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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

Reviewing the recent International Congress of Actuaries (ICA) in Washington, D.C. for the summary on page 19, I was very impressed with the overall quality and variety of the papers and presentations representing all traditional actuarial disciplines plus some emerging areas of practice. Unfortunately, when attending you are forced to choose one session in a time slot! I certainly encourage readers to visit the ICA website to sample the papers, presentation materials, and recordings.

While the ICA certainly felt very international, I was surprised to see just how many different countries and territories were represented, including some where I did not realize there are actuaries and many where the profession is in earlier stages of development. As an example, this issue includes an article on the actuarial profession in Bangladesh based on material submitted to the ICA (see page 17). For those of us in jurisdictions with excellent actuarial resources that have been in place for many years, it is sometimes difficult to fully appreciate the practical hardships of developing the profession locally. There is much that we can contribute to assist local organizations that will in turn develop the profession globally.

Here in Guernsey, we recently hosted the black tie optional annual dinner of the Channel Islands Actuarial Association for about 75 members and guests. While most local actuaries pursue the United Kingdom actuarial examinations, I can report that there has been steady growth in the number of SOA members here up to the current level of five.

Please consider attending one of the many international actuarial events in the remainder of 2014 or 2015 to contribute to the global growth of the profession. Major events in the last few months of 2014 are the East Asian Actuarial Conference in Taipei, Taiwan in October (see page 24) and the Caribbean Actuarial Association Annual Conference in Barbados in December (page 21).

In 2015, the International Actuarial Association is co-hosting colloquia in two lovely cities. The first in June in Oslo, Norway is a joint collaboration of the International Association of Consulting Actuaries (IACA), Life Insurance, and the Pension Benefits & Social Security (PBSS) sections. Sydney, Australia will host the Actuarial Approach for Financial Risks/Enterprise Risk Management (AFIR/ERM) and Actuarial Studies in Non-

Life Insurance (ASTIN) sections in August. Both colloquia will include presentation and discussion of papers on relevant issues, various other topical presentations, outside speakers, and social activities. Those interested in attending, submitting papers, or simply wanting more information can see pages 15 and 22.

Finally, we again include an article on the Masters in Actuarial Science program at Columbia University in the United States on page 6. Columbia seems to have some entrepreneurial students that are very interested in learning more about the actuarial profession from a global perspective. □



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