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From the Chair

By Tim Branch

Continuing the decennial celebration of the Taxation Section, I thought I'd keep with the 10-year retrospective theme for my column. In the October 2014 issue of *Taxing Times*, Brenna Gardino reminded us of the founding members of the Taxation Section. In the June 2015 issue, Brian King, Kristin Norberg and other members of the Editorial Board provided an overview of this newsletter's growth during its first 10 years. I'd like to continue in this vein and recognize the past chairs of the Taxation Section (see below) and their contributions toward making our section what it is today.

This is an impressive list of actuaries and tax professionals, and I am honored that my name will be added to this list at the end of my tenure as chair this year. I'm also looking forward to seeing the next 10 names that will be added to this list. We have made an effort over the past two years to reach out to newer actuaries and increase our visibility at professional development events. It's time to see the next generation of tax actuaries (or "taxuaries," as I like to call us) continue to step up and take the lead!

I'd also like to thank the section members who took the time to participate in the Taxation Section survey a few months ago. Your responses provided us with valuable feedback that will be used to make the section more useful and relevant to our membership. We will use this information to better tailor our professional development offerings, *Taxing Times* content and other member services. We heard from our members that emerging issues are a top priority, and this message has been heard across all sections. We'll do our best to address this area in our 2016 strategic goals for the section. Jeff Stabach, the current vice chair of the Taxation Section, has summarized the survey results in an article later in this issue.

Chair	Year
Edward L. Robbins, FSA, MAAA	2004–2005
Barbara R. Gold, FSA, MAAA	2005–2006
Leslie J. Chapman, FSA, MAAA	2006–2007
Kory J. Olsen, FSA, CERA, MAAA	2007–2009
Christian J. DesRochers, FSA, MAAA	2009–2010
Steven C. Chamberlin, FSA, MAAA	2010–2011
Kristin A. Schaefer, FSA, MAAA	2011–2012
Mary Elizabeth Caramagno, FSA, MAAA	2012–2013
Brenna R. Gardino, FSA, MAAA	2013–2014

In conclusion, I'd like to thank the Taxation Section Council, Friends of the Council and section membership for making this past year as the Taxation Section chairperson both fulfilling and rewarding. One of the greatest strengths of our section is the willingness of our members to volunteer and participate, whether by writing articles and participating in the production of *Taxing Times*, speaking at professional development events or representing our section throughout the insurance industry. It's been both my pleasure and honor to serve in this role, and I look forward to continuing my participation in the section.

Note: The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of Ernst & Young LLP.

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