

Chairperson's Corner

By C. Ian Genno

As you open the pages of this issue of the newsletter, I'd like to take a moment of your reading time to highlight some of the initiatives the Joint Risk Management Section has been pursuing since my last update in the December 2017 issue.

Kailan Shang has completed a research paper on "Effective ERM Stakeholder Engagement," with project guidance and funding from the section. By surveying the experiences of risk management professionals in engaging ERM stakeholders (in board, senior management and three lines of defense roles), a number of valuable insights emerge—including perspectives on understanding stakeholder needs, ERM communication strategies, quantifying the benefits of ERM investment, creating accountability to ensure risk policies are followed, and assessing and improving an organization's risk culture. Supporting examples illustrate how to apply the concepts effectively in practice.

Other research work includes our periodic Emerging Risks Survey, and our collaboration on the Actuaries Climate Index to help address the needs of actuaries involved in the modeling and pricing of catastrophic risk coverage. Both of these research concepts are gaining significant attention in the business community and the broader public arena. You can read more on risk management research at www.soa.org/jrm.

Planning and coordination work continues for risk management related sessions at a number of upcoming actuarial conferences. Section council members provide perspective and input on themes, relevant topics and speakers; and in a number of cases the section also provides sponsorship support to help ensure the financial viability of conferences and reduce the registration costs borne by participants.

We are developing our 2018 series of webcasts, providing members with a quick and cost-effective way to gain access to CPD opportunities on current issues, while eliminating travel time and cost. The section is also now offering members free access to section-sponsored webcasts from 2015 and 2016 (one year or older). The webcast recording offerings will be updated on



a quarterly basis. Section members can access the free webcast recordings by logging into the Joint Risk Management Section Community which is housed at <https://engage.soa.org>

This year's ERM Symposium is fast approaching—April 19–20 in Miami. If your calendar is open and you haven't yet registered, I encourage you to look at the lineup of topics and speakers. The symposium offers a wide range of content and perspectives, and a valuable opportunity to engage in informal networking conversations with a broad cross-section of your peers in risk management. You can find further information at www.ermssymposium.org.

In addition to planning different ways to deliver CPD content in person and online, we're considering ways to better facilitate local networking opportunities for section members, whether through sponsorship support or helping to coordinate speakers on risk management topics for local events.

And as always, we continue to focus our time and attention on this newsletter. I would like to acknowledge the significant initiative taken by the editors and staff to source interesting and relevant articles; without their ongoing effort, this newsletter simply wouldn't be possible. I hope you'll enjoy reading it today. ■



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