Hello again, and welcome to this term’s second newsletter! It’s that time of the year again... the time when you’re forced to lock yourself up indoors to avoid the cold, dark, lifeless void that is the winter. But don’t worry, while you’re all bundled up on your couch, wrapped in your favorite blanket, this newsletter is the perfect thing to keep you company! So take the day off, sit back, relax, and enjoy!
“Skip the Dishes”… Not One of Our Pages!

Ten Fun Facts:

1. A flock of crows is known as a murder
2. Snakes can predict earthquakes
3. Cherophobia is an irrational fear of fun or happiness
4. Bananas are curved because they grow towards the sun
5. If you lift a kangaroo’s tail off the ground it can’t hop
6. There is a total of 1,665 steps in the Eiffel Tower
7. The first alarm clock could only ring at 4 o’clock in the morning
8. Sea otters have a pouch underneath their arms to store their favorite rocks
9. Ketchup was sold as medicine in the 1830’s
10. The largest pumpkin pie ever baked was in 2005 and weighed 2,020 pounds
Past, Present and Future...

*Travel through time with the ActSci club to see all of the amazing events we’ve had so far this semester, and the ones coming up!*

Recent Events:

**INDUSTRY OVERVIEW NIGHT — OCTOBER 3, 2018.**

Members who attended this event got a chance to hear from upper-year students experienced in various fields of actuarial science work. It was a great opportunity to get a better understanding of the industry and how things work “in the real world”. There was also a chance for audience members to ask questions which helped them further understand the...
EXAM P TUTORIAL PART 1 & 2 — OCTOBER 18 & 24, 2018

This two-part event was generously hosted by Professors Emily Kowloski and Mirabelle Huynh, who both covered material from the Exam P syllabus. This was a great opportunity for students to come and learn about Exam P and practice some of the sample exam problems. Students gained valuable knowledge on exam study tips and much more!

GUEST SPEAKER — OCTOBER 25, 2018

Carlo is a former ActSci club member who has lots of experience with the club, writing the ActSci society exams, and working hands on in the ActSci industry. During this event, Carlo spoke to students about his experiences and how he accomplished many goals. Though his experiences he was able to give students an insight on how to kick-start their careers.

EXCEL TUTORIAL — NOVEMBER 7, 2018

Excel is one of the most useful and demanded skills by employers today and is often used in jobs within the financial industry. UW ActSci Club and FARMSA did an excellent job at this tutorial introducing members to various functions and hot keys important in the working world. This was an incredible opportunity for students to see what skills make them valuable in the job market.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN INSURTECH AND HEALTH — NOVEMBER 15, 2018

UW ActSci Club and UW Stats Club joined forces to present an exciting event featuring Besurance Corporation and Cookhouse Lab, a leading Insurtech and Open Innovation Lab in Toronto. This was a great opportunity to hear about the exciting new developments in the insurance field, and to enjoy an evening with guests from Toronto. Yummy snacks were also provided!
Present Events:

**CASINO NIGHT — NOVEMBER 16, 2018**

A mocktail bar, casino games, and Burger King... what more could you ask for! This night was what everyone had been waiting for... after surviving the dreadful midterm season, students got the chance to relieve some stress and enjoy a fun night with their friends! Games, food, and drinks were provided for all of those who wish to come and participate.
Tips and Tricks for WOWing in the Interview

You’ve got the interview... now it’s your time to really shine! These tips and tricks are provided by one of our very own ActSci club VP’s, Aman Murba! He’s kindly shared some insight on his experience in the interviewing world.

Aman is in 4A Math/BBA. He’s done a P&C term at Desjardins and more recently actuarial advisory at EY in New York. Outside of school, Aman is into powerlifting, basketball and hip-hop.
Interview Tips:

1. Try to be the first interviewee or last interviewee so interview bias can work in your favour. The first interview is generally the one where the interviewer is paying the most attention/the least bored and the last one is typically subject to recency bias.

2. It doesn’t take really long for the interviewer to decide whether they’re going to hire you or not. Focus on making the best first impression you can make. When I come in, I try to make some general small talk about their drive/flight in or their day so far. Even situations where I’m a little late, I’ll joke about how I’ve been trying to be a better morning person but clearly I haven’t gotten there yet.

3. 55% of communication is body language and 38% is your voice and tone. Sit up straight, make eye contact, be enthusiastic, use hand gestures and smile. At the same time, demonstrate calmness in your voice and try to minimize pauses and um’s in your speech. It’s important that your body language, tone and verbiage are consistent.

4. Fake it to make it. If you’re not confident/nervous on the day of the interview, do your best to hide it. The fallacy is that your confidence determines your body language, but by being mindful of your body language, you can actually end up feeling more confident. Power pose in the washroom, listen to some upbeat music or have a cup of coffee.

5. Know your resume inside out because most of your technical questions are probably going to come from it. Be prepared to explain anything you talk about as well. Most of the time interviewers are trying to look at whether you actually knew what you were doing or just scraped by.
Prepare the typical questions: tell me about yourself, strengths, weaknesses, failure, conflict resolution etc. but don’t memorize responses. Using the STAR format for these questions is generally a great idea and when preparing these questions, have the examples you want to talk about in your mind. These questions are great opportunities to sell yourself.

Anticipate the interviewer’s concerns and address them directly. In jobs where I’m not asked why I want to work there, I will bring it up myself. Having these things ready will demonstrate your interest and readiness to work the job you applied for.

Have 3 solid, personalized questions prepared. Looking at your interviewer’s LinkedIn can help with this.

The most important one: the interview is NOT an interrogation. It’s a conversation. Treat it that way. It’s okay to ask questions during the interview, get off topic a bit. You’ve already made it to the interview so now the employer just wants to make sure they’ll like working with you. Relax a little.

See the next page for some interesting facts regarding hiring decisions and power poses!
Power posing is a discredited hypothesis in psychology that claims that by assuming a "powerful" posture, subjects can induce positive hormonal and behavioral changes. It was introduced in a 2010 paper by Dana Carney, Amy Cuddy, and Andy Yap. The idea has been referred to as pseudoscience.
Don’t Judge a Book by Its Cover...

So actuaries... what do they really do? Have you ever told someone that you’re in ActSci, or you’re interested in the subject and they had no idea what it is? Probably more than once... So we decide to ask people what THEY thought about the subject.

One of our club members decided to conduct a mini survey to see the number of people who actually knew what actuarial science was. Each student was asked to describe what they thought actuarial science was, just based on the name. The results? Well... just see for yourself.

Q. “What do you think the study of ‘Actuarial Science’ is?”

“The study of probability.”
- David, Health Studies

“The study of common sense.”
- Imad, Applied Health Sciences

“The study of finances and insurance.”
- Kezia, Psychology

“A counting science.”
- Melissa, Honors Science

“The study of pure science.”
- Moad, Health Studies

“A math and business study.”
- Semena, Biomed

“The general study of all sciences.”
- Tresa, Bio Chem

“A science which studies the environment.”
- Roy, Physics

“The study of statistics.”
- William, Nano Tech
After asking several students for their thoughts and opinions on the topic, it became obvious that the term “actuarial science” is not very self explanatory.

Regardless, knowing the true definition of actuarial science and what actuaries are responsible for is an important piece of information for anyone interested in the subject. Often used as an interview question, employers love to stump prospective employees with the simple question, “What is an actuary?” Unfortunately, the percentage of people who cannot properly answer this question far outnumber those who can. So what’s the real definition of actuarial science/actuary you might ask? Well be in suspense no longer! According to the Oxford dictionary, the definitions are as follows:

Actuarial Science — The study elating to actuaries or their work of compiling and analyzing statistics to calculate insurance risks and premiums.

Actuary — A person who compiles and analyses statistics and uses them to calculate insurance risks and premiums.

Although very general, these definitions give a good foundation for what both of the words truly mean. In more specific terms, actuarial science is the discipline that applies mathematical and statistical methods to assess risk in insurance, finance and other industries and professions.

So the next time someone asks you to explain an actuaries duties to them, be sure to know your stuff! It might just be the one factor that sets you apart from everyone else in consideration for the position.
Become a Member

Join the ActSci Club and learn about all the benefits that come with being a member!

JOIN THE ACTSCI TEAM AND GET THE INSIDE SCOOP ON ALL OUR UPCOMING EVENTS! BECOMING A MEMBER IS SUPER EASY, AND LOTS OF FUN! AS A MEMBER OF THE ACTSCI CLUB YOU GET EXCLUSIVE PARTICIPATION IN ALL OF OUR UPCOMING EVENTS. THIS MEANS LOTS OF NETWORKING AND TONS OF FREE FOOD! POP BY DURING OUR OFFICE HOURS TO FIND OUT WHAT THE CLUB IS ALL ABOUT AND HOW YOU CAN BECOME A MEMBER!
Contact Us

*We don’t bite! We like to think of ourselves as a pretty fun and friendly bunch, so if you have any questions don’t hesitate to get in touch!*

We’re always looking for people to chat with and keep us company during office hours! So come by anytime to ask your soul-burning question or just talk to us about life, we don’t bite! Office hours are hosted every day during the week in M3 1003. Feel free to stop by for a visit, sometimes we get lonely...

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The Fun Stuff

Finally! What you’ve all been waiting for...
(Unless you just skipped to this page which is also totally cool)

This month’s fun stuff? Cheesy math jokes!!

What do you call a number that can’t sit still?
A roamin’ numeral

Why does nobody talk to circles?
Because there’s no point!

Old mathematicians never die; they just lose some of their functions.

A farmer counted 196 cows in the field but when he rounded them up he had 200.

Why is Toblerone triangular?
So it can fit in the box.

What do you get if you divide the circumference of a jack-o-lantern by its diameter?
A pumpkin Pi

I put my root beer in a square glass and now it’s just beer.

Math is as easy as pi… or as complicated.

My girlfriend is the square root of -100; She’s a perfect 10 but purely imaginary.

Which triangles are the coldest?
Ice-oscolese.

Why was the math lecture so long?
Because the teacher kept going off on a tangent.