



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 14, 2010

Contact: Melinda Semadeni
msemadeni@asppa.org
(703) 516-9300

ACOPA Honors Actuary Robert H. Schramm for Distinguished Service *Ed Burrows Award Recognizes Excellence in the Actuarial Profession*

LAS VEGAS (August 14, 2010) –The [ASPPA College of Pension Actuaries \(ACOPA\)](#) honored Robert H. Schramm with the Edward E. Burrows Distinguished Achievement Award at its [2010 Actuarial Symposium](#) today.

The members of the College of Pension Actuaries gathered August 13-14 for a comprehensive discussion about new regulations, the Pension Protection Act of 2006, cash balance and hybrid pension plans, and financial accounting standards.

Schramm is President of RSMC in Salt Lake City, Utah and has been an active member of the pension actuarial community for over 30 years. He often spoke on cash balance plans, pension accounting and other actuarial issues, but is best known for his efforts to enhance communication between actuaries who practice in the pension field—especially in the small plan arena—and those who regulate qualified retirement plans.

“Bob has served behind the scenes for many years working to improve the private pension system without a lot of fanfare. He embodies true humility, and has been able to quietly influence people in high places to think and act differently—he has truly advanced our profession,” said colleague Patrick Byrnes, MSPA, EA.

ACOPA presents the [Edward E. Burrows Distinguished Achievement Award](#) annually to a pension actuary who is considered to have set an example for the industry. Recipients are honored for their excellence in promoting ethics, education, and legislation or regulation to enhance the professionalism of enrolled actuaries who serve within the private pension system. Burrows is considered the standard in this regard and ACOPA honors his legacy by presenting this annual award to recognize other actuaries who have chosen to follow his example. Past award recipients include Burrows (2008), and [Joan Gucciardi](#) (2009).

###

The American Society of Pension Professionals & Actuaries (ASPPA) is a national organization of more than 7,000 retirement plan and benefits professionals that serves as the educator, voice, and advocate for the employer-based retirement system. ASPPA members are administrators, actuaries, advisors, attorneys, accountants and other financial services professionals who provide consulting and administrative services for qualified retirement plans. The ASPPA College of Pension Actuaries (ACOPA) formed in September 2008 when ASPPA and the College of Pension Actuaries (COPA) combined to create a semi-autonomous operating unit within ASPPA. ACOPA is the primary source of professional organizational support for pension actuaries and manages the actuarial responsibilities of ASPPA, which is one of the recognized U.S. organizations of actuaries. All credentialed actuarial members of ASPPA are members of ACOPA. For more information, visit www.asppa.org.