Elena Black
Professional Biography and Qualifications

Elena V. Black, PhD, CFA®, FSA, MAAA, EA, FCA
Principal and Senior Research Actuary
The Terry Group
130 E. Randolph Street, Suite 2810
Chicago, IL 60601

Office: 303-499-9434
Cell: 720-745-3127
mail: lena.black@terrygroup.com

Professional Summary

Lena is a leading practitioner and researcher in pensions, healthcare and insurance. She brings deep experience in risk analytics and modeling across all sorts of complex financial systems.

Education

Doctor of Philosophy in mathematics (algebraic geometry), University of Maryland, College Park, 1995

Professional Experience

The Terry Group, 2017 to present

- Principal and Senior Research Actuary

Principal Financial Group, 2006 to 2017

- Senior Research Actuary
- Head of Research and Strategy Group (formerly ALM Group) of Retirement Actuarial Services
- Research and development of innovative solutions in retirement related areas: Principal yield curve, capital markets' research, ALM studies, liability driven investments and dynamic asset allocation investment strategies, and longevity/mortality research.

Buck Consultants, 2000 - 2006

- Consulting Actuary
- Consulting services to private and public pension plan clients

University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK, 1997 to 2000
- Assistant professor, mathematics department

Mathematical Sciences Research Institute, Berkeley, CA Fall 1999
- Post-doctoral research fellow

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia PA 1995-1997
- Post-doctoral fellow

Professional Associations: Roles and Memberships

Society of Actuaries (education and research)
- Fellow (2005)
- Member of the Retirement Plans Experience Committee, since 2015

American Academy of Actuaries (national professional association for US practicing actuaries)
- Member (2004)
- Member of the Pension Committee, since 2016

Conference of Consulting Actuaries
- Fellow (2013)
- Member of the Annual Meeting Program Committee, since 2014

Enrolled Actuary (2004)

Professional Certification

Chartered Financial Analyst® (2008)

Publications, Speeches and Panels

Expected Return Q&As for Pension Actuaries
Enrolled Actuaries Meeting, 2018

LDI-Win/Lose Scenarios as Interest Rates Change
Conference of Consulting Actuaries Annual Meeting, 2017

A Primer on Investment and Related Issues
Conference of Consulting Actuaries Annual Meeting, 2017

Modeling of Mortality Improvement
Society of Actuaries Annual Meeting, 2017

Death and Taxes – the Realm of Mortality Credibility
Enrolled Actuaries Meeting, 2017

Predicting the Unpredictable: Forecasting Investment Returns
Enrolled Actuaries Meeting, 2017

Glide Path in DB and DC plans
Conference of Consulting Actuaries Annual Meeting, 2016

More on Mortality
Enrolled Actuaries Meeting, 2016

What Have We learned About Longevity: The Walking Dead?
Conference of Consulting Actuaries Annual Meeting, 2015

Managing Volatility: Plan Design and Investment Strategies
Enrolled Actuaries Meeting, 2009

Technical papers for Principal Financial Group documenting methodologies and rationale for the development of capital market assumptions, Principal's pension discount yield curve, and mortality improvement models/back-testing.

Five research papers in algebraic geometry published in Journals of American Mathematical Society, London Mathematical Society and Journal of Number Theory.