PILOT PROJECT: KEEPING MEMBERS CONNECTED

IAA President Jan Kars launched the 2021 pilot project *Keeping Members Connected* by announcing a virtual way of having those much-missed hallway chats and networking opportunities that occurred during our in-person meetings.

He started this project by hosting an “Espresso Yourself Coffee Break”, which was held twice in order to accommodate different time zones. He surprised the attendees by inviting two mystery guests: Christelle Dieudonné from France and Bozenna Hinton from Australia, who were both quite passionate about this session’s theme – “Engaging Millennials” – and shared their views with the participants. The idea was to create an intimate setting by having a maximum of 10 attendees per session exchanging ideas regarding the event’s topic. Across both sessions, a total of 19 delegates participated from 15 countries.

To warm up the crowd, Jan asked attendees to name one thing that they did for the very first time in 2020. Among the different answers he received, it was not a surprise that Zoom meetings came up first followed by working from home and online grocery shopping. The main question was, of course, how can we get younger actuaries involved with the IAA? Many great ideas were shared and discussed, leading the way to a fun and productive brainstorming session. These ideas will be discussed with the Executive Committee shortly as inspiration for further plans on this subject.

“Brainstorming is fun”, “very good initiative” and “engaging session” were among the comments gathered at the end of both coffee breaks. Hence this first attempt is now classified as successful.

Stay tuned for the next round!

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY

We are excited to celebrate International Women’s Day in 2021, when we are seeing women assume more leadership roles with actuarial associations across the globe. Just five years ago, it was a different story. We are indeed making progress, but there is still more to do, and we intend to help the IAA lead the way.
IAA RELEASES A PAPER ON CLIMATE-RELATED SCENARIOS

We are pleased to announce the publication of the paper Introduction to Climate-Related Scenarios developed by the Climate Risk Task Force. This paper is the second of a series that will be developed, aimed at creating awareness and promoting actuarial approaches in climate-related risk management and reporting. The first paper – Importance of Climate-Related Risks for Actuaries – was released in September 2020. This second paper aims to provide background covering the principles and outlining the processes for developing climate-related scenarios. It focuses on climate-related financial risks but does not cover the scientific basis of climate change beyond what is necessary for understanding its impacts. It aims to help actuaries and risk managers to acquire the basic vocabulary of climate science. It particularly serves those less familiar with the details of climate research who wish to develop or use climate-related scenarios.

The paper provides helpful insights into the requirements for good scenario analysis, components from which scenarios can be assembled, and considers some of the tools available to actuaries. It reviews the challenges and barriers that need to be considered in the development or use of workable climate-related scenarios and how those barriers may impact planning and implementation of adaptation actions and building resilience. It is available here.

The Climate Risk Task Force held a webinar on March 17 to present this paper.

To learn more about the work of the IAA on this topic, contact Amali Seneviratne.

NEWS FROM MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

Deutsche Aktuarvereinigung e. V. – Germany

Annual meeting taking place as an online event

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the Annual Meeting of the DAV (the German Association of Actuaries) and its scientifically orientated partner organization the DGVFM will take place in a digital format from April 28–30. About 40 presentations by 50 speakers will be offered live from a studio, as web sessions or as recorded sessions. Top-class experts from politics, business and science have been recruited as speakers and discussants for the three plenary sessions on the topics of Pensions, Solvency II and Climate Change.

The General Assembly of the DAV will also be held digitally at the Annual Meeting. Among other things, a new DAV board will be elected. The election will be conducted online with a voting tool.

DAV welcomes new members

After passing their final exams at the end of 2020, 190 young actuaries have become members of the DAV in the first months of 2021. The association’s leaders are happy to welcome these new actuarial experts in the DAV, where they will find professional support for their careers as well as networking opportunities. The DAV is also looking forward to their engagement in its activities and committees.

The DAV is now the professional representative for 5,799 members in Germany, with about 1,600 young mathematicians in training.

actupool

Update your career – subscribe to the new actupool newsletter

On March 1, the first issue of actupool’s newsletter was published. Featuring one major topic per issue, its first edition
focuses on COVID-19 and its impacts on the working life of actuaries. What does the workplace currently look like? What are the long-term consequences? And how should we best manage the next few period of lockdown, social distancing and remote working? Along with up-to-date reports, articles and interviews, the newsletter features the latest job adverts from actupool, video recommendations regarding actuview and other relevant facts and figures.

Register for the newsletter now on the actupool website. A PDF of the first issue can be found here.

**actuview**

*Full relaunch in April*

Next month, actuview – the first international video platform for actuaries – will be relaunched with a new look and tons of new features for the best user experience.

The new system will provide an improved search engine and a new structure for topics, events and channels to give users easy access to any new content as well as the entire archive of more than 1,000 videos. Staying up to date will be easier with subscriptions to channels and news alerts. The actuview team has also improved the personal profiles to give users a better overview of their options and actions on the platform. This includes a completely revised continuing professional development (CPD) feature that tracks time spent watching by the second to help users document their CPD activities and even remind viewers of videos they have started to watch but have not seen for long enough to document.

The new platform will be online from April and all users will be informed and notified of any changes shortly. Of course, all accounts will remain active so that the service can be used without interruptions. Last but not least, users can look forward to some new content highlights once they log in to the new platform and discover the improved actuview. Stay tuned at www.actuview.com

**EAA – European Actuarial Academy GmbH**

_EAA Web Forum: become a board member for a week – experience first-hand the challenges of managing an insurance company_

For several years now, the EAA – European Actuarial Academy has been offering the world’s leading Solvency II simulation in cooperation with TOPSIM and Swiss Re. The enthusiasm of the participants can be seen on site, but also afterwards in the feedback to the organizer.

The EAA is very pleased to offer you this innovative training in a completely virtual environment, but still as a personally supervised management simulation: the EAA Web Forum, Managing Risk and Capital in a Volatile World – Business Simulation for the Insurance Industry, which will run from April 12–16, from 9:00–13:00 CEST each day.

The online course is based on a complex and interactive management simulation with extensive options for action. Over a total of five half-days, you will slip into the challenging role of a board member managing an insurance company under the existing Solvency II regime in international teams.

You can find learning objectives and the complete program, as well as further information and the registration form, plus video statements from former participants, on the event website.

**Second EAA e-Conference on Data Science & Data Ethics**

Big data and digitalization are certainly some of the most important buzzwords the actuarial profession is facing nowadays. Though the new role of actuaries within big data and the ongoing digitalization is not yet fully defined, best-practice experience-sharing and an exchange of ideas are needed. Therefore, the EAA is delighted to offer all interested actuaries and other experts a virtual forum for knowledge exchange: the second EAA e-Conference on Data Science & Data Ethics, taking place on June 29.
Several hundred attendees from all over Europe and the rest of the world joined last year’s pilot event. Participants enjoyed a harmonious blend of recorded lectures and live keynote presentations. This year the EAA is aiming to present all lectures live and offer networking opportunities between audiences, lecturers and sponsors in order to further establish the conference as the most important information forum for the actuarial profession in terms of data, data quality and data ethics in Europe.

The conference program has recently been published and covers an attractive range of keynotes and expert talks, all devoted to actuarial data science.

Would you like to learn about the latest developments in data science and data ethics, exchange ideas with experts and colleagues and make useful contacts? Then become a part of this very special event and be sure to register by April 29 in order to benefit from the early-bird offer.

Please visit actuariacademy.com for further information about this and all other EAA events and training opportunities.

**Casualty Actuarial Society – United States**

*Register for the virtual CAS Spring Meeting*

Join the Casualty Actuarial Society (CAS) for its completely virtual Spring Meeting, taking place from May 24–27. This event has opportunities for education, networking and meeting with exhibitors, all in an immersive environment designed to make you feel like you are at an in-person meeting. It requires no travel nor additional expenses and can be experienced from the convenience of your own desk. The program will include four general sessions, 32 concurrent sessions and a featured speaker. For more information, visit the CAS website.

*CAS President and CEO outline Society’s approach to race and insurance pricing*

In a letter to members and stakeholders, the Society’s President Jessica Leong and CEO Victor Carter-Bey shared that amid conversations within the insurance industry about disparate impacts and fair and unfair discrimination among regulators, consumer advocates and insurers, the CAS will continue to work to educate its members on these topics and investigate these issues through the lens of actuarial work. The leaders outlined plans that focus on areas such as research, collaboration with other organizations and continuing and basic education.

Leong and Carter-Bey write, “Actuaries have the unique combination of skills and subject-matter expertise to be invaluable in this industry discourse. CAS actuaries should be on the forefront of evaluating and evolving our own methodologies to produce positive outcomes for both insurers and consumers.”

The full letter is available on the CAS website.

*CAS presents new international webinar: Telematics – the Future for Auto Insurance?*

Join the CAS on April 23 at 10.00 HKT for a CAS international webinar, Telematics – the Future for Auto Insurance? Presenter Geoff Werner of Werner Advisory will discuss use cases for telematics as well as highlighting some challenges, such as data privacy concerns. Other topics will include opportunities for pricing and claims and the potential for behaviour change. To learn more and register, visit the CAS website.

*Deadline approaching for 2021 ARECA actuarial scholarship for undergraduates in Asia*

The Asia Region Casualty Actuaries (ARECA), a Regional Affiliate of the CAS, is hosting a 2020/21 scholarship competition for current undergraduate students in the Asia Pacific region who are interested in pursuing the actuarial profession. Scholarships of 1,000 USD will be awarded to three students. In addition, the scholarship winners may have the opportunity to publish their application essays online or in printed form and to participate in an upcoming local ARECA meeting (or other actuarial event) during 2021. The funding for these scholarships is sponsored by AXIS. Applications are due by March 31, and you can get more information and apply here.
OTHER NEWS

Actuarial Association of Europe

The new issue of The European Actuary (Number 25 – March 2021) is now available and can be downloaded from the Actuarial Association of Europe (AAE) website. The featured articles include:

- Good policy starts with good data – an interview with Maurice de Hond;
- How to prioritise vaccination;
- Decision-making in uncertainty, by Peter Kingsley.

Please visit the magazine webpage on the AAE website for prior issues or further details.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Conference of Consulting Actuaries – United States

2021 CCA Enrolled Actuaries Conference

This virtual educational experience from the Conference of Consulting Actuaries (CCA), taking place on May 3, 5 and 7, features sessions on subjects for single-employer, public plans, multi-employer plans and small-plans practitioners as well as updates from government entities such as the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, Internal Revenue Service and Joint Board. Spread over 39 sessions covering six topical categories, this is content crafted specifically to meet your needs, and participants can earn up to 18.5 EA credits.

The conference spans three days to provide you with a balanced and flexible workday. Each day includes a general session and three blocks of concurrent sessions.

The early registration deadline is April 5, and full details of the event are available on the CCA website.

CCA Healthcare Meeting

This virtual meeting, taking place on April 27 and 29, features sessions covering a wide variety of key healthcare topics, providing relevant education for health actuaries and other healthcare professionals, including providers, carriers and employers.

Through this timely program, experts in the healthcare field will detail current problems, highlight areas for improvement (including better data and predictive analytic techniques) and determine what the actuarial profession can do to help deliver value.

Meeting attendees receive a complimentary individual registration to the CCA’s webinar, Professionalism for Healthcare Actuaries, on April 28. They can also earn up to 13.5 CPD credits.

The early registration deadline is April 16, and for full details visit the CCA website.
ASTIN Colloquium – Online

With the postponement of the Orlando Colloquium to May 2022, the 2021 ASTIN Colloquium will take place purely online during the week beginning May 17. It will be split into several three- to four-hour sessions, each hosted by a different ASTIN Chapter (Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Switzerland and the CAS). The online Colloquium will comprise the usual multiple-track scientific program and plenary keynote presentations, plus a series of demonstrations and other remote social activities, along with the General Assembly.

Visit the ASTIN website for up-to-date information. Please note that the deadline for the Call for Abstracts has now passed.


The Singapore Actuarial Society (SAS) and the IAA Health Section (IAAHS) will be jointly organizing a conference from September 20–21.

The conference has the theme of “Augmented Actuary: Think Global, Act Local”, and aims to address topics such as managing healthcare costs and preparing healthcare for the future in light of the pandemic. It will be a hybrid of physical and virtual discussions with subject-matter experts from across the public and private sectors, both locally and globally.

The Call for Papers has started: if you are keen to share your expertise in this conference, please submit your interest by April 16 here.

For more information about the conference, visit the IAA website.

Keep an eye on the webpage as we keep you updated on the programme and registration details!
32nd International Congress of Actuaries – Sydney, Australia

The 32nd International Congress of Actuaries will be held in 2023 (from May 28 to June 1) at the International Convention Centre in Sydney. It will be hosted by the Actuaries Institute Australia and the IAA, who previously postponed the Congress to give them the best chance of providing a great experience for actuaries both locally and from around the globe. We believe it means more certainty and safety for actuaries, speakers and guests. We also believe that it will ensure a richer, more global experience – the kind of experience you have come to expect from our actuarial Olympics.

From Brussels in 1895 to Berlin in 2018, with stops in-between everywhere from Tokyo to Cape Town, Cancun to Helsinki, the ICA has brought the actuarial profession together.

We promise you, ICA2023 will be an innovative and modern event. Following evolving global trends and leading-edge delivery platforms, ICA2023 will include a hybrid/virtual format which will lead to a richer Congress experience for sponsors and delegates. But we are also aware that an important part of the experience is the networking opportunities from meeting in person, and we are building a special social program that will be unforgettable. Full details with all options will be available when registration opens in June 2022.

Australian and New Zealand actuaries have been looking forward to welcoming actuaries from around the world to Sydney. We are committed to making this a Congress no delegate will ever forget, and we are really looking forward to seeing you in 2023!

We must give a special thank you to our sponsors:

- Platinum Sponsors: RGA and Milliman
- Gold Sponsors: Swiss Re, Gen Re and Deloitte

The event is also supported by the New South Wales Government.