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# From the Chair

By Jeffrey Stabach

It is hard to believe that my term as chair has begun. It seems like I just started as a member of the council not long ago. The time has passed so quickly because I've been fortunate to work with such a dedicated group of people who are interested in educating others on tax matters. Time flies when you're having fun. I would like to thank our outgoing chair, Tim Branch, for his outstanding leadership over the past year. I'm very fortunate that Tim is only a few steps away from my office, and I'll be sure to keep engaging him in discussion on the section. Thank you, Tim! I'd also like to thank our outgoing council members: Tim, Kristin Norberg and Jim Van Etten for their service and hard work over the past three years.

I would also like to welcome our newly elected council members: Housseine Essaheb, Michele Cramer and Jeff Harper. It is great to see new faces becoming involved in the section, and I look forward to working with you all. Our council members have already been hard at work, with Don Walker accepting the role of vice chair and Housseine stepping in as our secretary and treasurer.

My mission for the upcoming year is to help better educate section members on tax matters. To accomplish this, we plan to continue sponsoring taxation sessions and boot camps at actuarial meetings, publishing *TAXING TIMES* and related podcasts, and developing webinars on emerging tax issues. We also plan to expand the scope of our activity with the following initiatives:

**1. Regulatory Change Task Force Proposal**—With regulatory change and potential tax reform on the horizon, we would like to keep our members better informed on the tax implications of these changes. With the help of the Society of Actuaries (SOA), we will be participating in creating a Web resource related to these changes. The Taxation Section page of the SOA website will serve as the first stop (not necessarily the last) for staying up-to-date on regulatory changes related to tax.



**2. Exam tax content review**—The exam process provides an educational foundation for all actuarial students. We will be reviewing the current exam syllabus for tax content to ensure that actuarial students are getting the appropriate tax knowledge to start their actuarial careers.

**3. Outreach to other sections**—To educate a broader audience, we will be partnering with other sections to explore the tax impacts of various topics at upcoming seminars and through co-sponsored articles.

In view of this ambitious agenda, we would be happy to have additional volunteers to help make these initiatives a success. Please feel free to reach out to me personally if you'd like to participate in any of these initiatives. ■

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

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