Executive Summary

The Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) has identified several items for consideration by the CAS Board of Directors (the Board). These findings were presented in preliminary form to the Board for information and consideration at their November meeting. The LRPC is presenting the final report to the Board for consideration and acceptance at the March 2001 meeting.

The theme chosen by the LRPC for the 2000 report is “New Horizons.” The theme was chosen to focus our attention on how the CAS and the actuarial profession as a whole should respond to the external forces that are placing more and different demands upon actuaries. The report’s thrust is neutral in terms of new vs. old ideas, focusing on what the CAS as an organization must do over the next 5 to 15 years. The LRPC selected twelve areas of focus:

I. CEO Perspective  
II. Future Top Ten Stories  
III. CAS Organization  
IV. Standards  
V. Governance  
VI. International/Globalization  
VII. Skills Acquisition  
VIII. Technology / Techniques  
IX. Financial Deregulation  
X. Relations with Academia  
XI. Data  
XII. Social Responsibility

We were able to satisfactorily address all but items VI and VIII. Those items will be continued for consideration in 2001.

We found that considering the CEO Perspective and predicting Top Ten Stories were useful exercises, which lead to ideas that have a home in the other areas. These two sections of the report describe what we considered and determined to be most important, but the resulting recommendations are placed elsewhere in the report. Both sections are strong testaments to the idea that actuaries should strive to provide the broadest possible value to the various constituencies using their work products.

We were not able to develop any new insights regarding the international arena. We continue to believe this should be a high CAS priority and were somewhat frustrated during the year in our efforts to keep abreast of events around the world that give rise to actuarial opportunities and the actions being taken by various actuarial organizations in response to those events. Our international perspective should be much improved in 2001 with the additions of David Hartman and Lee Steeneck to the LRPC.
While the LRPC recognizes a number of interrelationships among these twelve areas, the committee finds it equally clear that an independent focus on each area is necessary for the CAS to take effective action. The recommendations are as ambitious as they are necessary so the committee cautions that implementation should be spread over a reasonable time frame. Some recommendations will involve a significant investment in resources while others can be handled through routine communication.

The LRPC submits the following to the Board for acceptance and/or action:

1. 2000 LRPC Report
2. Confirmation of the Strategic Plan (No changes for 2001)
3. Recommendations

The LRPC has found no reason to change the Strategic Plan. This is the second year with no change to the plan and we anticipate making a point-by-point review of the plan an action item during 2001.

**Top Ten Recommendations** - Issues Most in Need of High-Level Attention:

1. Reconfirm the focus on independence as set forth in the Strategic Plan. (V-1, page 13)
2. Encourage Regional Affiliates to move to a governance model that involves greater levels of membership participation within the Regional Affiliate. (III-4, page 11)
3. Assure the focus of the profession remains appropriate by supporting the various specialties within our profession and considering additional forms of certification that would allow for greater intensity in key areas of practice. (V-3, page 13)
4. Consider a vehicle for a formal communication and incentive program where academic institutions are made aware of and provide input into seminars, courses and research activities that address the scope of our required skill sets. (X-4, page 27)
5. Research alternative ways to address risks that become part of casualty practice as a result of financial deregulation. (IX-4, page 24)
6. (With the AAA as appropriate) identify the value that CAS members can bring to solving problems in the financial services industries and communicate that value to the appropriate decision-makers in those industries. (IX-5, page 24)
7. Invite more financial and operations executives (CFOs, CPAs, Underwriting Executives, Claims Executives, Reinsurance Executives, etc.) to participate in CAS programs to broaden our members’ knowledge of the operational and financial areas of the insurance/financial services business. (VII CEO Survey – 1, page 16)
8. Strengthen use of the Internet as a recruiting tool. (VII Recruiting – 3, page 19)
9. Work with other professional organizations, such as IDMA and IASA, to sponsor joint educational opportunities on data topics. (XI-3, page 30)
10. Improve and strengthen the dialogue between the CAS and the ASB relative to the process surrounding Casualty Actuarial Standards of Practice. (IV-2, page 12)