



Article from

## **International News**

September 2018

Issue 75

# IACA and Congress in Berlin

By Cathy Lyn

Over 2,700 actuaries representing 102 nations gathered in Berlin in June for the 31st International Congress of Actuaries (ICA), the largest ever attendance in the history of this event. This Congress was a fabulous opportunity for many German actuaries who were attending their first international event. On this occasion, the International Association of Consulting Actuaries (IACA) celebrated its 50th Anniversary with a party. This launched the IACA Jubilee celebration world tour with the first stop being in Berlin. At this party we welcomed three founding members—John Jolliffe, Edgar Neuberger and Claus-Jürgen Beye—who were at the 1968 Munich meeting when IACA was established. We were delighted to have Klaus Heubeck, IACA's 2010 Max Lander Award winner and

chair of the Berlin Congress organizing committee, open the celebration and present the 2018 IACA Awards.

IACA also held its Biennial General Meeting on June 6 at the Estrel in Berlin, during the week-long ICA. At this meeting Cathy Lyn handed over the chain of office and gavel to Gerd Warnke who succeeds her as chair until 2020.

The IACA welcomed Klaus Krøier (Denmark), Léon Zijlmans (Netherlands), Octavio Rojas (Venezuela), Mike Lombardi (U.S.) and George Symeonidis (Greece) as new committee members serving a four-year term. Committee members Margaret Tiller Sherwood, Ibrahim E. Muhanna and Gautam Kakar rotated off after years of dedicated service to IACA. Sherry Chan succeeds Chintan Gandhi on the committee as chair of the Younger Members Group Sub-Committee.

Brent Walker, chair of our Awards Sub-Committee announced Daisy McFarlane Coke (Jamaica) as the winner of our 2018 Max Lander Award and Sherry Chan as the winner of our 2018 Geoffrey Heywood Award. Daisy, a new octogenarian, could not travel to Berlin so her Ferrari trophy will be presented in Jamaica when the Jubilee celebration world tour makes a stop in Kingston. We were delighted to welcome Sherry and her parents in Berlin to receive her hour glass trophy.



Pictured L-R: Edgar Neuberger, Claus-Jürgen Beye and John Jolliffe, three founding members of IACA. Copyright © Michael Fahrig, ICA 2018



Pictured L-R: Cathy Lyn and Mike Lombardi. Copyright © Michael Fahrig, ICA 2018

IACA made a substantial investment in the Virtual ICA and was involved in organizing presentations as well as the Opportunity in Diversity mini-conference. We would like to highlight two important IACA semi-plenary presentations for you to view, digest and debate. The first is “Digital Disruption: The Impact of information Management on New Products and Business Models for Society” presented by Tom Jenkins our specially invited guest speaker to Congress. Tom is chairman of the board of Open Text, a member of the board of Manulife and Chancellor of the University of Waterloo among many other positions and presented a high powered talk on Digital Disruption on Tuesday, June 5. Tom has been active for more than 30 years in innovation and economic development in both the private and public sectors in Canada. This is a must see presentation for the whole actuarial profession. The second is “Managing Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Factor Integration,” an interactive panel discussion with well-known international personalities Randy Bauslaugh, Chris Daykin and Hendrik Gartz.

Opportunity in Diversity, a mini-conference held alongside the Congress, proved a popular event and involved a number of

IACA members. This topic has intrinsic appeal. We conducted a workshop to explore how factors in the context of diversity can move the actuarial profession into an expansionary mode. Cathy Lyn, chair of IACA was leader of the Diversity Organizing Team. Our two key speakers were Lesley Traverso from Australia, a specialist actuarial recruiter with deep international experience and Marjorie Ngwenya from South Africa, the first president of the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries resident outside the U.K. We would like to thank our sponsors Zurich, Association of Consulting Actuaries (U.K.), The Caribbean Actuarial Association, and International Association of Black Actuaries for their generosity in supporting equipment, refreshments, online broadcasting, etc.

These sessions are available on VICA which contains a wealth of material for CPD and thought leadership purposes. We encourage you to view at <http://ica2018.com/program/virtual-ica/>.

Another highlight was the SOA International Section social gathering at the Brauhaus. We were happy to promote international diversity here by bringing together Brian Spence (Ireland), Tim Vieyra (South Africa), Monique McBean (USA), Britta Hay (Jamaica), and Randy Bauslaugh (Canada). Many thanks to our hosts.

IACA now has a much higher international profile with the German leadership. We look forward to working with them to keep VICA alive and exciting for the 100,000 actuaries in the world.

These are just some highlights. There is lots more to tell, please stay tuned on news from the IACA! ■



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