



**KATRINA FRIDAY**  
**PARTNER**  
**TIGERRISK PARTNERS**

**Career timeline**

**2018: Partner, North America reinsurance team, TigerRisk Partners**

**2015: Associate, North America reinsurance team, TigerRisk Partners**

**2010: Associate, analytics team, TigerRisk Partners**

**2009: Catastrophe risk consultant, analytics, Guy Carpenter**

**2008: Catastrophe risk consultant, analytics, Collins**

**How did you choose the re/insurance industry?**

While pursuing my undergraduate degree at St. Olaf College, I worked on several projects that involved developing mathematical models. With Minneapolis being a reinsurance hub, I stumbled upon catastrophe modelling, and was excited by the similarities in the models that I was working to develop and the sophisticated models that are used in the reinsurance industry. After interviewing at several broking firms, I chose a catastrophe modelling position on the analytics team at Collins.

My focus in the past had been research and development of models, but I soon realised that the value a broking firm brings is more focused on using the catastrophe models to develop and implement a holistic risk management strategy for our clients.

**Is the industry attractive to young professionals?**

Yes and no. When someone asks what I do for a living and I respond with “I work in reinsurance” I often get a blank stare.

This is somewhat surprising when you think about all the people who are involved in insurance in some shape or form. The reinsurance industry has an expansive footprint offering a range of opportunities for young professionals.

The reinsurance industry also has the stigma of being traditional in practice and lacking diversity. In the 10 years I have been in the industry, I’ve seen fascinating changes, with the influx of alternative capital, the impact of severe catastrophic events, and the influence of technology in how we understand and do business. It’s promising to see what fresh perspectives and new ideas will bring to the industry.

**Does the re/insurance industry offer good opportunities and career development to young professionals?**

The reinsurance industry is constantly evolving. The relationships between clients, brokers and underwriters are as important as they’ve ever been, but technology and innovation are continually changing the way we do business.

I have found my career path to be somewhat of a “choose your own adventure”. I’ve made a few swerves in my career from being heavily focused in the mechanics of developing models, to using models in the context of reinsurance, to most recently, moving to

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the broking team. There’s plenty of opportunity to grow and learn through on-the-job training.

I am often motivated by the industry giants with whom I work with every day at TigerRisk. Their breadth of knowledge and experience is inspiring. I have also had several close mentors over the years who have been instrumental in my career development. They’ve not only shared their knowledge but have also empowered me to find unique solutions to accomplish our goals.

**What are your aspirations for the future?**

I plan to continue to grow our team and attract and develop future talent within the industry. I believe with diversity of talent and thought leadership, we will continue to serve as the premier risk-to-capital advisor for our clients.

**What advice would you give individuals looking to start a career in re/insurance?**

Focus on breadth of experience and don’t necessarily follow a linear career path. Some of the people in the industry who I look up to the most have backgrounds that give them perspective from multiple facets of the industry. Their experience provides them with a more holistic view, and they can offer some of the most creative ideas and solutions.

**If you had chosen a different profession/career path, what would it have been?**

I would have pursued a PhD in statistics if I didn’t take a job in reinsurance. In another life, I would like to do something more hands-on like renovating houses or becoming a micro farmer. ■