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# CHAIRPERSON'S CORNER

## Leadership & Development

### 20th Anniversary Issue

By Anne M. Katcher

Welcome to our special issue of *The Stepping Stone*, celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Leadership & Development Section. As I mentioned in the July issue, our section was formed in 1998 as the Management & Personal Development Section. I encourage you to read this issue's interview with Michael Braunstein, who oversaw formation of the section from the Society of Actuaries' (SOA's) Management and Personal Development committee, which had existed for 10 years at that time.

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I also wrote about how—as much as things have changed in the field of leadership and development—many things are as relevant today as they were 20 years ago. This is why we decided to re-read the hundreds of articles published in prior issues of *The Stepping Stone* and compile some of our favorites for this issue.

How did we go about choosing which articles to include? First, we wanted to focus on topics that are important in today's business environment, such as ethics, productivity, mentoring, influencing and decision making. We also wanted to include articles that cover some of the key subjects of the SOA competency



framework, such as communication, leadership, relationship management and results-oriented solutions.

Many thanks go to all of the authors throughout the years who have contributed to *The Stepping Stone's* body of work. Although we could fit only 13 previous articles into this special issue, there is a wealth of rich material for anyone who wants to research leadership and development topics in past issues of this newsletter—as well as its predecessor, “The Complete Actuary” series in *The Actuary* magazine. Archives are available through the search capability on the SOA website, and issues of *The Stepping Stone* since 2014 can be found at <https://www.soa.org/sections/leadership-development/leadership-development-newsletter/>, as well as a compilation listing titles, topics and authors dating back to 2004, to help you zero in on ones of particular interest.

Finally, this issue would not be possible without the tireless efforts of our section's vice chairperson, Mitchell Stephenson; editor John West Hadley; SOA publications manager Julia Anderson Bauer; and the entire publications staff and design team, who helped to bring this issue to life. A special thanks to all of you! ■



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