



**SOCIETY OF  
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# Chairperson's Corner

By Kelly Featherstone

**A**ctuaries are highly sought-after professionals who develop and communicate solutions for complex financial issues. Actuaries measure and manage risk. They have a deep understanding of mathematics, statistics and business management with which they help businesses grow and provide value to their customers. Actuaries help leaders make strategic decisions and consumers prepare for their future.<sup>1</sup>

As the sole actuary in my company (until very recently), I am asked a plethora of questions across a broad range of topics by colleagues who recognize the actuarial skill set. The actuarial value proposition is about more than just being able to pass exams; it's about developing and communicating solutions for complex financial issues. I don't have all the answers on my own, but I have a deep professional network and professional organizations to support me in delivering value and solutions to my company and clients. Practicing in a nontraditional role, remote from regular actuarial interactions, I have quickly learned that engagement is a requirement to get the most out of my actuarial designation. The Society of Actuaries' (SOA's) website states, "Actuaries deliver value as business leaders and professionals."<sup>2</sup> To deliver on this promise, I need to keep up on current topics and leverage tools available to me through my actuarial memberships.

SOA sections develop and provide the grassroots content for professional interest areas, including newsletters, webcasts, meeting sessions, podcasts, networking events and seminars. I can't think of an actuarial practice area that doesn't interact with financial markets or investments in some way, and the Investment Section seeks to promote investment knowledge across the actuarial profession. This includes investment practitioners and noninvestment



actuaries alike. The Investment Section is continuing to find new ways to generate content and add value for section members.

As chair of the Investment Section, I encourage you to be a part of the conversation—volunteer, attend a webcast. Tune into our "How to Be an Investment Actuary" podcast to find out more about interesting investment actuaries. We would love to hear from you, so please contact me or David Schraub ([dschraub@soa.org](mailto:dschraub@soa.org)) if you have any questions or comments. ■



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## ENDNOTE

- 1 Society of Actuaries. 2018. "What is an Actuary?" <https://www.soa.org/future-actuaries/what-is-an-actuary>.
- 2 Ibid.