

September 21, 2010 Portland Actuarial Club Luncheon

Title: *Multiple Annuity Starting Dates and the Actuarial Profession*
Speaker: *David MacLennan, ASA, EA, FCA, COPA*
When: Tuesday September 21, 2010 at 12:00 noon Heathman Hotel – Broadway Room
Where: 1001 SW Broadway Portland, OR 97205
RSVP: Please RSVP by **September 16th at 10:00 am** at our new website:
www.PortlandActuarialClub.org/ RSVPs received later than the deadline will incur an additional \$5 fee.

Multiple Annuity Starting Dates and the Actuarial Profession

The rules that affect pension actuaries are, for the most part, written assuming a single payment - an annuity or a lump sum. But in real life multiple distributions over time can and do occur. The "prior distribution" or "Multiple Annuity Starting Date (MASD)" problem has been a conundrum facing pension actuaries going back at least 30 years. David will outline some of the elements from his prize-winning paper on MASD's (see below).

This talk is open to all actuaries, not just pension actuaries. No experience in the pension field or knowledge of pension mathematics is assumed or needed. David will discuss the history of the MASD problem and how his paper came to be written.

David will also briefly discuss some important questions the MASD problem raises about our profession. Why did it take so long to resolve the MASD issue? What does it say about our profession? What about pension plan participants who may have been "shortchanged"?

This presentation may count toward professionalism credit at the discretion of attendees.

About the Speaker

David MacLennan

David MacLennan, ASA, EA, FCA, COPA has been a self-employed pension actuary for 18 years, working mostly on small defined benefit plans. David has a BA in Mathematics from Reed College.

Last month David was informed he won the John Hanson Memorial Prize for 2010 for his work on Multiple Annuity Starting Dates. The John Hanson Memorial Prize is awarded by the Conference of Consulting Actuaries and the Actuarial Foundation for the best paper on an employee benefits topic. The papers are judged on the basis of originality, appropriateness of subject, timeliness of topic, and practical application to employee benefits. The award is given only when merited. David's winning paper, "Benefit Adjustments for Multiple Annuity Starting Dates" was published in 2007 in the Journal of Pension Benefits. David's paper put MASD calculations on a sound mathematical footing by creating a generalized form of actuarial equivalence. The John Hanson Memorial Prize will be formally awarded to David at the Conference of Consulting Actuaries Annual Meeting in October.