

## **2009-2010 R. Bruce Coles Memorial 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.

### **Yifan Xu (Mike)**

My mother is a successful private high school math teacher and at the time when I became the champion of China High School Mathematical Olympiad, everyone thought mathematics to be the genetic strength of my family. However, Actuarial Science is never easy for me.

After the midterm exam of ACMA 320, one of the most challenging courses, I became panicked. So I spent a lot of time searching for an appropriate way of studying actuarial science during the summer break. I realized that most undergraduate actuarial courses are applications of combining Calculus and Probability. Now, I always look for the connection between those fields and use my strong math skills and statistical background when writing exams for upper level ACMA courses. This turned out well for me.

Fortunately, my hard work has paid off. I have passed SOA exams P, FM, MLC and C. Currently I am preparing for exam MFE and will take it this coming May.

I plan to graduate in the winter this year. Upon the completion of my degree, I look forward to working for an insurance company, focusing on P&C insurance. I am confident I will be a great actuary.