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2016 IACA Max Lander and Geoffrey Heywood Award Recipients

By Cathy Lyn

The International Actuarial Association (IAA) Consulting Actuaries Section is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2016 Max Lander and Geoffrey Heywood awards. The intent of both of these awards is to help bring the consulting actuarial profession into the public domain and to encourage the successful development of consulting actuarial practices and actuarial literature.

THE MAX LANDER AWARD

In 2004 the International Association of Consulting Actuaries (IACA) inaugurated a “Consulting Actuary Lifetime Achievement Award.” This award is named in honour of the late Max Lander who was a founding member of IACA and the initial IACA secretary/treasurer. The Max Lander Award is given to a member of the actuarial profession who has contributed to the public awareness of the work of the actuarial profession and the promotion of the business of consulting actuaries.

The 2016 award recipient is **Leonard John Martin**, ASA, FIA, FSS, FPMI, CBE (United Kingdom).

Leonard John Martin’s actuarial career began at the National Mutual Assurance Company in 1947. He became a fellow of the Institute in 1954, and in the same year, he moved to R Watson & Sons, consulting actuaries. He became a partner in 1958 and was the senior partner from 1983 until his retirement in 1995. His work covered the provision of actuarial advice to many large pension schemes in the U.K. He was responsible for setting up the first overseas office of R Watson and Sons in the West Indies. He also acted for many years as honorary advisor to the United Nations joint staff pension fund.

He was both a tutor and an examiner in pension funds for the Institute of Actuaries. He was elected to serve on the council of the Institute, and served on a number of committees, selected to be a vice president until he became president in 1992 until 1994. He was also asked in 1979 to be actuary to the Institute’s staff pension fund. John was deputy chairman of the U.K. Occupational Pensions Board and has served as chairman of



John Martin (right) receives the Max Lander Award from John Jolliffe (left) on the Isle of Wight.

the Occupational Pension Schemes Joint Working Group. He was chairman of the Association of Consulting Actuaries in the U.K. from 1985 to 1987.

He has been heavily involved in international actuarial work. He joined the Actuarial Association of Europe (AAE) at its inception in 1978 as the *membre suppléant* and subsequently became the *membre titulaire*, representing the Institute in the European Communities. In 1982 he became the vice chairman of the Groupe and was elected chairman in 1988. His commitment to European affairs is also shown in his role as advisor on staff pensions for the European Commission in Brussels.

He was included in the Queen’s honours list in 1995, who presented him with the prestigious Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) award.

John always maintained a heavy workload during his career as adviser to many large and well-known companies. He was highly regarded and respected by his staff and always found time to assist and advise his colleagues in respect of both work and other related matters. He was senior partner at the time of the significant growth and diversity in the provision of actuarial services worldwide as well as in the United Kingdom.

John received a commission in the Royal navy during his period of national service, and afterwards maintained this interest by joining the Royal Navy Reserve. He developed a great interest in flying, and often visited his overseas clients as well as clients in every corner of the United Kingdom by flying in his own aircraft. This included his attendance at the International Congress of Actuaries held in Australia in 1984,

when he flew from his base in England to Sydney, Australia, and back.

THE GEOFFREY HEYWOOD AWARD

At the 2014 Congress, IACA inaugurated a “Young Consulting Actuary High Achievement Award.” This award is named in honour of Geoffrey Heywood MBE who was the founding chairman of IACA. The Geoffrey Heywood Award is given to a young consulting actuary who has provided significant services to the public and the actuarial profession.

The 2016 Geoffrey Heywood Award recipient is **Chintan Gandhi**, FIA (United Kingdom).

Chintan Gandhi, 30, joined the U.K. actuarial profession in 2008, qualifying as a fellow of the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries in 2013. He works in Aon Hewitt’s U.K Retirement and Investment practice and in this role he focuses primarily on advice to pension scheme trustee boards. His client portfolio includes schemes run by leading blue-chip firms, including those in the energy, utilities and construction industries.



Chintan Gandhi (left) receives the Geoffrey Heywood Award from Brent Walker (right).

Chintan is an active contributor to the Association of Consulting Actuaries (ACA). He was a member of its Public Relations Committee from 2014 and was appointed in 2015 as chairman of its Younger Members’ Group—a group he established. The Younger Members’ Group covers consulting actuaries with typically less than 10 years’ post-qualification experience, with the aim of improving engagement within the actuarial profession amongst this group. Chintan’s other aim in running this group is to promote awareness of the fields in which consulting actuaries can serve outside the traditional pensions, investment and insurance space.

One of the key things Chintan is keen to ensure is that ACA, and the U.K. actuarial profession as a whole, benefit fully from the perspectives and energies that younger consulting actuaries have to offer, and he hopes that this in turn feeds through to younger members playing an active part in contributing to public policy.

Following Chintan’s success in attracting 70 newly qualified consulting actuaries to a special ACA sessional meeting geared towards younger members in September 2015, he oversaw the inaugural half-day Younger Members’ workshop which ran alongside the ACA’s main annual conference in February 2016, and both sessions have now become annual events. The 2016 workshop itself focused on possible reforms to the U.K.’s savings and pensions landscape, and received warm feedback from delegates for the opportunity it gave them to engage and contribute in ways which would have been more difficult in a more formal conference setting.

More information on these awards can be found at <http://www.actuaries.org/index.cfm?DSP=IACA&ACT=AWARDS&LANG=EN> ■



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