



SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES

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Chairperson's Corner

By Genghui Wu

Dear International Section Members,

As I mentioned in my note to members from the last newsletter, the council has already started to implement strategies in an effort to facilitate some of the objectives we laid out for 2012. As such, I feel it is appropriate to update the readers on some of the recent and upcoming activities of the council as we continue to find ways to serve our members and other interested parties who are either working overseas or have a strong international interest.

MAKE YOUR MOVE – BECOME AN INTERNATIONAL SECTION LEADER

The 2012 election of new section council members is approaching. Now is your opportunity to move from section member to a section leadership position. Each year, one-third of the International Section Council is replaced with new volunteers—people like you—who plan and execute the activities of the International Section in line with its mission. Council members typically serve three-year terms. Read about the roles and responsibilities¹ or contact a current member of the International Section council for more information. If you are interested in becoming a candidate for election, please fill out the Expression of Interest Form.²

SOA INTERNATIONAL SECTION MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

Member satisfaction is a primary goal of the International Section. The council rolled out the membership survey in March. I appreciate those of you who participate in such a critical event; we will make certain that we address your needs and aspirations.

SOA INTERNATIONAL SECTION VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

The International Section Council seeks volunteers for a working group to take the lead in section member communication and related international initiatives. This group will work with the council and SOA staff to enhance the section communication tools with our members and will be involved in other SOA activities sponsored by the International Section. Volunteers will commit to three-to-

four calls per year, participate in discussion of hot topics, and benefit from participating in well organized section international activities. Please contact Jill Leprich at jleprich@soa.org, if interested.

COUNTRY FEATURE ARTICLE COMPETITION

The International Section Council (ISC) is pleased to announce we are running our Country Feature Article Competition again this year. Here is a chance for you to win a cash prize of U.S.\$1,000 for first place, or U.S.\$500 for second place. The Country Feature Article Competition has enabled our council to gather informative and interesting articles related to the development of the actuarial profession, market trends, consumer behaviors, social values, and culture from across the globe. I encourage you to participate in this competition. The details can be found in the link below: <http://www.soa.org/professional-interests/international/intl-country-feature-article.aspx>

SOA INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE STUDY – EMBEDDED VALUE FINANCIAL ASSUMPTIONS

In the February 2012 issue of *Product Matters!*, an article titled “SOA International Experience Study – Embedded Value Financial Assumptions” was printed. The International Section is quite pleased to be an ongoing supporter of the international experience study work.

SECTION COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP COMMUNICATION

We want to examine ways to more effectively communicate through multiple channels and advanced tools. The council is drafting a membership survey to make sure we hear and understand your needs. We have also updated our section website based on members' feedback. The changes will provide a fresh new look and a better organized search engine to fulfill your needs. With these changes, we explicitly state our section mission, have added stories from actuaries abroad, provide a central location for finding your dream jobs, and much more. Please visit us at: <http://www.soa.org/professional-interests/international/intl-detail.aspx>.

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MEMBERSHIP VALUE SUPPORT

The section approved financial support to the Thailand ambassador for a local actuarial event, and continued our sponsorship to the Pacific Rim Actuarial Club. The SOA Ambassadors continue to play an important outreach role and we are still looking for members willing to act as ambassadors for a number of countries.

As these activities illustrate, the leadership of the International Section is continually striving to meet the needs of its very diverse constituency. Please feel free to contact me or any of the other section council members if you have ideas to make your membership in the International Section more valuable. □

END NOTES

¹ <http://www.soa.org/professional-interests/professional-interests/prof-council-roles-and-responsibilities.aspx>

² <http://www.soa.org/professional-interests/section-expression-form.aspx>

What do you do when you're out of the office?

- **Collect** rare artifacts?
- **Play** an instrument, or
- Win ballroom dancing **competitions**?
- **Create** artwork?

The Actuary has introduced a new column called, "Out of the Office." It is a place where you can showcase your talents, your community involvement, or extracurricular activities you participate in just for the sheer fun of it.

So, what are you waiting for? Send us a short paragraph providing some basic details about your out-of-the-office experiences, along with your contact information, and we'll be in touch. Visit <http://www.soa.org/pub-out-of-office>.



We look forward to hearing from you!