



Article from

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# Editor's Note

By Arpita Das

September marks the end of summer and the beginning of fall. As the leaves change color, I am excited to bring to you this issue of *International News*, chronicling change in the actuarial profession across the world.

In many countries, the actuarial profession is only beginning to take hold. In this issue we feature a range of articles on budding actuarial societies in different countries, including a fascinating piece by the only qualified actuary in Paraguay as well as pieces on Mongolia, Panama and Sri Lanka. Actuarial organizations, including the International Association of Actuaries (IAA) and the International Association of Consulting Actuaries (IACA), are also expanding their presence in Africa and Asia, a practice that is outlined in three articles. We hope to continue covering these significant developments in upcoming issues. If you would like to become involved as a mentor to support actuaries in these regions, I encourage you to apply at the *Actuaries Without Borders* section listed on the IAA website.

In other countries where the actuarial profession has been well established for years, we feature new angles on existing markets and issues. Low interest rates have been on many of our minds over the last few years, and in this issue, we present a unique story on the topic that begins in the United Kingdom and ends with a global enterprise. In North America, life insurance is often thought of as a stable, saturated market. Here we present a different take through a piece on innovation in the Canadian life insurance market. Continuing our journey through North America, Mexico—a country with a long history of actuarial science—recently elected a new president of the National College of Actuaries. I am pleased to publish an interview he gave with our own Carlos Arocha, a long-standing editorial board member and friend of the council.

Changes have also taken place closer to home, here at the International Section. I congratulate Vincent Xuan, our newly elected section chairperson for 2017–2018 term. Vincent has had years



of experience with the section, as vice-chair and as the former chief editor of this newsletter. It has been a pleasure working with Vincent on both the council and the editorial board, and I wish him continued success. This also marks the end of term for our current chairperson, Graydon Bennett. I would like to thank Graydon for his leadership and invaluable contributions made over the last year.

By the time you receive this newsletter, we will also have a new slate of International Section council members with terms beginning in October. Talent on the council is renewed every year, and I warmly welcome our new members. We are always on the lookout for new ideas and encourage our readers to volunteer with the section. If you are interested in joining the editorial board, please contact any of the members listed on the front page. The International Section is also sponsoring several events at the upcoming *2017 SOA Annual Meeting & Exhibit* in Boston. This will provide an excellent opportunity to meet other members and become involved.

Finally, I am pleased to announce the 2017 Country Feature Article Call for papers. Details should be available in your inbox and on the section website by the time you receive this newsletter. We look forward to receiving your submissions! ■



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