

Talk Outline

Being an actuary I have always been comfortable with logic, numbers and rational thinking. Early on in my career I was often (correctly) referred to as the “black and white” guy. As I became more senior I started a long journey into trying to understand what made a good manager and leader. It became apparent that a lot of the “soft” skills, including understanding the subconscious, which I was either not aware of or didn’t believe in when I was younger, were key to this journey.

Parallel to my work path I have spent a lot of time thinking about meaning and happiness, in my personal life and professionally. I have found that the answers to all of these questions are more interlinked than I would have expected. In my talk I hope to give some idea of what it means to go through a Depth Leadership journey as a professional, and as a business leader.

Speaker Profile

Paul Lewis has a BBusSci (Actuarial) from the University of Cape Town, and is a Fellow of the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries, and a Fellow of the Actuarial Society of South Africa (FASSA).

Paul is the CEO of General Reinsurance Africa, which is responsible for all sub-Saharan countries. He joined the company in February 2000 and was promoted to Statutory Actuary in 2002 and CEO in 2013. He has experience in both Group and Individual Life reinsurance products and pricing.

Paul chairs the International Actuarial Association’s Mortality Working Group and the Association of Savings and Investment South Africa’s Risk and Disability committee, is Deputy Chair of the ASSA’s CSI committee, and sits on the ASISA Risk Board. Paul also runs ASSA’s Professionalism Course, and sits on the ASSA Education Board. He is a part time lecturer at the Universities of Cape Town and Stellenbosch. A creative and technical actuary at heart, Paul has been involved in ground breaking developments in the industry, including the world’s first mass market HIV product. His passion lies in the furthering of education and he was instrumental in the setting up of the ASISA Underwriting Academy, aimed at improving professionalism in the field of underwriting.

Paul is married, with two daughters. He is a keen birdwatcher and mountain biker, making the most of living on the slopes of Table Mountain in Cape Town.



Paul Lewis

SOME PRACTICAL REALITIES OF
IMPLEMENTING DEPTH LEADERSHIP IN
THE WORKPLACE

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