Predictive Modeling

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Description of SLF Modeling Teams

The Question….

Should we centralize or decentralize the modeling function into the Business Units (BU's)?

ie develop one area of expert modelers…. but without business expertise, or should we move the modelers closer to the business?

Similar question to how to organize the actuarial function

Description of SLF Modeling Teams

The Answer….

We've placed most of our modelers into teams in the BU's, and also have a small centralized team …. similar to our actuarial organizational structure

The make up of each modelling team depends on the needs of their work ….. eg a valuation predictive modeling team is very different than a fraud team

We spend a lot of time connecting across the different modeling teams to promote synergies and best practices

Diversity of Skills Required for Modeling Work

No one person can be an expert in all modeling techniques, data engineering, business knowledge, change management …. there is no "Ivory Tower" for modelers

Rather a team of people is needed

Good communication, collaboration skills are very important

Growing and Building Modeling Communities

As modeling becomes more "mainstream", creating a modeling community across your organization becomes increasingly important

There is no one unique solution …… things we are doing include
- Annual analytics 1 day conferences
- Monthly deep dives with rotating speakers
- Bi weekly status meetings
- An internal competition (similar to Kaggle)
- Internal training courses

We frequently experiment with and adjust our processes to improve our solutions