



SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES

Article from:

International News

April 2009 – Issue No.47

New International Section Council Members

The membership of the International Section elected three new representatives to the Section Council during the recent SOA elections. Joining the council for a three year term are Alan Cooke, J. Peter Duran, and Joanna Chu. Thanks to the outgoing Council members—Alex Kogan, Cathy Lyn, and Liang (Jason) Zhang—for their service to the International Section.

Here is some background information on the three new council members.



Alan Cooke, FSA, FCIA, MAAA, Recently Retired Principal, Mercer, Vancouver, BC, Canada. He can be reached at vancooke@telus.net.

Professional Background: Consulting actuary specializing in providing advice to major international institutions on international pension issues.

Society of Actuaries Activities: Past presenter at actuarial meetings; Exam grader; Task Force member on the Future of Social Security.

Relevant Experience: Over 30 years of international experience including advising on pension issues in more than 50 countries and working in several countries.

Why are you interested in leading your section?

I have had the good fortune in my career to work on pension issues in over 50 countries in Europe, the Americas, Africa, and Asia. As a result I have had first-hand experience in dealing with a wide variety of cultural and technical issues that could be helpful in the work of the International Section.



J. Peter Duran, FSA, MAAA, PhD, senior manager, Deloitte Actuarial and Insurance Solutions (Hong Kong) Limited, Admiralty, HK. He can be reached at jpgduran@deloitte.com.hk.

Professional Background: Consultant specializing in life insurance financial reporting, risk management and related matters. 33 years experience in the insurance industry, 13 with an insurance company, and 20 with professional services firms.

Society of Actuaries Activities: Former chairperson, Committee on Valuation and Related Matters; Former member, Financial Reporting Section Council; Former member, Academy Committee on Life Insurance Financial Reporting; speaker at numerous SOA meetings.

Relevant Experience: Nine years experience living and working in Asia, both Tokyo and Hong Kong; Advised numerous clients, both domestic and foreign, on financial matters affecting their U.S. insurance businesses.

Why are you interested in leading your section?

For the past nine years I have been working in Asia and have come to realize that SOA members outside the United States have special needs requiring special consideration. These relate primarily to continuing professional education. I would like to be an advocate for such members.

Also, I feel there is a need for SOA members outside the United States to network in their local areas among each other as well as to communicate in an organized way with the U.S. based membership. I would also like to support the SOA's recruitment efforts in Asia by organizing information briefings for young people who may be considering an actuarial career.



Joanna Kam-leng Chu, FSA, MAAA, actuary, AIG—American International Underwriters, New York, NY. She can be reached at joanna.chu@aig.com.

the AOF/YAN, I would like to help local SOA members and/or potential SOA members address their needs and provide solutions, such as mentor programs and exam assistance. □

Professional Background: Product development actuary specializing in Individual Life and A&H products for diverse distribution channels in various markets outside the United States

Society of Actuaries Activities: Lead the Younger Actuarial Network (YAN) which is a subsection of the Actuary of the Future (AOF) Section; Current council member for the AOF; Regular contributor to the newsletter of the AOF; Session coordinator for the AOF Section at 2007 SOA meetings; Moderator for the AOF Section at 2008 Spring Meeting.

Relevant Experience: Active member of the Actuarial Society of New York (ASNY)—coordinated a session, “International Product Landscape,” in 2007 and helped coordinate a session, “Vietnamese Mortality Workshop,” in 2008; Volunteer for Chinese Actuary Club (CAC)—help coordinate networking events.

Why are you interested in leading your section?

I’ve been working in international markets, especially in Asia markets, for almost four years, and believe that this area is filled with opportunities and challenges. By actively getting involved with the section and leveraging my relationship with