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Chairperson's Corner

By Arpita Das

On behalf of the Section Council, I wish all our members a happy new year! Hope you had a wonderful holiday season and that 2019 is off to a great start.

I am especially pleased to be writing my first Chairperson's Corner, as this is the first issue where we welcome Milanthi Sarukkali as editor-in-chief and Carlos Arocha as deputy editor-in-chief. Both Milanthi and Carlos have been active members of the editorial team that I have enjoyed working with over the years. I cannot think of more qualified editorial team.

The new year has also brought with it a number of changes here on the International Section Council. First, I'd like to personally express my thanks to Vincent Xuan, our outgoing Chairperson whom I've had the pleasure of working with over the past few years as Editor and Chairperson. We will miss Vincent's leadership but look forward to his continued guidance as a friend. Second, I would like to thank Wendy Kwan, our outgoing vice chairperson. We would not be where we are today as a section without our past member's contributions. With this rotation we also welcome new council members Manyu Wong, Esteban Paez and Steven Chen. We continue to have on board with us Susan Mateja, Yanjie Feng, Heather Ingram, Ken Seng Tan and James Xu, as well as our staff partners Ben Marshall and Jane Lesch. Congratulations again to our new members and many thanks to our continuing members. With a strong and diverse team set in place, I am excited for the year ahead of us.

In 2019, the International Section will also continue to collaborate with the SOA International Committee.



This year at the International Section we will be focused on member value. At our first strategy call, council members had an enthusiastic discussion of what we can do as a section to foster connection, share content and encourage outreach initiatives. Some ideas have included having an e-bulletin for members, country-specific web pages, presence at international actuarial events and networking activities.

In 2019, the International Section will also continue to collaborate with the SOA International Committee as well as the Ambassador program to promote the SOA's international objectives and maximize potential areas of section member value.

Finally, we are always looking for volunteers and ideas for the section. If there is anything you are passionate about or would like to see—please do not hesitate to reach out to me or our council members. ■



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