

Envision Tomorrow Adds Keynote Speaker; Breakout Session Topics Announced

A NEW KEYNOTE SPEAKER is in place and practice-area breakout session topics are set for the Academy’s [Envision Tomorrow: 2023 Annual Meeting](#), being held Nov. 13–14 in the nation’s capital. Early registration rates run through Aug. 31—[register today to attend the Academy’s premier event](#).

In addition to three previously announced keynote speakers—George Will, Mona Chalabi, and Tim Hwang—Rayid Ghani will speak at a Nov. 13 plenary session on hidden biases.

Ghani is a distinguished career professor in machine learning and public policy at Carnegie Mellon University focused on the development and use of large-scale AI/machine learning/data science to help tackle large public policy and social challenges in a fair and equitable manner.

Ghani has worked with governments and nonprofits in policy areas such as health, criminal justice, education, public safety, economic development, and urban infrastructure. He also started the Data Science for Social Good Fellowship that trains computer scientists, statisticians, and social scientists from around the world to work on data science problems with social impact.

Committee Members on Why You Should Attend

Several members of the Annual Meeting Advisory Group offered their thoughts on why actuaries and



Ghani

policy-type twist, which provides an interesting angle for actuaries who have never participated in this type of conference before.”

He said he was looking forward to George Will’s political insight, and seeing what his speech will focus on upon presenting to the actuarial profession.

“People who have never attended may benefit the most from the event, which provides a breath of fresh air in showing how the profession connects to issues in current events and everyday life,” Slutsker said. “Actuaries who have any interest in brushing up on the latest policy topics in their area of practice are encouraged to attend.”

Academy members should attend Envision Tomorrow.

The event is offering “a really impressive set of speakers, both in the general sessions and breakout sessions,” said Grace Lattyak, a pension member and volunteer. “It’s an opportunity to hear from and connect with the people directly involved in policymaking.”

Lattyak added, “I am really excited to hear Mona Chalabi speak, as I believe telling a story with numbers is core to what actuaries do.”

Academy Life Vice President Ben Slutsker said the event “is different than other annual meetings observed in the actuarial profession. It has a fun, D.C.

SEE **ENVISION TOMORROW**, PAGE 4 ▶

Ben Slutsker Nominated as Secretary-Treasurer

BEN SLUTSKER, who is nearing completion of a two-year term as vice president, life, was nominated by the Nominating Committee to be the Academy’s next secretary-treasurer.

Slutsker has been a member of the Life Practice Council (LPC) and many of its committees and work groups, was a past chairperson of the Principle-Based Reserving (PBR) Assumptions Resource Manual Work Group, and chaired the Annuity Reserves & Capital Work Group prior to serving as Life VP.

Member-Selected Directors Coming Soon—Keep your eyes peeled for information on candidates for the Academy’s Member-Selected Directors, who will be announced soon. Academy members will vote in mid-September. For more, visit the [Board Selection Center](#). ▲



Slutsker

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Academy Taps Trujillo as Senior Director of Public Policy

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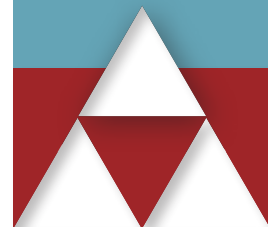
Issue Brief Looks at Data Bias

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Professionalism Counts—‘ASOPs—Your Input Wanted’

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Webinar, Issue Brief Examine 2024 Health Premium Drivers



CE OPPORTUNITIES

2023

AUGUST

- 9 [“How Climate Risk Applies to All Actuaries”](#)
- 10 [“Call for Volunteers”](#)
- 29 [“Holy Moly, Let’s Talk COLI”](#)
- 30 [“PBR Bootcamp: Combination Products”](#)

SEPTEMBER

- 6 [“Non-Variable Annuity PBR Framework Updates”](#)
- 11–13 [Casualty Loss Reserve Seminar](#), Orlando, Fla. (jointly sponsored with the Casualty Actuarial Society)
- 14 [“Code of Professional Conduct”](#)
- 20 [“PBR Bootcamp: Hedge Modeling”](#)

OCTOBER

- 18 [“PBR Bootcamp: Reinsurance”](#)

NOVEMBER

- 6–9 [Life and Health Qualifications Seminar](#), Arlington, Va.
- 13–14 [Envision Tomorrow: Academy 2023 Annual Meeting](#), Washington, DC.
- 15 [Health Equity Symposium](#), Washington, DC.
- 15 [Pension Symposium](#), Washington, DC.

DECEMBER

- 4–5 [Seminar on Effective P/C Loss Reserve Opinions](#), Charlotte, N.C.
- 19 [“ABCD’s Tales From the Darkside”](#)
- 20 [“PBR Bootcamp: Hot Topics”](#)

Events Calendar

For a full listing of upcoming Academy events, visit the online [Events Calendar](#). Also, see the [on-demand webinar page](#) for access to webinar recordings, a complimentary member benefit.

Academy NEWS Briefs

Call for Volunteers Open; Information Session on Aug. 10

THE ACADEMY OPENED ITS annual [Call for Volunteers survey](#) on July 31. Whether you are new to the Academy, a member who has not volunteered yet, or an experienced volunteer interested in learning more, register now for an [Aug. 10 information session](#) that will help you learn more about volunteering with the Academy, available volunteering opportunities, and to prepare you to take the survey, which will run through Sept. 6. ▲



Last Day for LHQ Seminar Discount

TODAY, JULY 31, is the last day of early registration for the 2023 [Life and Health Qualifications Seminar](#), set for Nov. 6–9 in Arlington, Va. The annual LHQ Seminar delivers three days of training and instruction, an optional fourth-day exam, and offers up to 27 hours of continuing education credit. Secure your discount to this informative webinar—[register today](#).

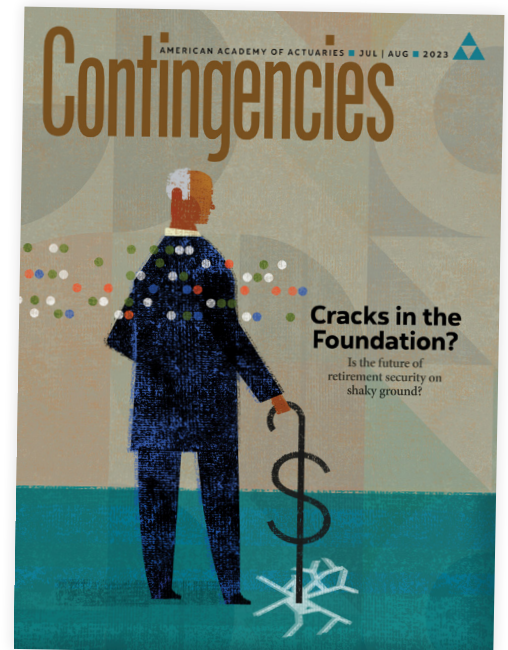
CLRS Early Discounts End Aug. 18

Early-registration discounts are also available for the 2023 [Casualty Loss Reserve Seminar](#). Co-sponsored by the Academy and the Casualty Actuarial Society, it will be held Sept. 11–13 in Orlando, Fla. Early registration ends Aug. 18—[register today](#). ▲

Recently Released

THE JULY/AUGUST [Contingencies](#) cover feature “Cracks in the Foundation?” offers a look at the three-legged stool of retirement security; “On Public Service” gives insight into how actuaries’ skills can prove invaluable for a stint as an elected official; and “The Future Is Here” shows how actuarial work is being transformed by new tools like artificial intelligence and machine learning. Plus, Ken Kent’s President’s Message “AI and Professionalism,” and a Booklinks column on why insurance markets fail.

The Summer [Retirement Report](#) recaps the widespread coverage of the Social Security Challenge; the nomination of Jason Russell, a member-selected director since 2020, to be the Academy’s next pension vice president; and the Pension Committee’s recent issue brief on buy-out annuity contract transactions. ▲



Academy NEWS

Geralyn Trujillo Joins Academy as Senior Director of Public Policy

GERALYN TRUJILLO joined the Academy as senior director of public policy. Trujillo—who began her extensive public policy career as the Academy’s senior health policy analyst—was most recently at Aflac, where she was director of public policy and regulatory affairs.

In the [news release](#) announcing her addition to the Academy, Executive Director Bill Michalisin lauded Trujillo’s impressive track record in public policy and as a communicator, saying her addition “will help strategically advance the Academy’s important and wide-ranging work advising policymakers on the financial security systems that impact millions of Americans.” ▲



Trujillo

New DSAC Paper Looks at Data Bias

THE DATA SCIENCE AND ANALYTICS COMMITTEE (DSAC) released an issue brief, [An Actuarial View of Data Bias: Definitions, Impacts and Considerations](#). The issue brief—the first in a new DSAC series, “[Additional Considerations in Data Science](#)”—looks at the key types of data bias that actuaries may encounter and focuses on the kinds of biases found in modeling data and the implications for algorithmic outcomes. ▲

Academy Attends NCOIL Summer Meeting

ACADEMY STAFF ATTENDED the National Council of Insurance Legislators Summer Meeting in Minneapolis the week of July 17, highlighting Academy work products to insurance legislators, regulators, and industry and stakeholder interest groups. That work product included a [P/C comment letter](#) to the IRS on micro-captives, along with two issue briefs—[Navigating Workers’ Compensation and Medical Marijuana](#) and [Implications of Hospital Price Transparency on Hospital Prices and Price Variation](#).

Academy to Present at IABA, NAIC

Academy staff and volunteers are attending the International Association of Black Actuaries Annual Meeting Aug. 3–5 in Chicago. Data Science and Analytics Committee (DSAC) and



Academy Board member Dorothy Andrews will be presenting on “Defining Data Biases and Unfairly Discriminatory Considerations,” following DSAC’s recent paper on the subject, part of a [new series](#). Stop by the Academy’s booth for information on membership and more.

The Academy will also attend and present at the NAIC Summer National Meeting, scheduled for mid-August in Seattle.

The Academy will host an Aug. 12 regulator breakfast and discussion forum to discuss professionalism and other issues. Visit the Academy’s booth to catch up on the latest activities. ▲

Academy Sponsors Actuarial Research Conference

THE ACADEMY is a major sponsor of the [Actuarial Research Conference 2023](#) at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa, running from July 30 through Aug. 2.

Highlights include:

- ▲ An Academy-created panel, “[Climate Change: Models and Data](#),” July 31, was moderated by Steve Jackson, Academy director of research, in which he

presented preliminary results of *The More Things Change: NOAA Weather Station and ERA5 Reanalysis Climate Data Compared*, a forthcoming paper co-authored with Peter Ott, vice chairperson of the Academy’s Research Committee. The paper is scheduled to be completed in the next few months.

- ▲ Lena Black, chairperson of the Academy’s Pension Committee, is

scheduled to give an Aug. 1 keynote presentation on “[The Power of Back-Testing](#),” in which she will demonstrate insights gleaned from back-testing in several real-world actuarial modeling exercises including yield curve construction, mortality improvement scales’ models, and investment strategies such as liability-driven investment or dynamic-asset allocations. ▲

Academy Presents to ERISA Advisory Council

ACADEMY SENIOR Life Fellow Nancy Bennett and Paul Navratil, chairperson of the Life Investment and Capital Adequacy Committee, [presented on July 18](#) to the U.S. Department of Labor's ERISA Advisory Council public meeting on pension risk transfers.

They gave an overview of life insurance regulations focused on the regulatory framework governing solvency requirements, including the establishment of liabilities and required capital for benefit obligations that are the result of a pension risk transfer. The Academy also submitted the recently released pension issue brief, [Buy-Out Group Annuity Purchase Primer](#), for the meeting record. ▲

Envision Tomorrow, continued from page 1 ~~~

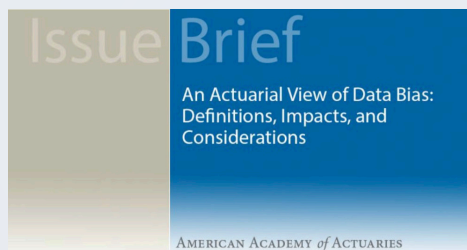
Breakout Sessions

Practice-area breakout sessions will explore the following topics.

- ▲ **Casualty:** Medical marijuana and workers' compensation; climate attribution science; an update on the National Flood Insurance Program.
- ▲ **Health:** Prescription drugs; behavioral health; Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight (CCIIO) update.
- ▲ **Life:** Structured assets; asset adequacy guidance.
- ▲ **Pension:** Multiemployer plans; Social Security and financially disadvantaged groups.
- ▲ **Pension/Life:** Pension risk transfer.
- ▲ **Risk Management and Financial Reporting:** Climate change. [Register today to secure your discount to Envision Tomorrow.](#) ▲

THIS MONTH IN SOCIAL MEDIA

Academy volunteers helped shine a spotlight on two new issue briefs released this month—*An Actuarial View of Data Bias: Definitions, Impacts, and Considerations and Drivers of 2024 Health Insurance Premium Changes*.



Stay on top of the latest Academy news by following us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#). Like what you see? Help us spread the word by liking and sharing our updates.



Member Spotlight



Kirsten Pedersen

READ THE LATEST Member Spotlight to learn more about Kirsten Pedersen, a Life volunteer and member of the Data Science and Analytics Committee and the Life Underwriting and Risk Classification Subcommittee. Visit the [Member Spotlight page](#), part of the Academy's "Professionalism First" hub, to read more about Pedersen, including her enjoyment of family & friends, outdoor activities, and playing the ukelele. ▲

THE ACADEMY IN THE NEWS

A [Wall Street Journal](#) column on longevity risk and annuities used an illustration from the [Actuaries Longevity Illustrator](#), jointly sponsored by the Academy and the Society of Actuaries.

News/talk radio [KXL-FM](#) (Portland, Ore.) cited the Academy's [Wildfire: An Issue Paper—Lessons Learned from the 2017 to 2021 Events](#), and included comments from an online Q&A with Senior Casualty Fellow Rich Gibson.

Norman Niami, chairperson of the Committee on Cyber Risk, discussed cyber

accumulation risk and the [Cyber Risk Toolkit](#) in an episode of [Insurance Journal's Insuring Cyber Podcast](#).

[Axios](#) cited comments from speakers at the July 19 Academy [health webinar](#) on 2024 health insurance premium drivers, and cited the Academy's recent [issue brief](#) on them. Lincoln, Neb., television station [KLKN](#) and other TV outlets around the country also covered the issue brief release, as did [Fierce Healthcare](#) and [Advisor Magazine](#). A column on rising premiums published in the [Houston Chronicle](#) and the [San Antonio News-Express](#) also

cited the issue brief.

[AOL](#) cited the Academy for data on the average age at which people start collecting Social Security benefits.

The Academy's [comments](#) on proposed IRS rules related to guidelines for identification of microcaptive insurance companies were cited in a [Think Advisor](#) story.

A [Forbes](#) column on retirement planning horizons cited the [Actuaries Longevity Illustrator](#), sponsored jointly by the Academy and the Society of Actuaries. ▲



Professionalism Outreach

DONNA MEGREGIAN, a member of the Actuarial Standards Board's (ASB) Life Committee, delivered the professionalism session at the 2023 Farm Bureau Actuarial Conference July 17 in Gatlinburg, Tenn. In "A Look at Ethics and Professionalism," Megregian highlighted areas on which actuaries seek guidance from the Actuarial Board for Counseling and Discipline (ABCD), types of cases that come before the ABCD, and considerations for working through ethical dilemmas.

Professionalism Speakers Bureau—The Academy provides qualified speakers to actuarial clubs and organizations to help members fulfill their professionalism continuing education requirements. For more information and to request a speaker, visit the [Academy website](#). ▲

ASB Approves ASOP No. 20 Revision

THE ASB ADOPTED a revision of Actuarial Standard of Practice (ASOP) No. 20, now titled [Discounting of Property/Casualty Claim Estimates](#). The ASOP is effective for any actuarial work product covered by the standard's scope issued on or after Dec. 1, 2023. ▲

NOTICE OF PUBLIC DISCIPLINE

The Academy issued a [Notice of Public Discipline](#), effective July 3, 2023, regarding James L. Shaw.

CASUALTY NEWS



Cyber Toolkit Adds Digital Assets Section

THE COMMITTEE ON CYBER RISK released a new chapter in the [Cyber Risk Toolkit](#). The new section, "[Digital Assets and Their Current Roles Within Cybercrime](#)," aims to provide a baseline understanding of digital assets for insurance industry practitioners whose lines of business may interact with digital assets and highlights recent trends surrounding their use within cybercrime. ▲

Casualty News in Brief

THE P/C EXTREME EVENTS and Property Lines Committee submitted a [comment letter](#) to the California Department of Insurance for the department's public workshop on catastrophe modeling and insurance. ▲

AMERICAN ACADEMY of ACTUARIES

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

SEMINAR ON EFFECTIVE P/C LOSS RESERVE OPINIONS

DEC. 4-5, 2023 | CHARLOTTE, NC

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ACADEMY SEMINAR

ASOPs—Your Input Wanted

WITH FOUR ACTUARIAL STANDARDS OF PRACTICE (ASOPs) open for comment and another expected later this summer, now is a good time for a reminder that your participation in the standards-setting process is invaluable to the Actuarial Standards Board (ASB) and to the profession as a whole.

The U.S. actuarial profession is self-regulated, giving every actuary a role to play in maintaining and meeting high standards of conduct, qualification, and practice. Actuaries in a variety of companies doing different types of work are, in some cases, bound by the same standard.

It is thus essential that the ASB hear from many actuaries with different perspectives and viewpoints to make sure the concerns of all areas of the profession are addressed when drafting and revising ASOPs. With that in mind, you are encouraged to review and comment on draft standards that affect your work—it is a valuable way you can contribute to the profession. (And if you need another incentive, time spent reviewing and commenting on ASOPs may count as professionalism continuing education.)

To see the exposure drafts listed below, [visit the exposure drafts webpage on the ASB website](#). In addition to changes specific to each ASOP, all of these exposure drafts have been updated for current ASB style and standard language, including for reliance, documentation, and disclosures.

- ▲ **ASOP No. 24, *Compliance with the NAIC Life Insurance Illustrations Model Regulation***. This second exposure draft would provide guidance to actuaries when performing actuarial services in support of a certification or representation that life insurance illustrated scales are in accordance with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) Life Insurance Illustrations Model Regulation or applicable actuarial guidelines. Comment deadline: Sept. 15.
- ▲ **ASOP No. 36, *Statements of Actuarial Opinion Regarding Property/Casualty Loss, Loss Adjustment Expense, or Other Reserves***. This second exposure draft would expand the scope of the ASOP beyond “issuing” and “providing” to

“performing actuarial services with respect to a written statement of actuarial opinion regarding property/casualty loss, loss adjustment expense, or other reserves,” require the actuary to determine the discount rate used, when a material portion of the reserves within the scope of a statement of actuarial opinion is discounted, and add guidance for situations when the scope of the statement of actuarial opinion includes both direct and assumed reserves and reserves net of recoverables. Comment deadline: Nov. 1.



▲ **ASOP No. 40, *Compliance with the NAIC Valuation of Life Insurance Policies***

Model Regulation with Respect to X Factors.

This proposed revision would provide guidance to actuaries when performing actuarial services with respect to adjusting deficiency reserve mortality rates using X factors pursuant to applicable law, including applicable law based on the NAIC Valuation of Life Insurance Policies Model Regulation.

- ▲ **Enterprise Risk Management**. This proposed new ASOP would replace current enterprise risk management (ERM) ASOPs—Nos. 46 and 47, *Risk Evaluation in Enterprise Risk Management* and *Risk Treatment in Enterprise Risk Management*, respectively—which were adopted in 2012. This exposure draft reflects the developments of the past decade, better reflects today’s ERM practices and terminology, and aligns with ASOP No. 55, *Capital Adequacy Assessment*, an ERM ASOP adopted in 2019.

An exposure draft of ASOP No. 12, *Risk Classification (for All Practice Areas)* is expected to be released later this year.

If you’d like to be notified when exposure drafts are released for comment, as well as when final standards are released, sign up to receive the [Boxscore](#) newsletter on the ASB website. ▲



Issue Brief, Webinar Examine 2024 Premium Drivers

THE INDIVIDUAL AND SMALL GROUP Markets Committee released an issue brief, [Drivers of 2024 Health Insurance Premium Changes](#), which looks at factors for actuaries to consider in 2024 premium rate-setting for Affordable Care Act-compliant plans and why premiums could differ from 2023. The Academy also sent the issue brief to key congressional health staff members.

Webinar Offers Insight—Committee members provided an overview of the new premium drivers during a July 19 webinar. [Slides and audio](#) are available as a complimentary member benefit. ▲

Health Equity Symposium Set for November

AN ACADEMY SYMPOSIUM, “Health Benefit Design Innovations for Advancing Health Equity,” is scheduled for Nov. 15 in Washington, D.C. The symposium, which will also be open virtually, has confirmed luncheon speaker Lisa Fitzpatrick, also known as “[Dr. Lisa on the Street](#),” who is also founder & CEO of Grapevine Health. More information will be available soon. ▲

Health News in Brief

THE HEALTH UNDERWRITING Risk Factors Analysis Work Group [sent a letter](#) updating the NAIC’s Health Risk-Based Capital (E) Working Group on progress on the NAIC’s request to comprehensively review the H2—Underwriting Risk Component and the Managed Care Credit Calculation in the Health Risk-Based Capital (HRBC) formula. ▲

Academy Presents at SOA Health Meeting

ACADEMY SENIOR HEALTH FELLOW Cori Uccello presented on “[Considerations for Calculating Cost-Sharing Reduction Load Factors](#)” at the Society of Actuaries’ July 12 virtual health meeting. The presentation covered Affordable Care Act premium and cost-sharing subsidies, how cost-sharing reduction (CSR) funding has changed over time, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services public statements on CSR loads, and why the Academy became involved with the issue. To learn more about the Academy’s work on this topic, visit the [Public Policy health webpage](#). ▲

NEW HEALTH VOLUNTEER POSITIONS/ROLES

➔ **Josh Rekula** and **Elisa Wildy** joined the Health Equity Committee.



PBR Bootcamp Examines Liability Modeling

THE LATEST SESSION in the principle-based reserving (PBR) series examined liability modeling, in a July 26 webinar in which PBR Implementation Work Group members presented on topics including updates to the Valuation Manual, and liability and asset assumptions. The next session, on [combination products](#), is set for Aug. 30; for future session dates, visit the [Events Calendar](#). ▲

Life News in Brief

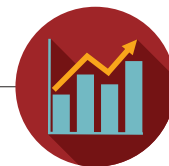
THE INDEX-LINKED VARIABLE Annuity Work Group submitted a [comment letter](#) to the ILVA Subgroup of the Product Standard Committee of the Interstate Insurance Product Regulation Commission on 2023 Compact Requirements for Index-Linked Variable Annuity Products. ▲

NEW LIFE VOLUNTEER POSITIONS/ROLES

- ➔ **Leonard Reback** joined the Life Practice Council.
- ➔ **Seth Detert** is vice chairperson of the Life Illustrations Subcommittee.
- ➔ **Antonio Gonzalez** joined the Asset Adequacy and Reinsurance Issues Task Force.

NEW PENSION VOLUNTEER POSITIONS/ROLES

- ➔ **Rob Reiskytl** joined the Defined Contribution Subcommittee of the Pension Committee.



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Climate Risk Webinar to Explore Impact for All Actuaries

ACADEMY PRESIDENT-ELECT and Climate Change Joint Committee Chairperson Lisa Slotznick will lead committee members in presenting the Aug. 9 webinar, “[How Climate Risk Applies to All Actuaries](#).” Discussion topics will include the recently released [Climate Risks Pose Broad Impact on Financial Security Systems](#), which provides actuaries with a practical guide for considering a broad range of impacts that climate change may have on their work. [Register today](#). ▲



Financial Reporting News in Brief

THE PRUDENTIAL REGULATION COMMITTEE sent a [comment letter](#) to the Federal Stability Oversight Council (FSOC) regarding FSOC’s proposed Authority to Require Supervision and Regulation of Certain Nonbank Financial Companies. ▲

Annual Call for Volunteers

Now Through Sept. 6

Take the next step in your professional development and become an Academy volunteer. Learn more about the wide variety of volunteer opportunities—including many micro-volunteering options—that are available by completing the Academy’s annual [Call for Volunteers](#).

“Volunteering opens so many doors for anybody in the profession—not only to give, but to gain as well.”

— Sherry Chan, Academy vice president, pension

HAVE QUESTIONS?

Make sure to sign up for our [Aug. 10 information session](#).

