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Chairperson’s Corner

By Susan Mateja

On behalf of the Society of Actuaries (SOA) International Section Council (ISC), I wish all our members a happy new year! We are all looking forward to a wonderful and adventuresome 2020.

The new year has also brought with it a number of changes for the ISC. First, I’d like to personally express my thanks to Arpita Das, our outgoing chairperson, whom I’ve had the pleasure of working with over the past couple of years. Although she will step away from the chairperson’s role, Arpita will continue to be a member of the council, liaison for the International Committee and point person for our digital communication.

Second, I want to welcome the new and returning council members. We have a very diverse council whom I very much look forward to working with in 2020 (Table 1).

Table 1
The 2020 International Section Council

Council Member	Role	Location
Susan Mateja	Chairperson	Louisville, Kentucky
Manyu Wong	Vice Chairperson	Zurich, Switzerland
Alberto Abalo	Secretary	Madrid, Spain
Maïthé Luneau	Treasurer	Mexico City, Mexico
Arpita Das	Past Chairperson	Dublin, Ireland
Shirley Song	Member	Seattle, Washington
Esteban Paez	Member	New York
Yanjie Feng	Member	Newark, New Jersey
Steven Chen	Member	Singapore

Of course, we have many Friends of the Council and SOA staff partners as well. This has allowed us to work on various projects of interest to our members. For instance, we are currently completing a Health Care Funding Report, which



diagrams how countries throughout the world are financing their health care. This is a collaborative effort with the SOA International Section, the International Actuarial Association Health Section (IAAHS) and the Actuarial Academy’s Health Practice International Council (HPIC). Experts from about 30 countries are contributing to this exciting project. Stay tuned!

The International Section encourages and facilitates the professional development of its members who are interested in international practice.

In addition, we presented a November webcast on how General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) will impact actuarial work. Our first podcast, which was posted in December, talked about multipopulation mortality models. Our next webcast, titled “Regulating Insurer Use of Genetic Information Across the Globe,” will be held Jan. 22. We will also be collaborating with Dale Hall and the SOA research team to present a webcast on retirement in China.

We will continue to enhance our e-bulletin for members, country-specific web pages, our presence at international actuarial events and networking activities. We work hard and we play hard.

I will leave you with the knowledge that the ISC is committed to fulfilling our mission as is described on our website:

The purpose of the International Section of the Society of Actuaries is to encourage and to facilitate the professional development of its members and affiliates who are involved in international insurance, pensions, or Social Security programs, or who are interested in international areas of practice, through activities such as meetings, seminars, research studies, and the exchange of information.

We are always looking for volunteers and ideas for the section. If there is anything you are passionate about or would like to see, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or our council members. ■



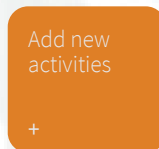
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