# THE SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES IN IRELAND

## **Professionalism Event**

## Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2008 - Conrad Hotel, Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin 2

### **PROGRAMME**

8.30	Registration and Coffee	
8.50	Welcome & Introduction	Philip Shier President, Society of Actuaries in Ireland  Yvonne Lynch Director of Professional Affairs, Society of Actuaries in Ireland
9.15	Plenary Presentation Topic:  Ethics in business: the good, the bad and the difference	Pierce Kent Corporate Governance Specialist at the Institute of Directors Centre for Corporate Governance at UCD
10:30	Coffee	
10:45	Breakout groups - business ethics case studies	
12.00	Plenary Presentation Topic:  Professionalism: A Lawyer's View of the Actuarial Profession	Caroline Hunter-Yeats Solicitor-Advocate (All Higher Courts) (UK)
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12.45	Lunch	
1:30	Professional Conduct Standards – including quiz	Yvonne Lynch Director of Professional Affairs, Society of Actuaries in Ireland
2:00	Breakout groups – practice-specific case studies	
3:15	Coffee	
3:30	Plenary Presentation Topic:  Current ethical / professional issues for the actuarial profession in Ireland and abroad	Mike Claffey Chairman, Education Committee, Society of Actuaries in Ireland
3:50	Panel discussion on current ethical / professional issues for the actuarial profession	Mike Claffey (facilitator), Philip Shier, Yvonne Lynch, Pierce Kent, Caroline Hunter-Yeats

Biographies of our guest speakers are on the next page.

Closing remarks

4:15 – 4.30

Yvonne Lynch

### Pierce Kent

Pierce Kent is Corporate Governance Specialist at the Institute of Directors Centre for Corporate Governance at UCD. A Chartered Accountant by profession, he is a former President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland and a founder member of the Chartered Accountants Joint Ethics Committee. He has chaired the ICAI Ethics Committee and is a former member of their Disciplinary Tribunal. He represented Ireland on the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) Ethics Committee and chaired the IFAC "Ethical Standards for Employed Professional Accountants" Committee.

Pierce is a member of the Disciplinary Panel of the Society of Actuaries in Ireland. He is also Chairman of the Arts Council's Appeals Committee. He has acted for the Institute of Certified Public Accountants in Ireland as their "Subject Expert" for Auditing since 2001.

Pierce is a founder director of Griffith College Dublin and non-executive director of a number of Irish companies involved in Derivative Trading, Training and Education.

He is a regular speaker at the Institute of Directors Centre courses and assists the Academic Director in course design. He also lectures on the Centre's Diploma in Corporate Governance and is a Senior Fellow with the Master of Accounting Programme at the Michael Smurfit Graduate School of Business.

#### **Caroline Hunter-Yeats**

Caroline Hunter-Yeats was educated at the University of Oxford where she read Jurisprudence. She joined law firm Simmons & Simmons in 1997 and qualified as a solicitor in 1999. She was admitted as a Solicitor-Advocate (All Higher Courts) (UK) in 2003.

Caroline specialises in complex financial disputes with a focus on defending professional liability claims. Her affinity for mathematical professions has enabled her to 'get inside' the technical aspects of actuarial and accounting disputes and then overlay her legal skills on top. She has had in-depth experience of managing a large scale dispute involving a team of up to 20 professionals.

Caroline's recent experience includes:

- Defending Watson Wyatt against claims arising from their position as actuaries to the now defunct Independent Insurance Group. The case was running in the Commercial Court as a "supercase";
- Defending a leading firm of actuaries against a multi-million pound claim relating to the valuation of a pension scheme;
- Defending a firm of accountants (to trial) against a claimed negligent share valuation;
- Defending a high street bank against a claim arising out of an allegedly negligent trading strategy.