JOINT RISK MANAGEMENT

(Vote for up to three candidates)

Jalena Milovanovic
Jared Lavinder
Monojit Samanta

Jalena Milovanovic, ACIA, AIAA
Professor of practice
Arizona State University
Tempe, AZ

Professional Background
Dr. Jelena Milovanovic is a professor of practice in actuarial science at Arizona State University (ASU) where she has been teaching mathematics, statistics, and actuarial science courses for over two decades. Originally from Sydney, Australia, she completed her a doctoral degree in statistics in 2011 at Arizona State University.

Dr. Milovanovic is an associate actuary with both the Actuaries Institute of Australia and the Canadian Institute of Actuaries. At Arizona State she was part of an innovative group of colleagues which created a new undergraduate degree in actuarial science in Fall 2014, undergraduate certificate in risk management in Fall 2017, and a masters degree in Fall 2019. The BS and MS in actuarial science are unique programs which not only cover preliminary actuarial exams but also focus on soft skills such as communication, teamwork and collaboration, adaptability, and critical analysis. She is currently the Actuarial Science Coordinator leading a group of both tenured and non-tenured faculty, as well as the faculty advisor for the Gamma Iota Sigma Chapter at ASU. She focuses daily on helping students have a smooth transition from college to the workforce.

She initiated a student lead actuarial consulting research lab, The ACT Lab, where students and faculty work together with industry clients in P&C, life, and health on real-life projects.

Dr. Milovanovic is also the co-author of the ACTEX textbook Probability for Risk Management 3rd edition.

Society of Actuaries Experience (Section and committee memberships and participation)
Most of my volunteer efforts were focused at ASU and my membership societies but I would like to change that with this opportunity.

Other Relevant Volunteer Experience
- Actuarial Coordinator at ASU – 8/15 – present
- Faculty Advisor for the Gamma Iota Sigma Kappa Student Club at ASU – 8/15 – present
- Industry liaison and researcher for the actuarial consulting lab at ASU – 5/17 – present
- Member of the Awards committee at ASU – 5/16 - present
- Member of the Graduate Committee at ASU – 8/19 - present
- President of Monetrra Homeowners Assoc. Board – 2/15 – 3/18

Why are you interested in leading this section?
As a professor of actuarial science, my passion is to help my students build a strong foundation for their actuarial careers. Beyond their actuarial education, I strive to graduate well-rounded students by integrating them into local and global actuarial networks and providing opportunities to apply their knowledge to real-world problems.
With a seat on the JRM Section Council, I would bring an academic perspective to help bridge the gap between the SOA and actuarial students. Connecting with professionals and expanding my involvement in the actuarial community would ensure I stay current and relevant in the risk management field and thus my students would too. This opportunity would enable my ongoing efforts to further the profession’s efforts to rebrand and attract a diverse talent pool of potential future actuaries and leaders in the field of risk management.

Jared Lavinder, FSA, MAAA, CERA  
Director & Actuary  
Pacific Life Insurance Co.  
Newport Beach, CA

Professional Background  
Life Actuary with 7 years of experience across a variety of roles in valuation and risk management functions at Pacific Life. Current and prior roles have worked with both life insurance and annuity products with multiple roles working in-depth with Economic Valuation and Capital frameworks.

Society of Actuaries Experience (Section and committee memberships and participation)  
Member of the Joint Risk Management section.

Other Relevant Volunteer Experience  
None

Why are you interested in leading this section?  
To keep up-to-date on active and emerging topics affecting risk management practices in the insurance industry and collaborate with risk management professionals across multiple actuarial practices.
Monojit Samanta, FSA, FCIA
Director
Canada Life
Toronto, Canada

Professional Background
Monojit is a life actuary with almost a decade of experience across valuation, financial reporting, modeling, audit, risk management and most recently, product development. Through his consulting background, he has worked with clients across multiple industries (life, banking, P&C) and geographies (US, Canada, EU) and has come to appreciate the unique challenges every organization faces. He currently works at Canada Life, leading their product development efforts and key strategic initiatives.

Outside of work, Monojit continues to expand his knowledge via further education and volunteering. He is currently completing coursework on climate risk to understand how actuaries can help organizations tackle this important existential problem. He is also actively involved in the SOA’s cat and climate research group and CIA’s individual insurance practice committee.

Society of Actuaries Experience (Section and committee memberships and participation)
- Committee Member, Professional Development, Catastrophe and Climate Risk Research
- Committee Member, Extreme Weather Data Analysis
- FSA Exam Grader, Exam Committee
- Current/past member of Joint Risk Management, Product Development, and Marketing and Distribution sections

Other Relevant Volunteer Experience
- Committee Member, Individual Insurance Practice Committee, Canadian Institute of Actuaries

Why are you interested in leading this section?
I am interested in leading the risk management section because of its wide ranging impact. I believe my background in pricing, valuation and risk management will be useful in contributing to the latest conversations in risk management. Becoming a council member will allow me to collaborate with actuaries across multiple disciplines and further the dialogue on emerging risks impacting our industry through the development of relevant and interactive content.

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