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## Chairperson's Corner

By *Bosco Chan*

**S**ome two thousand years ago, a man voiced a few words whose truth has rung down through the centuries:

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity: a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to plant and a time to uproot.

As my term in the International Section Council comes to an end, I am pleased to announce that the section council elected a new team of council officers for the 2009-2010 section year. With clear visions, in depth knowledge of the section's operations, and commitment to align section service with members' needs, I am confident that the new council and the new officers will build upon the accomplishments of the last twelve months and continue to expand our international involvement.

In case you are not aware of our new additions, our members elected Alycia Slyck, Genghui Wu, and Michael Lockerman to be new council members in August. They became official council members after the Boston Annual Meeting in October. They will contribute in executing the council's decisions to better serve you in the next three years.

On behalf of our members, I would like to extend our thanks to Alistair Cammidge and Carl Hansen who completed their three-year service on the council. They are great peers and our section has benefited from their contributions in various ways.

In addition to the out-going council members as mentioned above, I would like to thank Alan Cooke, Darryl Wagner, Joanna Chu, Joe Chou, Peter Duran, and Rich de Haan for their contributions and accomplishments on planned projects and additional initiatives that arose during the past year. These include organizing overseas IFRS seminars, recruiting and appointing new ambassadors in several countries, offering trial membership to overseas ASAs, organizing various professional development sessions and receptions during SOA meetings, sponsoring the 2009 Country Feature Article Competition, developing an on-line membership survey, sponsoring newsletter publication and distributing free copies to universities, providing support to International Experience Studies. The International Section assisted SOA on redesigning the section's Webpage, in marketing the new Social Insurance and Public

Finance Section, and helped other actuarial bodies in recruiting speakers or identifying article reviewers.

Last, but not least, I would like to thank Martha Sikaras and Jill Leprich. Martha Sikaras has been our section's SOA Staff Partner for many years. Her knowledge of our section's long history helps us focus on exploring tactics and approaches for adding value. Jill Leprich is our section's SOA Project Support Specialist. She has impressive telephone manner and very organized mindset. As a result of her support, the council is able to relieve the enormous volume of administrative work and coordination with various SOA departments. Without them, the last three years would have been very different.

At the end, I would like to give my best to the incoming council, and wish the council and you another year of success! □