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Editor's Note

By Carl Hansen

Welcome to the January 2012 issue of *International News*. You may notice that we are shifting our publication schedule back slightly to January, May, and September starting this year. This will allow better, more timely coverage of SOA Annual Meeting activities, as well as background information on the new council members and officers. We hope that readers like the change.

I would like to acknowledge the contributions of the “retiring” International Section Council members: Alan Cooke, Joanna Chu, and Peter Duran. Thank you for your efforts on behalf of the International Section over these past three years. In particular, Alan is involved in a number of international initiatives and he has been very helpful as we scramble to meet our *International News* deadlines. Congratulations and welcome to the three newly elected council members: Douglas Carey, Sunil Sen, and Michael Witt. We invite you to get to know these three on page 5 of this issue. I am delighted to note that we have some recent contributors to *International News* in the group!

This issue includes two more 2011 Country Feature entries. Thank you to Ronald Poon Affat and Wenliang Wang for your excellent contributions on Brazil and China. In addition to some other timely articles, we also give readers an update on international activities at the SOA Annual Meeting in Chicago and at the International Actuarial Association’s recent Pension, Benefit, and Social Security section meeting in Edinburgh.

We are always looking for new content or ideas for *International News*. Please see page 35 for more details on the 2012 Country Feature article competition. There seem to be many international developments currently. We hope that we can encourage section members to broaden our knowledge by submitting an article for this year’s competition.

To save on printing costs this year, we have not printed the update of the annual embedded value survey in *International News*. The full text and charts is available on the International Section webpage (under the publications section) at SOA.org. □



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