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Chairperson's Corner: 2018 Wrap-up

By Emily Hsu

In the past year, the Actuary of the Future (AOF) Section continued many of its ongoing activities and also pushed forward several new initiatives that came out of the in-person council meeting in February.

AOF HOT TOPICS

In June 2018, AOF started sending monthly emails to section members with a curated list of trending industry news handpicked by the council. The selected topics range from applications of new technologies, changing landscapes such as legislation and players, and emerging trends in international markets. This creates more communication touchpoints with our members and constantly keeps *the future* on their minds.

SOA MEETINGS

At the Life and Annuity Symposium in May in Baltimore, AOF discussed the competency framework and invited a panel of experts to discuss how university programs are reacting to changes to Society of Actuaries (SOA) qualification requirements. At the June Health Meeting in Austin, Texas, AOF co-hosted the Women's Leadership Forum as well as a hot breakfast session. At the Predictive Analytics Symposium held in Minneapolis in September, AOF coordinated the session that explored more effective uses of the Delphi study. At the October SOA Annual Meeting & Exhibit in Nashville, Tenn., AOF discussed considerations when changing specialties and how the paradigm shift in the workplace will impact actuaries.

COLLABORATION WITH OTHER SOA GROUPS

We co-hosted a networking event in New York City in March with the International Section and the Entrepreneurial & Innovation Section and co-sponsored breakfast sessions at various SOA meetings. This provides our members with more opportunities to meet and network with members from other sections.

The 13th Speculative Fiction Contest, available to SOA members and candidates (who have passed one exam), is back with a larger prize pool.[1] We also strengthened our relationship with Candidate Connect and the SOA University Outreach Program; now our efforts to reach university students are more focused and leverage the SOA's established connections.

WEBCAST AND PODCASTS

We hosted webcasts with Pennsylvania State University, University of Illinois, Iowa State University and Lebanon Valley College with a panel of working actuaries with different education and career backgrounds. The events were very well received by students, and we are looking to reach more students strategically. We also produced several podcasts where we interviewed different actuaries on their career progressions, discussed the importance of mentorship in shaping the future of the profession, and explored nontraditional opportunities for actuaries. The latest podcast is easily accessible on the AOF webpage, and previous ones can be found on the SOA Podcasts list.[2]

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2019

We thank you for your continued support and participation in the AOF. As we move forward as a section, keep an eye out for what the council has prepared for you. Will you write for the *Actuary of the Future* newsletter? Will you enter contests? Will you take home AOF swag? Stay tuned for more! We are always looking for volunteers, so reach out to any council member to get involved.

In closing, I would like to thank the 2017–2018 section council for their support and efforts in making all AOF activities possible. I am confident that under the leadership of the incoming 2018–2019 chairperson, Laura Wiland, AOF is headed in a promising direction. ■

Emily Hsu, FSA, CERA, ACIA, is the outgoing chairperson of the Actuary of the Future Section. She is an assistant actuary at Sun Life Financial in Waterloo, Canada, and can be reached at *Emily.Hsu@sunlife.com*.

ENDNOTE

1 To view the complete Speculative Fiction Contest rules, visit *SOA.org/sections/pred-analytics-futurism/pred-analytics-futurism-landing/*.

2 See *https://www.soa.org/sections/actuary-of-future/aof-landing/* and *https://www.soa.org/pdopportunities/?filters=Location[Online];Opportunity_Type[RECORDING]*, respectively.