

# Drake Actuarial Science

# ALUMNI

n e w s l e t t e r

Fall 2011 • Page 1

## Welcome

Welcome to the Drake University Actuarial Science Program Fall Newsletter. The Actuarial Science Program continues to grow and remains the largest program in the college with 332 students. This fall, 70 freshmen and 35 transfer students joined the program and we graduated 70 students last year. This past summer, Professor Paul Ferrara received his PhD, CERA, and FSA.

Featured in this edition is the success of Drake actuarial students in the **Travelers Case Competition**. This was the first year of our participation and our students (Leah, Brice, Tess, and Alex) took first place. Congratulations! Additionally, Alumni Evening was held on May 5th with over 70 Drake alumni attending the event. We recognized **William Buchanan's** (BN'57) contribution to the actuarial profession with the Stuart Klugman Distinguished Alumni Award. Read more about him inside. The next Alumni Evening will be held on May 3rd, 2012 where we will recognize **Robert Stein** (BN'71) with the Stuart Klugman Distinguished Alumni Award. Please mark your calendars; we would love to see you at this event.

The fall Round Table Discussion was on **Healthcare** and took place on October 3rd, 2011. The Affordable Care Act was discussed with speakers from Drake University, the Iowa Insurance Division, Principal Financial Group, Blue Cross and Blue Shield, John Hancock, and PricewaterhouseCoopers. Drake is proud to continue to host these semi-annual roundtable discussions valued by local professional actuaries and alumni. The Actuarial Department wants to thank all those who contributed and attended. For the first time, the discussion was streamed live. In the spring we will host a two-day conference on March 26th and 27th in collaboration with the Iowa Actuaries Club and PricewaterhouseCoopers.

On October 5th we held another successful Actuarial Career Fair thanks to our Career Services Manager **Annette Watson**, the DASS EC and all the attending companies. Twenty six companies conducted morning interviews and 31 were present at the Career Fair.

Inside this fall 2011 edition of the Newsletter, you will find more detailed stories on some of the events mentioned above and much more. For instance, we have begun a new **Alumni Spotlight** series that we hope you will enjoy. So take your time, and let us know what you think of the new issue. We always enjoy hearing from you!

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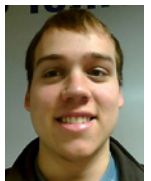
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## Drake Team Wins Travelers Case Competition

written by: **Bette Wiebke**

Drake University is one of the select schools designated as a Center of Actuarial Excellence by the Society of Actuaries. This designation recognizes the program has met eight criteria and standards related to curriculum, faculty, graduate count, and connection to the industry. One thing that the designation does not measure is just how well-prepared Drake's actuarial students are for the challenges of the business world. If there was any doubt that Drake's CBPA would produce not only high-quality actuaries but solid business professionals, a team of four junior actuarial students blew those doubts out of the water when they won the fourth annual Travelers Case Competition in Saint Paul, Minnesota on Friday, October 14, 2011.

The winning team selected by Professor Parsa to represent Drake for the first time at this competition was comprised of Brice Antons, Alex Hoyer, Leah Torrison and Tess Wicks, and were accompanied by Professor Struppeck. Working as a team, the students had around four hours to come up with a new product to help Travelers with insurance related to technological advancements in automobiles. The solution could not simply be an abstract idea that may work just in theory. Instead, the team needed a highly realistic solution that had both qualitative and quantitative support. With such a broad challenge, it is no surprise that the hardest part for them was just deciding on a topic. "It took us about two hours to come up with our topic. Based on the time constraints, we should have picked a topic earlier. We brainstormed many ideas before picking one," recounts Leah. Tess recalls, "We kept

on wanting to go off topic and form some sort of marketing plan which we realized wouldn't have much statistical backing."

As the team was struggling to come up with a topic, they were being observed by actuaries who were taking notes on how they worked together and the process they undertook to develop the final product. This aspect of the competition, however, did not worry the team in the slightest. "We worked really well together [as a team], assigning each person to a specific statistic to find or spreadsheet or graph to make," describes Tess.

The teamwork and brainstorming paid off as they finally landed on the idea to offer a discount to Volvo drivers who had a feature called "City Safety" installed in their cars. This technology prevents fender benders in high density, low speed areas by bringing the car to a halt when within a certain distance of the car ahead. Narrowing their topic down to one specific feature in just one line of cars is part of what Tess attributes to their success. "We also really clarified what our assumptions were when making our spreadsheet of how much money we would save per person in a five year span." Beyond setting a sound foundation for their presentation through a well-defined topic with statistical support, the team used concepts they had learned in their internships to add a bonus feature to the product. "We also thought about pairing with an auto manufacturer to offer discounts for those that use the company, kind of like health care insurers promote certain hospitals," describes Brice.

As if simply coming up with a solution to this problem

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within four hours was not enough work to do, the team also had to develop a professional presentation and be prepared to give it to a panel of two senior actuaries and one senior business leader at Travelers at the end of the four hours. A nerve-wracking experience for most, the group had little time to psyche themselves out. “We somehow put the actual presentation together in the last 30 minutes and because of most of our Business 073 [Professional Communication] experience, we were able to pull off a pretty solid presentation out of basically no practice. It was pretty exhilarating!” explains Tess. Leah noted the group’s presentation skills as a key player in their success as well. “I believe we won because our presentation was very well organized and our solution was realistic. We were the only team to do an introduction and set up the situation. It was interesting to hear other contestants say words such as ‘like’ or ‘bucks’ in a professional presentation. A Drake University business student would never do that. It made me even more proud to be a Drake student.” The judges obviously agreed with both Tess and Leah as the Drake team brought home the \$1,500 first place prize after this day-long competition.

While the team was excited to show off their skills and bring home top honors, Travelers was excited to be putting on their fourth Case Competition. Held in two separate locations, four or five teams compete at Travelers’ corporate headquarters in Hartford, Connecticut and four or five teams compete in Saint Paul,

Minnesota. Drake actuarial alumnus Loren Danielson was the overall event chair across the Saint Paul and Hartford campuses for this competition, meaning Drake was represented on both sides for the first time this year.

Eric Kendig was the chair for the Saint Paul competition. “The Case Competition is a great opportunity to showcase both Travelers and the Property and Casualty actuarial career to a group of talented actuarial students. And the students get the chance to be exposed to a real world insurance problem in a business setting. Also, several recent hires at Travelers were former participants in the Case Competition.” Eric described how a good portion of the actuarial community at Travelers gets involved in some form or another, volunteering their time to ensure the event’s success.

All those who help put on the competition should be proud to hear just how successful it was from



## Drake Team Wins Travelers Case Competition

the students' perspective as well. "I learned a lot of information about Travelers and the actuarial profession. I really enjoyed talking to employees at the reception; they gave me some good advice for job hunting and handling exams. And the competition was a great opportunity to get experience with real-world, applied problem solving and working in a team," recounts Alex. Brice enjoyed the opportunity to network with Travelers actuaries as well as rise to the challenge the Case Competition presented. "My highlight was just the entire experience. It was very rewarding from a challenge aspect and a professional aspect, too."

It adds a certain validation to Drake's actuarial program for our students to have the opportunity

to go up against those from other schools in such an established competition as the Travelers Case Competition. It adds another level of validation when our students can represent not just the actuarial program but the entire business school in such a high quality and successful fashion and bring home first place. Not only can Drake brag about being a Center of Actuarial Excellence, but now can add winner of the fourth annual Travelers Case Competition to the list of credentials. This is all thanks to the efforts of Brice, Alex, Leah and Tess, and the solid education the Drake CBPA has provided them. All of these awards are great measures of Drake's success, but Brice sums up the entire experience the best when he simply says, "DRAKE ROCKS!"



## Bill Buchanan: Stuart Klugman Award Winner

written by: **Dave Brugioni**

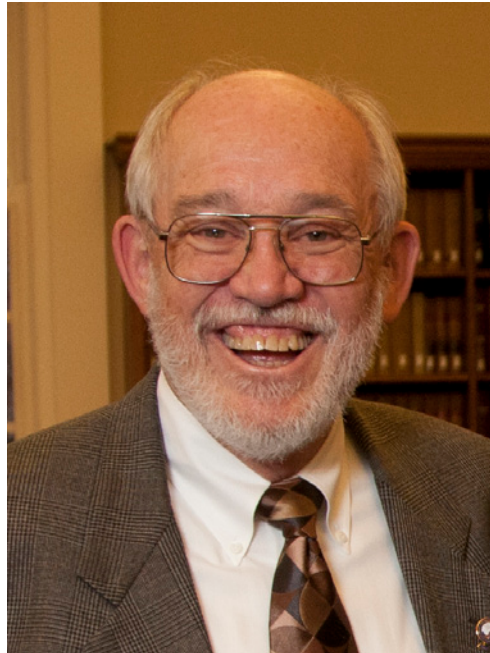
Bill Buchanan is a bulldog in every sense of the word. Not only is he a Drake alumnus, but his gritty, hardy demeanor and relentless nature is comparable to an actual bulldog. Last year, Drake presented Bill with the prestigious Stuart Klugman Distinguished Alumni Award in recognition for his contributions to the actuarial profession. He is the second winner of the award.

Growing up in Des Moines, Bill was a prominent student-athlete at Valley High School, where he excelled in baseball, basketball, football, and track. As a senior, he was named one of the top ten Iowa high school athletes.

In college, however, Bill's focus shifted more toward his career aspirations, and he found that he had little time for sports. His parents were by no means affluent, and Bill worked two jobs, totaling about 40 hours each week, to make ends meet. In the afternoons, he worked as a meat cutter at Dixon's Master Market. In the evenings, he loaded bread trucks at Wonder Bakery. Bill took on more irregular work as well, including pianist in dance bands on the weekends, and as a funeral singer at McLaren's Funeral Home. Without his tuition scholarship from Drake, Bill doesn't believe he would have been able to afford college. Bill describes his mindset in college as "all-business." His first year at Drake was rigorous, especially

because he came from a high school that was not known for its academics. After his first calculus test, his professor told him that he was in the wrong field, advising Bill never to attempt an actuarial exam because he would be unable to pass. Bill went on to pass five exams while at Drake.

After graduating in 1957, Bill worked various actuarial jobs until 1964, when he founded Buchanan and Associates ("although it was just me," he jokes) in Dallas, Texas. The successful practice grew and eventually expanded to offices in Kansas City and Los Angeles. In 1985, Bill founded Unified Life Insurance Company (ULIC), and went on to sell Buchanan and Associates. ULIC began operations in 1986 and has grown tremendously throughout the last 25 years via 30 acquisitions. The company has never posted a quarterly loss, and their net annual profits have recently averaged about \$3 million. However, 2011 has been an excellent year for ULIC, and Bill notes that profits could approach \$5 million this year.



Bill is well-known at Drake for his philanthropic efforts. He has contributed to the construction of the Adams/Bowers Center, helped fund Aliber Hall renovations, and was a major contributor in the establishment of Drake's entrepreneurial program. Not one for the limelight, Bill is quick to mention that several other

## Bill Buchanan: Stuart Klugman Award Winner

Drake alumni have provided more funding to the university than he has.

More than just a business owner, Bill is also a dedicated runner and a world traveler. He has run events on five continents (and he has run in some form or another on all seven continents), including the Hong Kong Marathon and a 10k in Johannesburg. That trip to Antarctica? Bill was sightseeing, glimpsing the continent's ice floes, whales, and penguins. Bill has traveled to China five times, and once took a return flight from China on his birthday. Passing the

International Dateline, Bill was able to celebrate his birthday a second time in the span of a few hours. He insists that he is actually a year older than his identification would indicate.

Bill is optimistic about the future, noting that there are so many opportunities for ULIC that he cannot take advantage of all of them. As long as his company remains viable, Bill has no intentions of retiring. A bulldog never quits.



## Alumni Spotlight: Brian Clark

written by: **Tasha Pinkley**

As we are all very much aware, Drake actuarial science alumni represent some of the smartest and hardworking professionals in their fields. That being said, the real question at hand is: What do they do when they are not at the office? Here at the newsletter, we thought it would be intriguing to share some of the neat hobbies that alumni have by featuring them in our new recurring segment, the Alumni Spotlight. Our first feature spotlights Brian Clark, an actuarial science alumnus with a competitive drive and a knack for racing.

As an undergrad, Brian Clark (BN '88, MA '95), like most actuarial science students, found the rigors of the program to be quite stressful, and in order to help release the stress he started working out regularly. In 1990, shortly after graduating and as he approached the completion of his actuarial exams (FSA '91), Brian and his wife Julie (BN '83) started competing in triathlons, and they have continued the hobby ever since. In 2005, after their son Spencer was born, they began to train for a half Ironman distance race, which amounts to a 1.2 mile swim, 56 mile bike ride, and a 13.1 mile run. A defining moment for the couple came in September 2007, when they competed in the USA Triathlon Halfmax National Championship in St. Louis. The race was a qualifier for the 2008 Amateur ITU Long Distance Triathlon World Championship, which was to be held in Almere, Holland in August of the following year. For the World Championship race, the USA team awarded five of the ten age group slots from the National Championship race.

To their surprise, both Brian and Julie qualified for a

spot on the USA team to compete in Holland. The World Championship race was a bigger challenge for Brian and Julie, as it was three-fourths the distance of an Ironman race, instead of just one-half the distance, as the Halfmax race had been. After training hard for a year, Brian and Julie competed in the World Championship race in Holland in 2008, and both finished with a time that was just under eight hours. It was on the flight home from Holland that Brian and Julie, feeling proud of their success at the race, first discussed the possibility of competing in a full Ironman race.

Brian was continuing his work at Aviva USA as the Executive Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer in 2009 when the company underwent some organizational changes. Given his real passion for investments and desire to have the flexibility to train for an Ironman, Brian decided to leave Aviva in October of 2009 and began the process of starting his own business. His dream of one day competing in an Ironman race was on its way to becoming a reality. Brian knew putting in the amount of training time that an Ironman requires is a difficult task to accomplish while also working in the corporate world and trying to raise a family. With all of these goals in mind, Brian spent most of 2010 learning the ins and



## Alumni Spotlight: Brian Clark

outs of starting a business, while also putting in some grueling hours training for his first Ironman race.

September of 2010 was a memorable and busy month for Brian Clark. It was during this time in which he prepared to launch his own business, Core Capital Strategies, and also participated in his first Ironman competition. On September 12th, 2010 in Madison, Wisconsin, Brian finished his first Ironman race. Swimming, biking and running for a total of just over 140 miles in 11 hours and 43 minutes, he beat his goal of finishing the race in less than twelve hours. His wife Julie competed with him in the race, and also finished with



an astounding time of 11 hours and 50 minutes. On October 1st, 2010, Brian officially launched Core Capital Strategies, a consulting and investment

advisory firm. As the President of the company, Brian balances his time consulting for insurance companies and managing investments for clients. He loves the freedom and flexibility that comes along with owning his own business, and uses the extra time to train and spend quality time with his wife and two kids.

This past September, Brian participated in his second Ironman, once again in Madison, Wisconsin. Despite a decrease in training time, and hotter, windier race conditions, he still managed to beat his 2010 time, finishing in just 11 hours and 40 minutes. He and his wife plan to continue competing in Ironman races and we wish them the best of luck!



## Actuarial Student Plays First Football Game in Africa

written by: **Bette Wiebke**

Have you ever been to Africa? There are many opportunities through Drake for students to head overseas whether for a semester in Europe or a three-week course on sustainable development in Uganda. The newest and most highly publicized opportunity came in May 2011, when Drake's football team traveled to Tanzania to play in the Global Kilimanjaro Bowl: the first American football game on African soil.

On the surface, this event, which was picked up by such news outlets as ESPN and USA Today, may not seem to have any relation to Drake's actuarial program. The truth is, the nationally recognized program has two strong ties to this inaugural event; one through an alumnus and the other a current senior.

Vinaya Sharma (BN '93) is an alumnus of the actuarial program at Drake and the definition of a "superfan". Both in college and now as an alumnus,



Vinaya is on the left

Sharma knows no bounds when it comes to showing support for his Bulldogs. So naturally, when he heard about the Global Kilimanjaro Bowl, there was no way he would not be there. Traveling across the ocean to climb Mount Kilimanjaro and witness the historic Drake football game, Vinaya Sharma truly showcases what it means to bleed blue and have pride in his alma mater. (Full article: [www.drake.edu/magazine/?p=2506](http://www.drake.edu/magazine/?p=2506))

Zach Lozier is a senior actuarial student who has spent the last four years balancing the demands of being a Division I football player with the rigor of the actuarial science program. From the small town of Farmington, Illinois, he first became aware of and interested in Drake when they recruited him to play football. He then chose Drake because it felt like the right place for him. When it came to choosing a major, he had done previous research about actuarial science and decided to give it a try because he had liked math in high school.

When asked what the biggest challenges are for him with regards to balancing exams and football, Lozier said it could be summed up in one word: time. "It definitely is a huge time commitment being a student athlete as it easily can be comparable to working a part-time job on top of being a student. I am constantly either going to a meeting or working on school work, and staying organized is sometimes a challenge."

As actuaries, all we ever talk about are exams. How does a student athlete balance all their other priorities with the strenuous demands of the exam process? "The biggest issue again with exams is the missing 20

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or so hours a week I spend participating in football. I have spent many hours on planes, buses and hotel desks viewing my study guide preparing for the exam." His hard work has paid off as he sat for his third exam this fall. No small feat for any actuarial student.

Climbing a mountain is no small feat either, which is exactly what Zach, some of the other football players, and even President Maxwell had the opportunity to do during their last six days in Africa. "It [reaching the summit] was honestly the hardest thing I have ever done due to the constant fatigue on my legs and adjusting to the altitude. It was one of the biggest highlights of my trip and it made me glad to go because I doubt I would have done it on my own," relayed Lozier.

Beyond being able to feel good about the accomplishment of reaching the summit, Zach and the other football players spent the majority of their trip doing philanthropic work. They spent their time visiting local orphanages, running football clinics for children who had never seen a game of American football before, and constructing an addition onto the Kitaa Hope Orphanage, which cares for children who have lost their parents to AIDS. All this work alone would have made the trip worthwhile, but they could not depart without also leaving a different kind of mark.

The Global Kilimanjaro Bowl was set for May 21st, the team's third day in Africa. Their opponent was

a Mexican all-star team with players chosen from a college sports league. About the game, Zach said, "The Mexican team played different version of football and the game started off slow but eventually picked up as both teams went back and forth." The game ended with a 17-7 Drake victory, putting Drake in the annals of history as the winners of the first American football game on African soil.

Zach is grateful for all of the opportunities he has had while at Drake, both on and off the field. Not everybody is given the chance to make history while in college, let alone on a different continent. Due to this and various other experiences, Zach is very happy with his decision to be involved in both football and the actuarial program. Taking on such large responsibilities has taught him many lessons, especially in time management. As a result, he is confident this will not be an issue for him as he enters the working world and has to balance a full-time job with studying for exams.

Not many students can say they have been to Africa. Even fewer can say they won the first American football game in Africa. And only one can say he is an actuarial student who has also done all of the above and then some. Zach Lozier is a great example of a different kind of diversity in the actuarial program at Drake. After all, how many of you can say you played football in Africa?



## Where in the world is Ulaanbaatar?

written by: **Reynold Dao-Wen Lim**

Interview with Uranbileg Enkhtuvshin:

**Q:** Why did you choose to major in Actuarial Science?

**A:** I never knew about Actuarial Science when I was in A-Levels. I know that I like physics and math. But I thought of pursuing a degree in Economics. Then, a friend of mine told me to major in Actuarial

Ulaanbaatar, pronounced “Uu-la-en-baa-tar,” means “Red Hero” in Mongolian. It is also the capital of Mongolia, and with a population of over a million people, it is the largest city in Mongolia.

Why am I writing about Ulaabaatar? Isn't this newsletter about Actuarial Science and the events happening at Drake University? As it happens, a student from

Ulaanbaatar majoring in Actuarial Science transferred to Drake University this fall! Uranbileg Enkhtuvshin,

who goes by Uran, is currently a sophomore and transferred from Sunway University in Malaysia. Uran started her tertiary education with Cambridge A-Levels and later pursued a degree with the American Degree Transfer Program (ADTP) at Sunway University before transferring to Drake.

I was fortunate enough to meet her and talk with her about her experience being away from home and living in Malaysia and now in the United States.



Science since I like math. A professor of mine also recommended me to major in Actuarial Science. So, I chose to major in Actuarial Science because I like the challenge. I'm also thinking to double major with either Information System or Finance. I have not made up my mind yet but I'll most probably make my decision next semester.

**Q:** Why did you choose to further your studies in the United States

and why did you choose Drake University?

**A:** I have always preferred the U.S. education system because of its flexibility. I am always given the opportunity to choose whatever subjects I like. That will let me become a well-rounded student and that is what I want to be when I graduate. I chose Drake University because personally I think Drake is the best in the actuarial field. Besides, I prefer a small school which emphasizes teaching in classrooms instead of lecture halls. Plus, I can get in contact with the professors easily.

## Where in the world is Ulaanbaatar?

**Q:** Did you experience any cultural shock when you first came to United States?

**A:** I dislike the unit conversion. For example, I'm used to units like degree Celsius and kilometers, and not Fahrenheit and miles. In addition, I do not fancy the food here because it is cheesy and fattening. It is very different from Asian food. But I like the people, they are very friendly and welcoming, unlike people in Asia.

**Q:** How have you adapted to this new environment so far?

**A:** I had been in Malaysia for 3 years before transferring to Drake. So, I have been away from home for quite some time. The transition from Malaysia to United States was not that difficult because I'm used to being away from home already.

**Q:** What do you think about Drake?

**A:** Currently, I'm two months into my first semester. It feels like I just got here a day or two ago. So, time flies. Besides that, it is really different here as compared to Sunway University. Over here, I need

to study consistently, be in class on time because the attendance policy is strict, and the people here are very punctual. Other than that, the professors here are very professional and they know their stuff. Furthermore, I like community service and Drake gives me the opportunity to be involved in that.

**Q:** What about Des Moines?

**A:** I miss K.L. (abbreviation for Kuala Lumpur, the capital of Malaysia). I miss the shopping malls back there, Mamak (Muslim-Indian food store), and hanging out with friends at night. I can't do all that here because Des Moines is really spread out. I got to take a 15 minutes' drive to the nearest mall and Des Moines is like a country side. Back in Malaysia, everything is so accessible. All in all, I'm adapting to it and I'll learn to like it.



## THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

**written by: Mike Peterson**

As a Major Gift Officer for Drake University, I want to take this opportunity to thank all companies and all individuals for their very generous support of the Actuarial Science program, including the Adams Bowers Center.

From an individual perspective, 825 Actuarial Science graduates recently received a letter from Vinaya Sharma (BN'93), who encouraged his fellow graduates to make a contribution to the Adams Bowers Center, which remains an extremely valuable student resource. This mailing also highlighted a \$50,000 Match Challenge Agreement between Drake University and EMC Insurance Companies, wherein the EMC Insurance Foundation will match dollar for dollar (up to \$50,000 annually) any new gifts from alumni or corporations specifically designated to or for the insurance, risk management or actuarial science/finance education programs at the College of Business and Public Administration and received by Drake University during the preceding 12 months. The match program will have a duration of 10 years.

We are also most appreciative of the tremendous corporate support we continue to receive, both in the form of restricted and endowed gifts. Listed below are several companies who have made the decision to support our efforts to remain one of the outstanding Actuarial Science programs in North America. For alums reading this newsletter, if you don't see your employer listed below, I would ask that you contact the appropriate person(s) in your company and encourage them to offer their financial support. I have every confidence their contribution will help us

to continue graduating superior students and making available new hires who can hit the ground running.

Corporate Supporters of Actuarial Science/Adams Bowers Center:

Allstate Insurance Company; American Family Mutual Insurance Company; AON Foundation; Aviva Charitable Foundation; Aviva USA; Cigna; CNA Foundation; EMC Insurance Companies; Generali USA; GuideOne Insurance; Hewitt & Associates; ING Foundation; Marsh & McLennan Companies; Nationwide Insurance; Northwestern Mutual; Principal Financial Group; Prudential Foundation; pwc; Towers Perrin; Towers Watson; Traveler' Foundation; T. Rowe Price; Unum; Modern Woodmen.

Thanks again for your continued support of Drake University's Actuarial Science program, which takes great pride in being designated one of 17 Centers of Actuarial Excellence in North America by the Society of Actuaries.

Best regards,

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## Alumni News

Here at the newsletter, we hear that one of your favorite parts is reading the news of your peers and colleagues. So as always, here's what has happened in our alumni's lives in the past six months.

To share your news in the next newsletter, please e-mail Professor Parsa at: [Rahul.Parsa@drake.edu](mailto:Rahul.Parsa@drake.edu)

### **Vinaya Sharma, '92**

Vinaya Sharma traveled to watch the Drake football team in Tanzania in May 2011. He also (surprisingly) successfully climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro prior to the match.

### **Todd Kennedy '99**

I just reached 8 years with ING in the West Chester, PA office. I am now working on ALM and reinsurance of life products. My wife and I will celebrate 10 years of marriage this December, and we have a new little girl to go with our 5 and 3 year old boys.

### **Drew Girton, '01**

Drew and his wife, Michelle, had a baby, Abigail Rose, on January 4th, 2011. It's the first child for the Girtons. He is currently employed at UnitedHealthcare in Hartford, CT.

### **Hussain Ahmad, '02**

Since graduation, I have lived and worked in 4 different cities/countries, including Philadelphia, PA, (US), Islamabad (Pakistan), Hong Kong (China) and currently Singapore. I am currently a Senior Consultant helping run the P&C (or "general insurance" as it is called in Asia) practice in Southeast Asia. Majority of my work is around M&A, reserving and market entry (helping companies looking to expand into various Asian countries either by organic or inorganic means). I have been married for nearly 5 years, and have a 2 year old daughter.

### **Kelly (Baluta) Rabin, '02**

I was recently promoted to Assistant Vice President, Institutional Markets Actuary in the Life Division at Symetra Financial in Bellevue, WA, focused on BOLI and COLI (bank-owned and corporate-owned life insurance). I am a CFA Level III candidate and live in the Seattle area with my husband (fellow actuary, Kevin – we met at Allstate) and 1 year old daughter, Ashley.

### **Jordan Hammond, '10**

I recently started working as an Actuarial Assistant at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas in their Group Pricing division. I started a student rotation program doing pricing and rating for large group companies, and will eventually spend time in other roles such as networks, valuation, forecasting, and health care analysis. And as for the Dallas Cowboys... let's just say I'm more optimistic about my career at this point.