

## **2005-2006 Watson Wyatt Scholarship**

### **Feng Li**

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.

Feng Li writes:

When I arrived at Vancouver International Airport as a new immigrant from China a few years ago, I knew nothing about actuary. I got my Bachelor Degree of Engineering in China and worked in computer industry for nearly 10 years, but the new life in Canada just gave me an opportunity to think about a new career. I was looking for a career which can use all of those skills I was very good at: mathematics, computer, and interest with finance and investment subjects. It did not take me a long time to find actuary is what I was looking for. In the spring semester of 2005, I got the admission of the actuarial science major program after the first two struggling semesters in SFU.

The study in this program seemed more interesting than I expected before. All of those courses are fascinating. During the study time, my first child little Alexander was born here. I was hilarious but became very busy with bottles and diapers while taking classes. I'm very proud of myself that I succeeded in managing a balanced time for my family and my study. I kept my good GPA and still enjoyed a good time with my family at the same time. Here I must thank my thoughtful wife who took most responsibility for taking care of little Alexander.

I'm just at the end of my program and doing my first co-op term in retirement department of Mercer Human Resource Consulting. I come to realize the knowledge I studied from our actuarial program is very necessary and useful for me to work in this area. I passed two SOA exams and am going to write two more exams in this May. I've got the admission of the master program for actuarial science and statistics in this department and am very excited with further study and research in this fascinating area.

At the end, I must express my sincere gratitude to the professors and staffs in this department who provide me a lot of valuable advices and give me tremendous help. Without their support, I could not go so far. There is still a long way for me to achieve my future career goal as an excellent actuary, therefore I need to continue working hard and hope I can accelerate this journey.