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# SOA Reinsurance News 2016 Best Article Prize

By Ronald Poon-Affat

Last year, the Reinsurance Section launched a prize for the best article that appeared in Reinsurance News in 2016. To be eligible articles needed to have been published first in Reinsurance News and could not be authored by a member of SOA's Reinsurance Section council.

The inaugural prize was awarded to Dr. Daniel D. Zimmerman, vice president and Medical Director, RGA Reinsurance Company, for his article titled, "Zika Virus in Brazil: The Insurance Perspective." The article, which appeared in the March 2016 issue, outlined and illuminated one of the primary medical underwriting issues of this past year.

Why the prize? To recognize the tremendous effort of our volunteer authors, without whom it would be impossible to publish three information-packed editions per year.

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The winning article was voted for by three sitting members of the Reinsurance Council. Over the past year, Reinsurance News received a large volume of high quality articles. The judges were sufficiently impressed and decided to award two additional prizes.

Second prize went to S. Michael McLaughlin, FSA, CERA, FIA, MAAA, for his article "Trees That Feed," which appeared in the July 2016 issue. The article described his Trees That



Dr. Daniel D. Zimmerman (L), vice president and medical director, RGA Reinsurance Company, receives his prize for best Reinsurance News article in 2016 from Tim Rozar (R), SOA Board director.

Feed Foundation, a nonprofit he co-founded with his wife Mary with the mission of planting fruit trees in the Caribbean and sub-Saharan Africa. At this point, the foundation has planted more than 100,000 food-bearing trees throughout the globe.

Kai Kaufhold, Aktuar DAV, managing director of Ad Res Advanced Reinsurance Services, was awarded third prize for his article, "The Economic Value of Reinsurance." The article, which appeared in the November 2016 issue, addressed the age-old question of how to measure the value-for-money cedants receive for their reinsurance premium dollars.

Please feel free to contact Ronald Poon-Affat [rpoonaffat@rgare.com](mailto:rpoonaffat@rgare.com) if you are interested in submitting an article for 2017. We are always looking for interesting articles on a range of actuarial and related topics, and who knows? You might become one of our Best Reinsurance News article winners. ■



Ronald Poon-Affat, FSA, FIA, MAA, CFA, is editor of the Society of Actuaries' *Reinsurance News* newsletter and is a recipient of a 2016 SOA Presidential Award. He can be contacted at [rpoonaffat@rgare.com](mailto:rpoonaffat@rgare.com).