

The Story of ARCH

We, Robin and Nathan, were co-workers in the late 90's at the former Jefferson Pilot Financial. Taking the same exams at roughly the same time, we spent a good amount of time discussing topics, talking about problems, and getting ready for the exams. Since we both already had families and full-time jobs when we began taking exams – we had no time to waste on review materials which did not help us to learn the concepts we needed to know to pass the exam.

As we prepared we found there was a need for a manual with clear, step-by-step instructions, plenty of problems, but most importantly, good explanations of the solutions. We ended up developing our own study tools and methods to get us through the exams quickly and as a result began formulating our own study philosophy. We wanted responsive answers to questions about the manual. We wanted hints about which formulas to memorize. All of these were helpful to us in exam preparation – but not very common in the manuals we used. Thus, ARCH-3 (and later, ARCH-M) was born!

Since its introduction in 2001, we have watched like proud parents as ARCH has grown and developed into what it is today. In addition, *our* lives have expanded -- babies have come along, kids have grown, careers have progressed. We have realized that it is time to pass the baton to the next generation. Beginning with the Spring, 2007 edition, ARCH Solutions is excited to announce that Yufeng Guo of Deeper Understanding manuals will take the helm of the ARCH M manual. We look forward to seeing his energy, enthusiasm, innovation and attention to quality take ARCH M into a new era of actuary manuals.

Thank you for your support and interest over the past few years!

Nathan Hardiman

Robin Cunningham