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This newsletter is free to section members. Current issues are available on the SOA website (www.soa.org).

To join the section, SOA members and non-members can locate a membership form on the International Section Web page at <http://www.soa.org/International/>.

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Editor's Note

By Carl Hansen

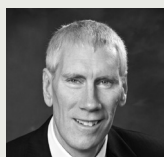
Welcome to the first *International News* issue of 2014. I hope that the year is off to a good start for everyone. For Chinese readers, there is still time to wish 新年快乐. I hope that the Year of the Horse brings you good luck!

Welcome to the three new International Section Council members—Anna Dyck, Wendy Liang, and Lindsay Neu. We introduce readers to each of them starting on page 4. Thank you to the outgoing Council members—Theodoros Iaponas, Ben Marshall, and Lina Xu—for your contributions on behalf of the section over the last three years. Sunil Sen will be serving as chairperson of the Section Council this year. You can read about some of the plans for this year in his “Chairperson’s Corner” on page 3.

We have three more excellent entries from the 2013 Country Feature Competition in this issue. I suggest that potential authors start planning for the 2014 competition, as the deadline will come quickly following the many work requirements early in the year. More information is given on page 23.

Jill Hoffman gives us a flavor for the recent East Asian Actuarial Conference in Singapore on page 17. Vincent Xuan reports on International Section activities at the SOA Annual Meeting on page 21. Please let the editorial staff or the Section Council know if there is a local or regional conference that you would like to advertise or report on in *International News*.

Finally, there is still time to register for the International Congress of Actuaries in Washington, DC. Once every four years, this event draws actuaries from all over the world to compare and contrast both local and global developments. The Congress features thought provoking presentations and stimulating discussions, along with the opportunity to meet other actuaries in relaxed social settings. You can see page 16 or visit <http://www.ica2014.org/> for more information. □



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