

2008-2009 Watson Wyatt Scholarship

This scholarship is awarded annually to a student in an approved Actuarial Science program who has completed ACMA320. It is granted on the basis of academic performance.

Xiaokang Sheng

I am a senior Actuarial Science student at Simon Fraser University. This will be my second degree. I received a Math degree at Nankai University in China. The first time I heard the word “actuary” was during a Financial Market class in Nankai. Prof. Zhang introduced this new concept to us and gave us information about how to become an actuary. After that class I was very interested in this field and talked to Prof. Zhang in person. He gave me more details about taking professional exams and suggested that I continue my study abroad.

After collecting more information about actuarial science I found that being an actuary is a fantastic job that totally matched my interests and expectations. Being an actuary can give me various choices in my future career as actuaries can not only determine the price and reserves of insurance products by exercising their knowledge of mathematics, statistics, finance and analysis, but actuarial skills are transferable to any industry or job that requires financial or risk modeling and management. This profession has consistently been rated as one of the top five jobs in the United States.

During my two years of study at Simon Fraser University, I took almost all the actuarial science courses and some useful business and statistics courses. I passed three SOA exams and plan to write more in the future. I have been admitted to the Actuarial Science Masters program at the University of Waterloo. I am very excited about doing research in this fascinating area.

I appreciate the generosity and support from Watson Wyatt and all valuable help and advice that I have received from the professors and advisor in Statistics and Actuarial Science Department at SFU.