



Article from

International News

May 2016

Issue 68

Chairperson's Corner

By Wendy Liang

In the last issue of *International News*, we talked about the new pilot Mentorship Program that the International Section is launching. I'm pleased to share with you that the program has officially kicked off on February 1st this year. Together with the SOA, we have successfully matched over 30 mentees in the Caribbean and Taiwan to our volunteer mentors from around the world. A big thank you for all of our volunteers! The first round of the program will run until August 2016, during which time, mentors will provide career as well as study advice to their mentees and help guide the young actuarial talents through their studies and career. The International Section Council will also be taking feedback and performing an on-going review of the program. After the pilot is over, we will decide whether to roll out the Mentorship Program to a wider group/geographical area. So stay tuned! We will provide you with an update in our next issue!

The section council has also been busy working on both the Life & Annuity Symposium (May 16–17 in Nashville) as well as the 2016 SOA Annual Meeting & Exhibit (October 23–26 in Las Vegas). The section is sponsoring an interesting session at the Life & Annuity Symposium, "Actuaries in the C-Suite," where participants will have the opportunity to gain business and career insights from executives. At the Annual Meeting, we intend on having three to four sessions covering a variety of international topics. We will also be hosting a networking reception on Sunday evening with wine, nibbles and live music. If you missed the event last year, please look out for the Sunday evening International Section Wine & Cheese Reception as you register for the Annual Meeting. As usual, a hot breakfast for members is also planned where the council will share recent section developments. If you would like to submit ideas on potential topics for the Annual Meeting, please contact me at wendy_liang@swissre.com or Kelvin Lam, our secretary at kelam@deloitte.ca.

On the global networking front, the section council has been filling vacant ambassador positions. The aim of the Ambassador Program is to assist in carrying out the Society of Actuaries' international programs and provide networking opportunities to our members located internationally. Recently we had a net-

working event in Zurich, Switzerland, where over 20 actuaries gathered for three presentations on the theme of Data Management in Insurance Companies. The presentations were followed by networking drinks and snacks. Should you have any questions on the Ambassador Program or would like to volunteer, please contact Graydon, our vice chair, at graydonbennett@generali-guernsey.com.

My virtual door is always open and I welcome your ideas and feedback over the coming year.

Enjoy this edition of *International News*! ■



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