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Chairperson's Corner

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Welcome to summer! Although many will take time off to rejuvenate on a well-deserved vacation, our industry continues to evolve at seemingly lightning speed. With influences from "big data," internet of things, InsurTech, changes in policy and regulation, demographic shifts and more, it can be dizzying to keep current with respect to the industries we each influence.

The Society of Actuaries Entrepreneurial & Innovation Section Council is hard at work with several initiatives and creating timely, relevant content.

The 2019 SOA Life & Annuity Symposium in Tampa in May was a great success. From our section's involvement, we designed and sponsored three cutting-edge sessions on topics including "AI for Actuaries," "Venturing into the Entrepreneurial Space" and "Practical Applications for Innovation." These sessions were very well received. Look for a webcast on one of these topics coming to you later this year.

The 2019 SOA Health Spring Meeting in Phoenix took place in June. Our section designed and sponsored four exciting sessions, two of which were geared toward entrepreneurial interests and two toward innovation topics. More on the results of this conference in our next communication.

The 2019 SOA Annual Meeting & Exhibit in Toronto is shaping up to be a fantastic conference. Our section is putting out both relevant as well as social events. We are cosponsoring a stimulating guided walking tour of Toronto. Don't miss this opportunity to meet and mix with other actuaries at this networking event! In addition, our section is cosponsoring a "Shark Tank" event that promises to be informative and state of the art. Hope to see you all there in October!

Our section, along with several other sections, is a main sponsor of a new SOA research project on innovation. For this study to maintain its timeliness, it will occur over the next months and be released quickly. This should be a well-rounded study given the project oversight group includes actuaries from a variety of sections and specialties.

As always, we are happy to have volunteers for our many projects—more involvement from you creates content that is increasingly reflective of your needs. If you'd like to participate with our section but don't know where to start, contact me (or any of our Section Council members). In addition, the SOA has a "volunteer activities" webpage with a list of needed assistance—take a look at this webpage and get involved.

Congratulations to the new SOA associates and fellows! We look forward to hearing from you regarding your needs in entrepreneurial and/or innovation topics.

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