MS 2010)

**CASUALTY ACTUARIAL SOCIETY**

**Associates (ACAS)**

- **Kyeong Mi Bang (MS 2011)**
- **Weijie Mao (PhD Economics 2010)**
- **Lulu Ji (MS 2011)**
- **Aleksey G. Vulf (BS 2004)**

**CASUALTY ACTUARIAL SOCIETY**

**Fellows (FCAS)**

- **Bradley M. Henderson (BS 2002, BBA 2006)**
- **Jeremiah N. Reinkoester (PhD Math 2010)**
- **Jenna Ann Shatek (BS 2009)**
Saeid Amiri. Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science, University of Iowa. “Clustering categorical data via assembling methods.”

Aaron Kline & Sheila Barron. Aaron Kline, Associate Director, Iowa Social Science Research Center, and Sheila Barron, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Educational Measurement & Statistics, Head of Statistics Outreach Center, College of Education, University of Iowa. “Overview of the Iowa Social Science Research Center and Statistics Outreach Center.”

Thomas Berry-Stoelzle. Associate Professor, TriStar Risk Management Fellow, Department of Finance, Tippie College of Business, University of Iowa. “Enterprise Risk Management in the Enterprise Risk Management Framework.”

Grant Brown. Assistant Professor, Department of Biostatistics, University of Iowa. “Approximate Bayesian Computation for Compartmental Epidemic Models.”

Yiqing Chen. Associate Professor, Drake University. “Risk measurement based on available information.”

Amaury Lendasse. Associate Professor, Mechanical and Industrial Engineering, College of Engineering, University of Iowa. “Missing (or Incomplete) Data in Machine Learning and Visualization.”

Yehua Li. Associate Professor, Department of Statistics & Statistical Laboratory, Iowa State University. “Functional principal component analysis of spatial-temporal point processes with applications in disease surveillance.”

Yijia Lin. Associate Professor, Department of Finance, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. “Pension Risk Management in the Enterprise Risk Management Framework.”

Long Nguyen. Associate Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, University of Michigan. “An optimal transport based theory of inference with hierarchical models.”

Daniel Nordman. Professor, Department of Statistics, Iowa State University. “Goodness of fit tests for spatial Markov random fields.”


Karl Rohe. Assistant Professor, Department of Statistics, University of Wisconsin-Madison. “Snowball sampling: a critical threshold for design effects.”

Daniel Sewell. Assistant Professor, Department of Biostatistics, College of Public Health, University of Iowa. “Latent Space Models for Dynamic Networks.”

Sanvesh Srivastava. Assistant Professor, Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science, University of Iowa. “Scalable Bayes via Fast Computation of Barycenter of Subset Posteriors.”

Aixin Tan. Assistant Professor, Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science, University of Iowa. “Combining multiple Monte Carlo samples: new development in methodology and application.”


Fan Yang. Assistant Professor, Statistics & Actuarial Science, University of Waterloo, Canada. “Optimal Portfolio Diversification.”
Our annual student awards were presented on April 14, 2016. The Allen T. Craig Award for outstanding teaching assistant was presented to Tyler Zemla.

The Allen T. Craig Scholarships were awarded to Zhijiang Liu and Jun Tang.

The Henry L. Rietz Award is presented to a Ph.D. student based upon their excellent performance on the Comprehensive Exam. This year’s award winner was Bo Wang.

Lloyd A. Knowler Award for Outstanding Achievement in Actuarial Science.
2015-16 (Undergraduate) Kenneth Clancy
2015-16 (Graduate) Zongsheng Sun

We also presented several Robert H. Taylor Awards for academic achievement in Actuarial Science. This year’s recipients are:

Robert H. Taylor Award in Actuarial Stochastics
2015-16 Zhenhao Zhou

Taylor-Craig Award for outstanding performance in ACTS:4130
2015-16 (Undergraduate) Damon Mehrl
2015-16 (Graduate) Xiaoyi Xiong

Taylor-Cosby Award for outstanding performance in ACTS:3080
2015-16 (Undergraduate) Damon Mehrl
2015-16 (Graduate) Linh Thuy Pham

Taylor-Knowler Award for outstanding performance in ACTS:4280
2015-16 (Undergraduate) Jingfei Li
2015-16 (Graduate) Weijuan Luo

Scholarships totaling $342,500 were awarded to several students in the 2015-16 academic year. Included among these were several named scholarships:

Transamerica Scholarship
2015-16 Damon Mehrl

Knowler Scholarship
2015-16 Andrea Harlan

Principal Financial Group Foundation Scholarship
2015-16 Sara Chen

Harold W. Schloss Memorial Scholarship
2015-16 Kenneth Clancy

DW Simpson Scholarship
2015-16 Kenneth Clancy

Richard D. Pearson Scholarship
2015-16 Max Peterson

21 students were selected and awarded scholarships from the Charles E. and Eleanor G. Wilson Scholarship Fund for 2015-16. Charles Wilson (BA, 1941) attended the University of Iowa during the Depression only because of a scholarship. He was an actuary for 45 years. He established this fund because he wanted to give future students the same opportunity he had and to help the actuarial profession. Collin Abeln, Carter Burns, Bradley Calkins, Sara Chen, Kenneth Clancy, Michelle Crogan, John Crowley, Anthony Dagner, Mary Feng, Michael Hackbarth, Kesha Hyche, Connor Kozicki, Quynh Le, Nathan Luna, Joshua Sieverding, Trent Stastny-Perez, Dalton Streff, Austin Swanson, Jared Westphal, Alexander Zipse, and Morgan Zuidema.

Andrea Harlan, Jingrong Li, Kenong Su and Angela Zhang, all undergraduate Statistics students, were presented with Departmental Statistics Scholarships for the fall 2015 semester for their excellent performance in the classroom.

In addition to scholarships, the department refunded a total of $11,385 to students passing CAS/SOA exams in 2015-16. In addition to scholarships, the department allocated special awards which totaled $1,200 to students who performed at a high level in the classroom. The total amount awarded to our students was $355,085.

The Curtis E. Huntington Memorial Scholarship (formerly The John Culver Woodyd Scholarship) was established to recognize the remarkably positive impact Huntington had on his students and on the actuarial profession. Sponsored by the Actuarial Foundation. This year one of our students, senior J.T. Crowley, was awarded this deserving scholarship. Congratulations, J.T.!

The Society of Actuaries also awards the Actuarial Diversity Scholarship to promote diversity within the profession through an annual scholarship program for Black/African American, Hispanic, Native North American and Pacific Islander students. This year one of our students, Trent Stastny-Perez, was a recipient of this honor. Congratulations, Trent!
UI graduate, Mark M. Yu, FSA, MAAA, CFA, FRM, was elected to the Board of the Society of Actuaries for a 3-year term.

Tell us more about you and why you elected to attend the University of Iowa. It would be great to know what your first position was too!

I had never visited the United States prior to attending the graduate program of the University of Iowa. I was born in Taipei, the capital of Taiwan, and was raised in a high-rise building in the financial district of Taipei. I took public transportation and didn’t drive before coming to the United States. I wanted to have a totally different life experience in America. The actuarial program of the University of Iowa is regarded as one of the best in the U.S. In addition, my fiancée (now my wife) was also admitted to the graduate program of the University of Iowa. Looking back, my wife and I believe that attending the University of Iowa was one of the best choices we made in our life!

What was your job trajectory? With what companies and what type of actuarial work did it include?

I started as an actuarial student in the Annuity department of Lincoln National Life in Fort Wayne, Indiana in 1999. After this 2-year stint in the Annuity department, I rotated to the reinsurance operation of Lincoln National (i.e. Lincoln Re). Lincoln Re was shortly sold to Swiss Re and I became an employee of Swiss Re. I stayed on the traditional actuarial career path and worked in valuation, financial reporting, product development and reinsurance pricing/marketing for an additional eight years. In 2009, I took a non-actuarial role within the Treasury department of Swiss Re, focusing on capital management initiatives. This role led me to a career path with responsibilities in corporate finance and risk management areas. In 2010, I joined the AIG Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) department to focus on various risk management activities at the holding (corporate) company level.

Can you tell me more about your current appointment with Enterprise Risk and Capital Management and General Re-New England Asset Management, Inc.? Where are you located?

I joined New England Asset Management in 2012. My focus is on the capital management and corporate development activities for our clients and prospects, which are primarily insurance companies. I work with insurance companies to develop investment strategy and asset allocation that can potentially enhance their risk-adjusted returns. I am based in Farmington, Connecticut, which is outside of Hartford.

If you were to speak to our young students, is there any advice you would like to share?

Strive to finish your actuarial exams as quickly as possible. Keep an open mind to different career opportunities and always maintain a “can-do” attitude. Never limit yourself!

Why did you seek this appointment to be on the Board of the SOA?

SOA is the organization that shapes the future of the actuarial profession. Growing up in East Asia, I had not heard about this profession until my senior year in college. Since I first learned about this profession, I have proceeded expeditiously to qualify as a fellow and then consistently stayed involved in the actuarial volunteer community. It has been my aspiration to join the Board of the SOA so I can play a role in shaping the future of the actuarial profession. I am honored for the opportunity and looking forward to continuing to stay involved in the actuarial community.

Where did you grow up? Where do you live now?

I grew up in Taipei, Taiwan and currently live in Farmington, Connecticut with my wife, Grace, and two children, Mason, 10, and Claire, 7.

Any memories you would like to share about your time here at the University of Iowa?

I started to watch and learn college football while attending the University of Iowa. During my study there, I went to Kinnick Stadium with my wife and my friends to cheer for the Hawkeyes during the football season. I made good friends in Iowa and I am still in touch with these friends since graduating in 1999! Now I watch college football (particularly the Hawkeyes!) with my son, Mason, and we hope that we will have a chance to watch a Hawkeye game in person!
The fifth Midwest Actuarial Student Conference will be held at the University of Iowa on September 29 and 30, 2017. The first four conferences were held at Purdue University in 2013, University of Illinois in 2014, University of Michigan in 2015, and DePaul University in 2016. The conference targets undergraduate actuarial science majors and is a two-day conference held in the fall of each year. It is free for the students and includes an opening Friday evening dinner and Saturday’s breakfast and lunch. The cost of the conference has been covered by strong financial support from employers as well as the Casualty Actuarial Society and the Society of Actuaries. The goal of the conference is to provide valuable information related to the actuarial profession as it affects the college student, while allowing plenty of time for networking among the students, presenters, and sponsors.

2016 MS Students in Actuarial Science
(front row) Abylay Zhexembay, Zhenrong Chen, John Brindley, Stephanie Johnston
(back row) Jeremy Ziemer, Felipe Su Li, Daniel Yancey, Luis Breno Henostroza, Zhiwei Tong, Jiacheng Wang, Dr. Shyamalkumar, Ke Li and Liyang Sun.
Robert Harmon Taylor died peacefully on January 13, 2016 at his home near Shueyville, Iowa. Born July 9, 1922 in Cedar Rapids, Bob received his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Chicago in 1944. He served the Army Air Corps as a meteorologist in the China Burma India Theater during World War II, reaching the rank of first lieutenant. Following release from service, he studied actuarial science at the University of Iowa, receiving his master’s degree in 1952. He joined the consulting actuarial firm of Taylor and Taylor in 1946, where he practiced until retiring in 1988. He established Network Data Processing Corporation in 1956 and served as chairman until 1998. Following his retirement, Bob maintained a keen interest in University of Iowa studies and endowed many awards, including those directed at actuarial science achievements and, with his daughter Susan, the Taylor Chehak Award for Excellence at the Iowa Writers’ Workshop. He was an avid Hawkeye fan and enjoyed attending Iowa football games with friends and extended family, up to and including this last season. He will be greatly missed.

E. James “Jim” Maxey passed away on May 26, 2016 in his home under the loving care of his family. Jim was born on January 21, 1935 in Bloomington, Illinois. He was a graduate of Normal Community High School and received his B.S. degree from Illinois State University. He then earned M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Iowa. Jim was a dedicated and respected educator. Early in his teaching career he taught at Iowa City High School. For many years he was a part of the staff at American College Testing working as a Senior Research Scientist. In addition to his work at ACT, he was able to serve on the faculty of the University of Iowa as an Adjunct Professor in the area of Educational Statistics and taught for us for many years. Our condolences to the family.
Welcome new students!

2016 MS Students in Statistics (left to right)
Alex Richter, Tyler Jia,
Tim Ambrose, Ruida Song,
Rebecca Rachan, Ben Lim,
Dr. Zimmerman, Huan Qin,
Seung Wook Kim and
Carter Huggins.

Find us on Facebook!
Remember you can now find us on Facebook!
Friend us at: University of Iowa Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science

Find us on Twitter!
@UIOWAStatActSci is the official Twitter account for the Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science at The University of Iowa.
HOW YOU CAN HELP...

Many of you have been very generous in the past by supporting our students with your charitable donations. We are very appreciative of your support as it allows us to help many gifted and talented students to achieve their academic goals. Your gift to the Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science benefits education and research!

To make a contribution, use the envelope provided, or go to the Department's online gift website at:

www.givetoiowa.org/2017AS99

Thank you. Your gifts to the Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science are greatly appreciated!

Reminders:

Gifts to the UI Foundation, the channel preferred by The University of Iowa for private support, qualify as charitable contributions to an IRC, Sec.501 (c) (3) organization for federal income, estate, and gift tax purposes.

You can become a member of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Dean’s Club with gift support of $1,000 or more during the fiscal year July 1 -June 20 to the Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science Development Fund or any other area of the College. Gift support totaling $2,500 or more will qualify you for membership in the Patrons Circle of Dean’s Club, designated to recognize the College’s most generous benefactors.