

Pat Teufel, FCAS, MAAA Adjunct Professor, Actuarial Science Program

### A Little About UCONN

- Great Womens' Basketball team
- Dairy Bar Ice Cream is to die for!
- More importantly, for this discussion:
- A relatively large program major
- Balanced curriculum, with some required courses focused on P/C topics
- Strong CAS representation on faculty
- Strong connections to industry through our Advisory Boards
- UCONN Actuarial Society Speaker Series
- Successful track record in training Property Casualty Actuaries

#### Partnerships – Can't do it Alone!

The strength of the UCONN program relies heavily on support from:

- Casualty Actuarial Society
- Casualty Actuaries of New England
- Corporate Sponsors
- CT Insurance Department

### A Quick View at a Few of our Courses

- Foundations of Actuarial Science (MATH 3620)
  - An Intro to Pricing, Reserving and Capital Management
  - Company Risk Analysis
  - Deeper Dive into these Topics for Honors Students
- Property/Casualty Ratemaking and Reserving (MATH 3640 and MATH 3641)
- Case Studies (MATH 3799)
- Internship Opportunity at Connecticut Insurance Department

### Foundations of Actuarial Science

- Offered during a student's 4<sup>th</sup> semester, this course covers a broad range of topics including:
  - Risk and Risk Management
  - Insurance as a risk management vehicle
  - Insurance Company structure, financial operations and regulation
  - What actuaries do in insurance companies: Pricing, Reserving and Capital Management
  - An overview of all four practice areas: Life and Annuities, Health, Property/Casualty and Social Security/Medicare

# Sample Questions from the Foundations Exam

- Litigation in the United States has reached unprecedented levels. In civil court, most cases involve an assertion of negligence. What conditions must be present for a determination of negligence? What defenses are available to the defendant to counter a negligence assertion? Give an example of each such defense. What is "tort reform"? Name and discuss three possible changes that have been discussed to improve our court system.
- Insurance regulation in the United States is principally the responsibility of the states. Name and describe five of the most significant activities associated with insurance regulation. Discuss the pros and cons of federal vs. state regulation. In some instances, the states share responsibility for a program with the federal government; identify two such programs. For each of these programs, describe the responsibilities of the states and the responsibilities of the federal government.
- United Airlines made the news several years ago when it forced a paying passenger off a flight so that United flight crew could reach their destination for a morning flight. The passenger objected and was injured when he was dragged off the plane. Using this situation, describe the business risks that United faced: what were the potential direct losses? What were the potential indirect losses? If you were United's CEO, how would you use the risk management process to evaluate changes, if any, that should be made in order to maximize the value of your firm?

## Company Risk Analysis

Through a monitored discussion board, students follow a company of their choice (Apple, NIKE and Alphabet are favorites) over the semester, addressing the following topics:

- The major businesses that your company engages in;
- How your company creates value (and how that value is measured);
- How the company uses diversification to its advantage;
- The major risks that the company faces;
- How the company manages those risks;
- Major competitors;
- How the company is regulated
- Whether and how the company differentiates its products from its competitors;
- The effect of product differentiation on product pricing;
- Significant litigation, if any, and its impact on company performance;
- Company outlook (Would you purchase shares of this company's stock? Why or why not?)

### Honors Theses/Case Studies

- Develop the P/C market for Asian students and Asian Owned businesses in the United States
- Develop an insurance product for millennials that incorporates a Peer to Peer business model
- How the US Legal Environment Affects Asbestos Reserves
- Terrorism Risk: Is it insurable?
- The Interplay of Autonomous Vehicles in a Sharing Economy
- Telematics and the Automobile Insurance Market

## How Can Employers (and Members) Help?

- Advisory Councils Allow us to tailor curriculum to subjects relevant to current practice
- Sponsorships Allow us to fund enhancements to the curriculum and faculty
- Presentations Students crave connections with the "real world" actuarial experience
- Adjunct Faculty
- Case Studies Involving students in real-life actuarial projects enhances their experience and can assist employers
- Scholarships Many regional affiliates offer scholarships; UCONN benefits from a named scholarship for a student wishing to pursue a casualty career