



Volunteers' experiences

“Ultimately what we as actuaries gain from the profession depends on what we put in.”

A view from a volunteer: Patrick Kelliher



“As a Fellow of the IFoA, I have been actively involved in volunteering for many years, with my focus being on research projects. I am CERA qualified and specialise in the risk management arena. Based in Edinburgh, I frequently find myself operating out of London for extended periods of time.”

The experience of a volunteer involved in research

“As a self employed consultant, I don’t get any employer support to work on research working parties. It involves a considerable amount of my private time. It can be very tiring at the end of a day to devote another hour or two to research. So why do I do it?”

Well first of all it does my CV no harm to be involved with cutting edge research. I also learn a lot, increasing my knowledge base and ultimately making my services more attractive to clients. You also build up a great network of contacts through involvement in working parties, not just potential clients or business contacts but also people you can ask questions or bounce ideas off.

Last but not least, helping the IFoA to be at the cutting edge of research increases the brand value of actuaries in general as well as my own personal brand. This is very important in risk management where actuaries face competition from other risk professionals. It was one of the reasons I helped set up the Operational Risk Working Party which I hope will place actuaries at the forefront of this growing field.

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