



SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES

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Reflections

By Jennifer Fleck

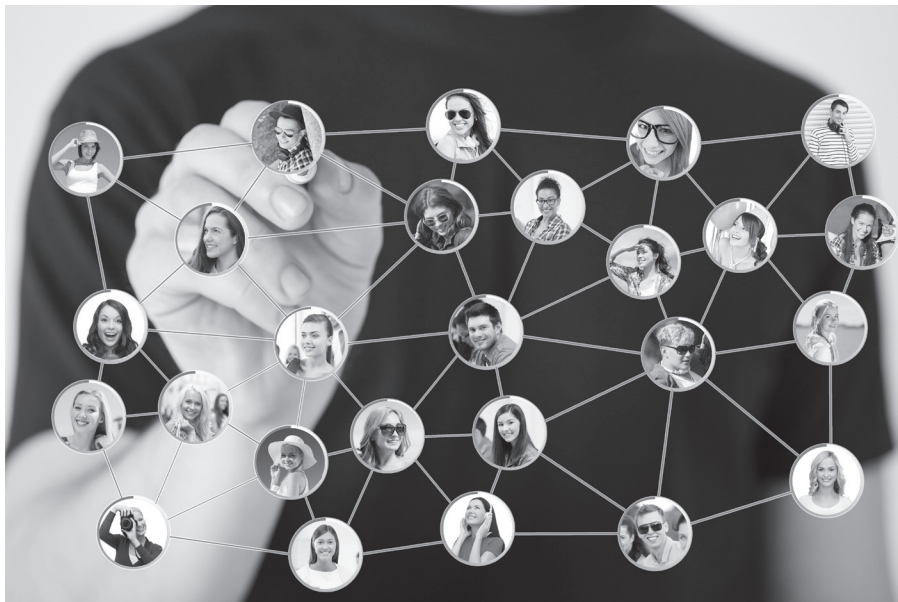
This is my final article as chair of the Management and Personal Development (MPD) Section Council. As I reflect on my past three years on the council, I am amazed at all that has changed. Obviously the members of the council have changed each year. I've had the opportunity to work with a number of great actuaries who I never would have met otherwise. Each of these council members brought their own strengths and perspectives to the team. As with any strong team, it is the diversity of our members that allows us to continue to grow and expand our reach. During my time on the council we have:

- Added a members-only LinkedIn group
- Offered members free access to getAbstract business book summaries
- Created fun networking events like the Haunted Scavenger Hunt in Washington, D.C.
- Started creating webinars and podcasts to get our materials out in new formats.

Of course, we have also maintained focus on the resources that our members have come to rely on. *The Stepping Stone* newsletter and section-sponsored sessions at SOA meetings continue to get great feedback.

This all doesn't happen without a strong team working together. Members of the council, SOA staff, and Friends of the Council all pitch in to produce this great content. Have you joined us yet? The more people we have volunteering, the better our content becomes and the less work it takes for all. Please contact any council member to find out how you can bring your diverse perspective to the work we do.

I have also seen a lot of personal changes in my own career over the last three years. The biggest change would be the opportunity I took at a new company in a new state. It was a big change for the family, but it has really helped me grow my career. I took a risk making such a big move and so far it has been paying off.



I believe that my time on the section council has helped me improve my leadership skills and build my confidence in those skills. Last year, I built on my experience running for a section council with the Society of Actuaries (SOA) and took a risk to run for my school board. It was a public election and a whole new venture for me, but I won and I'm now serving on the board of education for our regional school unit. Wow. I could not have foreseen all these changes when I decided to run for MPD Section Council three years ago, but it's not a decision that I ever regret.

I don't know what's next for me, but I continue to grow and explore new opportunities. I'd like to continue volunteering in both the public realm and with the SOA, and I'm exploring how to do that next. As for the MPD Section, I leave that in the very capable hands of Sophia Dao. I have every confidence that she will continue to drive growth and expansion of our section while maintaining our core content. Please join me in congratulating Sophia in being elected by her peers as section chair. ●



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