



Actuarial Science Program at UC Santa Barbara

- UCSB is the sixteenth university in the United States, and only program in the western half, to be designated as a Center of Actuarial Excellence (CAE) by the Society of Actuaries.
- The *B.S. in Actuarial Science* is 250 majors strong, and we are the first university in California to offer a *graduate degree in Actuarial Science as part of a B.S./M.S. combined program*. The graduate degree we offer is a model program integrating traditional actuarial courses with financial mathematics and computational statistics.
- The distinctive feature of our Actuarial Program is a two-quarter course sequence *Research Project in Actuarial Science*. Guided by faculty, teams of students apply different approaches to research projects provided to us by our industry partners. Our past partners include CSAA Insurance Group, Towers Watson, William Sansum Diabetes Clinic, etc.
- Our course offerings cover over 90% of the learning objectives in the preliminary SOA/CAS examinations and beyond. UCSB also offers SOA-approved courses for all VEE subjects. In many of our courses students learn to use SAS, R, Matlab, or Python to complete a final project. Students are also required to complete an upper-division writing course focusing on communication skills imperative to success in the business world.
- *UCSB Actuarial Association*, run by elected student officers, organizes meetings with actuarial recruiters, helps members form exam study groups, offers student-led workshops (e.g., on Excel), as well as coordinate social gatherings to help create a warm atmosphere of friendship and support that fosters future professional connections. After graduation many of our alumni continue to maintain ties to the Association through Facebook and LinkedIn.
- *UCSB Actuarial Program Advisory Board* counts Fellows of both SOA and CAS, members of American Academy of Actuaries, Chief Actuaries, Vice Presidents, owners of insurance companies and more.
- Thanks to the generosity of Towers Watson, in Fall 2012 we started an *Actuarial Exam Fee Reimbursement Program* for students who pass SOA/CAS exams beyond exam P. This is to further encourage students to pass more than two exams while at UCSB.
- *UCSB Annual Actuary Day* held each year in the Spring, raises awareness of actuarial profession on campus through presentations by practicing actuaries, including our own Alumni.
- *In April 2015 UCSB hosted the first California Actuarial Student Conference* attracting students from campuses located throughout the state.
- *UCSB Annual Actuarial Career Fair* helps to bring further actuarial companies in contact with our students.
- *The 49th Actuarial Research Conference* held at UCSB in July 2014 attracted over 160 participants worldwide; and, as a major academic/industrial meeting, further augments our program's national and international profile.
- *The Center for Financial Mathematics and Actuarial Research (CFMAR)*, directed by Dr. Jean-Pierre Fouque, plays a major role in promoting financial mathematics, actuarial science and related fields.
- *Actuarial Visitor Program*, begun in 2011, invites actuarial seminar speakers and visitors. The program has included Brad Smith FSA, Tom Terry FSA, Kara Clark FSA, Richard Manship ACAS, Janet Duncan FCAS, Frank Zhang CFA, FRM, FSA, MSCF, PRM, Mary Hardy FIA, Larry Stern, FSA, MAAA, Phelim Boyle FIA, etc.