

Actuaries Institute Podcast

'Radical Actuaries' and how they'd save the world

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Interviewer: Naomi Edwards,

Guest: Jeffrey Chan

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Naomi Edwards: Hello radical actuaries, and welcome to the Actuaries Institute Podcast. I'm Naomi Edwards, vice president of the Actuaries Institute, independent chair of Spirit Super, and convenor for this year's summit. And today I'm joined by Jeffrey Chan, who's president of the Young Actuaries Advisory Board. Now, Jeffrey and I are facilitating a plenary session for this year's summit dedicated to radical actuaries and how they'd save the world, or how you would save the world. In this podcast episode, Jeffrey and I will discuss how you can submit and present your radical idea at the upcoming summit. Jeffrey, welcome.

Jeffrey Chan: Hi, Naomi. Thank you for having me.

Naomi Edwards: So, let's get straight into it. Tell us what this session is about and how the plenary committee came up with the idea?

Jeffrey Chan: The institute has been promoting greater diversity and inclusion in all their functions and activities. For example, they established the Young Actuaries Advisory Board last year to enhance the communication between young members and the institute. This year, the plenary committee would like to further increase the young actuaries involvement and plan to include a session dedicated to them. Naomi, it was actually you who came up with that topic, saving the world, which highlighted different dimensions of perspective our young members may bring.

Naomi Edwards: Yeah, that's exactly right. We've been seeing a lot of great ideas coming from our young members about how the future of our profession will look like. Given their passion and enthusiasm, young members want to change the world, right? They don't just want to look at their profession. So, we wanted to have a platform at the plenary for all young actuaries to present your most radical ideas on how you could shape a whole bunch of business areas, or how you could reshape the world if you want to.

Jeffrey Chan: Definitely. Thanks for giving us the young actuaries the best platform to voice our perspectives. The title of the special event is called "The Radical Actuaries and How They'll Save The World". And we would like to highlight the world radical.

Jeffrey Chan: We want our young members to present the biggest and craziest ideas, which may totally change our thinking relating to the problem areas rather than presenting some solutions which may bring incremental changes to existing way of working. We'll be covering six different problem areas, including data and analytics, environmental, social, and governance, space insurance, government policy, superannuation, and gig economy. These are all emerging trends in our profession and I'm really excited to hear how our young members will save the world with their innovation.

Naomi Edwards: **That's right. I am too, Jeff. And we've got some really big topics there like societal changes or environmental changes. So pretty much any idea that you have, no matter how big, and it doesn't have to be purely actuarial. We do data analytics and modeling in any area. And this totally goes hand in hand with our summit title this year, which is getting closer, but thinking bigger. So I'm totally stoked to be awed by the creativity of the presenters. Let's talk about logistics. How could a member submit an entry if they're interested?**

Jeffrey Chan: Thanks, Naomi. The institute will be sending out an email calling for submission soon, and the deadline for the submission is the 12th of April, 2022. Each presentation will be around 10 minutes long and members may organize and present as individual or as a group. Each presenting team may choose their presentation medium. You may use PowerPoint, create a video, or anything that come across your mind.

We are also recruiting a mentor and a coordinator in each problem area to support the presenting team. A mentor will be an experienced industry professional who might provide feedback on approaches and content, while the coordinator is the contact person to ensure the presenting team or individual will meet regularly to discuss, and the final presentation will be submitted by the deadline. Please email us if you're interested in supporting the event.

Naomi Edwards: **Awesome. Thanks Jeff. This is a big call out to all our young members. Get together in a group, have a big idea, do something really fun for 10 minutes long. So, thank you, Jeffrey. That's all we have for today. And I hope everyone listening to the podcast has enjoyed this discussion. And please check out our Actuaries Institute Podcast for more actuarial content. If you look at this and you have more questions or comments, we love hearing from you. So, keep an eye on your inbox for emails and of course on the institute's social media channels. Jeffrey, thank you very much for joining me on the podcast today.**

Jeffrey Chan: Thanks Naomi. It's a pleasure to work with you on promoting the session.

Naomi Edwards: **I'm Naomi Edwards. Bye for now.**