

IFoA AI Research Forum Meeting Minutes

Date: 17 September 2025

Attendance and Group Memberships

Attendees included representatives from various IFoA AI and data science working parties and committees:

- Mairi Russell (Communities Research Manager)
- Natalie Selby (Research Executive)
- Patrina Effer (Curriculum and Lifelong Learning)
- Brandon Horwitz and Josh Blake (RM: AI Ethics, Governance and Risk Management)
- Michiel Luteijn (H&C: Data Science Techniques in Health and Care)
- Sarah MacDonnell (GI: Machine Learning for Reserving)
- Matt Byrne (AI & Data Science Professional and Ethics)
- Saunak Dutta (AI & Data Science: Bayesian Working Party)
- Joy Liu (Health and Care Research Sub-committee)
- Sanjeev Sharma (Actuarial Strategy and Development)
- Edward Plowman (GI: Pricing Research Group and GI: Insurtech Innovation)
- Paul Beard and Cathal Lillis (Life: AI and Automation)
- Alexey Mashechkin (AI & Data Science: Membership Workstream and Sustainability WP)
- Sam Worthington (GI: Liability Exposure)
- Elena Papastilianou (GIRTL member and GI: Machine Learning for Reserving shadow)

Group Presentations and Recent Outputs

- AI Ethics, Governance and Risk Management: Published articles, education gap analysis, and a practical checklist.
- Data Science Techniques in Health and Care: Published case studies and a framework with a sessional meeting scheduled.
- Machine Learning for Reserving: Blogs, frameworks, and synthetic data tools.
Bayesian Working Party: Promoting Bayesian applications and preparing for Data Science Symposium.
- Actuarial Strategy and Development: Questionnaire on actuarial skillsets and tools, with Gyro presentation planned.
- Insurtech Innovation: Articles on technology impacts across the insurance value chain.
- Life AI and Automation: Newly formed group with initial meetings underway.
- Membership and Sustainability: Presented at IAA Brazil, planning next AI and Data Science event.
- Liability Exposure: Workshop planned to assess AI risks on liability classes.

Forward Work Plans

- AI and Data Science Symposium planned for Q1 2026.
- Lifelong Learning team developing AI training workshops.
- New Research and Thought Leadership Committee launching to address strategic issues.

- Curriculum review workshops to gather member feedback.
Funding available for roundtables, surveys, and data purchases.

Key Questions and Answers

1. Definition of AI: Groups avoid strict definitions to focus on practical applications.
2. CPD and AI: Discussion on incorporating AI into CPD requirements to support skill development.
3. Collaboration: Encouragement to share links, tools, and findings across groups.
4. Strategic Direction: Request for top-down guidance from Council on AI priorities.

Decisions and Actions

1. All working parties to submit their outputs and planned activities to professional.communties@actuaries.org.uk mailbox for reporting
2. Promote working party outputs via newsletter and LinkedIn.
3. Research toolkit to be updated with AI guidance for volunteers undertaking research when this is ready, currently awaited from IFoA Data Manager and IT Team
4. An update was requested on whether a new AI and data Science Practice Board would be set up/approved. As part of this, Council to be approached for details of their strategic direction on AI. MR to follow up.
5. Groups encouraged to attend and promote sessional meetings and conferences.
6. Volunteers invited to support other working parties with technical expertise where relevant, to maximise outputs.