## 2016-2017 Statistics & Actuarial Science Endowment Award

## Academic Merit Award

This award is offered to students who are registered honors or major students in Actuarial Science or Statistics. The primary criterion for selection is academic merit.

## Sihan Cheng writes:

I am an international student from China. I got my first degree in China as a Bachelor of Aquaculture Science. After I graduated, I found that it was not the life I wanted to pursue. With my mother's encouragement and support, I decided to go back to campus and learn knowledge more applicable to the society. Fortunately, I received admission to the Beedie school of Business at SFU as a second degree student in Fall 2015.

When I learned about the actuary profession from the internet, I knew immediately that it was the dream career I was looking for. It is challengeable and intelligent. My outstanding ability in math gave me confidence to apply for the actuarial science program. So I started to complete the required courses. Even though some of the courses introduced were tough, like Acma210, I was still one of the top students in the class as well as in other Statistics and Business courses. At the same time, I also passed SOA P exam before I took Acma210 and Stat285. In Spring 2017, I was accepted into the Actuarial Science Major Program with an outstanding GPA.

In my future studies, I will keep working hard to maintain a high GPA. I also plan to take the exam FM and MLC this year, and finish the ASA tests before I graduate. Meanwhile, I am actively applying for my first Coop this semester since I have learned from Dr. Cary and Professor Barbara that practice is the core method to absorb knowledge from books completely. I believe I can be a professional actuary in the future.