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From the Editor

Fulfilling the Pledge... and Continuing the Mission

by Sim Segal

One year ago, in my first of four issues as editor, I pledged to try to provide at least one article in each of the five topic categories that are the focus of our section. The five categories are:

Management

1. People management (leadership, recruiting, etc.)
2. Business management (decision-making, etc.)

Personal Development

3. Career development (marketing yourself, interviewing, etc.)
4. Communication skills (presentations, writing, listening, etc.)
5. Interpersonal skills (negotiation, influence, etc.)

I am pleased to say that we have been able to fulfill this pledge. I hope you have enjoyed the past four issues as much as we have enjoyed bringing them to you. I want to thank those that contributed articles over the past year, with a special thanks to Mary Pienkowski of the SOA, whose abundant patience was critical to delivering a quality newsletter to you.

I am handing over the role of editor to the very capable David Miller, who plans to continue the pledge of providing a diverse range of topics. David has been a regular contributor to this newsletter, and I know many of you have enjoyed his articles. Please continue your support of this newsletter by contacting David and offering to contribute an article.

I was encouraged by the number of people taking me up on my offer in the last issue to provide my list of resources on business savvy skills. I hope you all find this useful, and I look forward to your feedback. Anyone still interested in getting this list can contact me at sisegal@deloitte.com.

Though I have completed my three-year term on this section, I will remain a "friend of the section." As such, I plan to serve as the section's liaison to the SOA publication *The Actuary*, which is looking to add management content. I am also planning to organize and moderate a session entitled "A Disciplined Approach to Creative Product Development"—a joint session with the Product Development Section. I also will be continuing with other volunteer activities related to the work of this section, including service on the SOA Governance Committee and on the SOA Task Force on Nominations and Elections.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my service on this section council and I am proud to have served with such a terrific group of fellow council members. I encourage those of you considering service on a section council to run for election to our section council. As the SOA is getting more focused on business savvy skills and the future image of the actuary, our section only continues to grow in importance. □



Editor

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