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Chairperson's Corner

By Mark Yu

Hopefully by the time you are reading this issue, the winter is completely behind us and the spring has arrived wherever you are. Being a risk professional, I pay attention to the “volatility” around me. In addition to the volatile equity markets, I noticed the unusually volatile weather pattern. The temperature swings between two consecutive days in Connecticut (where I reside) can vary by more than 30 degrees! Being an avid skier and season pass holder, I see this volatile weather has negative implication to the intrinsic value of my ski season pass. Weather aside, in this “Chairperson’s Corner,” I would like to emphasize the exciting JRMS educational activities that are taking place in 2016 and how you, as a member, can benefit from these offerings.

- **Research.** For the last three years, approximately \$400K has been committed to JRMS research budget. At the end of 2015, two research projects were completed and reports have been recently published on soa.org/jrm. Summaries of both research projects, “Risk Implications of the Unemployed and Underemployed” and “The Emerging Risk Survey Report,” appear in this issue and I encourage you to visit our website where you can find downloadable copies of all past research papers and essay calls. There are more research projects being funded with topics including Country Risk Officer, ERM Stakeholder Buy-in, Parameter Uncertainty and Climate Change. Of course, we are always open to new ideas and please send your topic ideas to Louise Francis, who chairs this committee.
- **Virtual Town Hall Meeting.** On March 31, 2016, we hosted our second town hall meeting to collectively share experience and knowledge on ORSA. This complimentary event was a great opportunity to exchange ORSA implementation challenges and best practices with other participants.



- **Webcast.** JRMS is sponsoring the following webcasts in the next few months: Professionalism, Interest Rate and Economic Scenario Generator, and Climate Change Impact. We have invited great panelists for these educational topics and ask you to utilize these efficient channels for your continuing education needs. We have an additional six webcasts planned for the latter half of 2016 so stay tuned!

The world is getting more complex and volatile (weather temperature being one example) and it is an exciting time to be a risk professional confronting and addressing these evolving issues/trends in our environment. The JRMS offers a great avenue of educational contents to the risk profession. We are well represented by members from SOA, CIA, and CAS within the JRMS council. The section strives to embrace topics from different disciplines and we believe that diversity sparks growth and innovation. We would like you to consider getting more involved with our JRMS section: running for council, writing an article, joining a sub-work group, organizing a webcast, or sharing any ideas or thoughts. We are only an email away. We look forward to hearing from you! ■



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