



Member Spotlight for November 2021 – Rafael Costa

Where do you work and what is your position?

I work at Cruise as an Actuary Partner.

Why did you decide to become an actuary?

I have always enjoyed math, and wanted to apply my skills to real-world problems involving other disciplines as well. When I read about the Actuarial Science major in a career guide during high school, I thought that was the perfect fit.

What aspects of the field do you love?

This is a field that enables professionals to explore both depth and breadth. We can choose to specialize in cutting-edge research in more established sub-fields (e.g. Reserving) or be pioneers in industries that are just starting to realize the benefit of the actuarial skillset, such as Tech or Banking.

What is the best career advice you have ever received?

Develop a career plan, set ambitious goals for yourself, write them down, discuss with a mentor, and have fun putting it into practice!



Do you have any advice for those just starting out?

Take advantage of job rotation programs if you can. Getting exposure to different aspects of actuarial work early on will help you build your network and find your true passion.

What is your favorite CAS memory?

Walking up the stage to get my FCAS diploma, with a strong sense of relief for not having tripped on the steps.

What is a fun fact about yourself that many people don't know about?

Growing up, I wanted to be a bus driver. Becoming an Actuary got in the way, but there's still time to make that happen!