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It's hard to answer succinctly when there is so much one could write about this topic. I was fortunate to have the opportunity to attend Carleton and further favored to stumble into mathematics. I wouldn't be where I am without the 4 years I spent floundering through the math department.

What have you been up to since you graduated?

After a year of working as an actuarial student in Indianapolis, I moved to Connecticut to continue working in the reinsurance business.

What do you do for a living?

I am the Chairman and CEO of AXIS Reinsurance Company of New York. AXIS Reinsurance is a \$500mm+ revenue professional reinsurance company doing business in 50 states and Canada. The parent company, AXIS Specialty LTD, is a publicly traded Bermuda based insurance and reinsurance company doing business globally.

What were the steps involved in getting to where you are?

I have always been willing to consider new opportunities as they arose. I took every chance to interview for interesting assignments and meet with executives of competing firms. I have had numerous jobs with 8 different companies since I graduated in 1981. The jobs ranged from Operations Research Analyst (which happened to be my comps topic) to Chief Underwriting Officer to CEO. I also got my MBA from Fordham when my actuarial carrier fizzled.

What advice would you give current math majors?

Not many people grow up hoping to work in the insurance business. Consequently there are numerous opportunities to use the analytical and problem solving skills learned by studying mathematics. Actuarial Science is not the only avenue open to math majors. Enterprise Risk Management employs many math majors and we are always interested in math students for our risk underwriting departments.

I have had M&A projects both buying and selling at almost every company I have worked for as well as many other strategic planning assignments. Lastly, because all the smart grads want to work for investment banks the competition is much weaker.