

# 1984 General Insurance Convention

## INSTITUTE OF ACTUARIES

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### The Education and Training of Actuaries

In November 1982 the Joint Education Committee of the Institute and the Faculty established an ad hoc committee to review the structure for the education and training of actuaries. That Committee (known as the Review Committee) has now reported and the Joint Education Committee has forwarded the Report to the two Councils. The Councils consider that the Report raises such fundamental issues that it should be exposed within the profession as a consultative document before final decisions on some of its recommendations are taken by each Council. A summary of the recommendations is given on pages 2 and 3. Copies of the Report are available to members on application to the offices of the Institute and the Faculty.

R.E. Brimblecombe  
Honorary Secretary  
Institute of Actuaries

J.M. Macharg  
Honorary Secretary  
Faculty of Actuaries

## **SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **1. Post-graduate university diploma course**

- a) A steering committee with representation from The City and Heriot-Watt Universities to be set up in order to draw up plans for setting up post-graduate diploma courses at an early date.
- b) Discussions to be initiated with a small number of selected universities with a view to extending the post-graduate diploma courses to those universities between 1987 and 1990.

### **2. The Actuarial Tuition Service**

- a) The Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Director of the ATS to make specific proposals for the immediate recruitment of full-time tutors, which should include the effect on students' fees.
- b) The concept of the Actuarial Education Service to be further considered and progressively developed under the control of the Joint Education Committee.

### **3. The Examination Framework**

- a) The examination framework to be restructured on the lines set out in the Appendix (see page 4).
- b) The statistics subjects to be restructured to remove the more elementary statistics and to include Risk Theory and other more advanced topics.
- c) Investment to be removed from the 'A' subjects and covered wholly as a 'B' subject.
- d) All the 'B' subjects to be offered by the Institute, but not necessarily by the Faculty, at two levels - ordinary and specialist - and that two subjects should be taken at specialist level except for General Insurance which should rank as two specialist subjects.

- e) The new ordinary level for General Insurance to be introduced as soon as possible, ahead of other changes in the syllabus.
  - f) A committee, or committees, to be set up to prepare the new syllabuses for the restructured examinations.
  - g) The Board of Examiners to be asked to reduce appreciably the content of the examination papers for the 'B' subjects.
4. **Admission Standards**
- a) Entry to the profession should not be restricted to graduates.
  - b) No additional entry requirements should be imposed on holders of 3rd class honours degrees.
  - c) There should not be an entry examination.
5. **Limitations on Examination Attempts**
- A time limit to be introduced for completing the 'A' examinations of four years from first sitting an examination or from taking the examinations of a university post-graduate diploma. The time limit should not be retrospective but would apply to existing students measuring the four year period from the first examination sat after the new rule was introduced. Special consideration should be given to overseas students studying under difficult conditions.
6. **Certificate in Actuarial Techniques**
- A 'Certificate in Actuarial Techniques' to be granted on passing the 'A' examinations or on being granted exemption from them on registering as a student.

**APPENDIX**

**Examination Structure**

<b>A. Actuarial Theory</b>	<b>No. of examination papers</b>
1) Basic Probability and Statistics	2
2) Statistical Application	1
3) Compound Interest	1
4) Life and Other Contingencies	2
5) Analysis of Mortality and Other Actuarial Statistics	<u>1</u>
Total 'A' examination papers	7

**B. Actuarial Practice**

Subjects may be passed at -

A) ORDINARY level, which represents the minimum examination knowledge required by all qualified actuaries

B) SPECIALIST level, which represents the examination knowledge required by actuaries specialising in the subjects

ALL of the following subjects must be taken, at one or other level, in certain combinations.

	<b>Number of Papers</b>	
	<b>Ordinary (A)</b>	<b>Specialist (B)</b>
6) Institutional Investment	1	2
7) Life Assurance	1	2
8) Pension Funds	1	2
9) General Insurance	1	3

The permitted combinations are -

- 1) 6A + 7B + 8B + 9A
- 2) 6B + 7B + 8A + 9A
- 3) 6B + 7A + 8B + 9A
- 4) 6A + 7A + 8A + 9B

Total 'B' examination papers	<u>6</u>
Total 'A' + 'B' examination papers	<u>13</u>

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