

SINGAPORE ACTUARIAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FRIDAY 7 MARCH 2008

HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT

A. 1. Membership

As at **5 March 2008**, the membership of the Society numbered 353, a 17% increase over the year.

	5 March 2008 *	8 March 2007
Fellows	131	116
Associates	53	43
Ordinary	162	141
Student	7	1
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Total	353	301
	=====	=====

** Includes a number of members who have not yet paid their 2008 subscriptions and whose membership will be terminated on 1 April if not then paid.*

We received **86** new applications in 2007/08 and 70 in 2006/07

	2007	2006
Fellows	21	18
Associates	17	9
Ordinary	42	42
Student	6	1
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Total	86	70
	=====	=====

2. Newly Qualified Fellows (since 9 March 2007)

The following members have all completed their examinations and gained Fellowship during the year.

Koh Toh Lin
Koo Chung Chang
Lim Pei Bin
He Yizhou
Elena Quek Li-shan

The Society offers its congratulations to all of the above.

SINGAPORE ACTUARIAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FRIDAY 7 MARCH 2008

B. 1. Council Meetings and Attendance

The Council generally met on monthly basis with ten meetings being held during the session, the dates of these being:

12 April 2007
11 May 2007
14 June 2007
19 July 2007
17 August 2007
5 October 2007
15 November 2007
13 December 2007
17 January 2008
14 February 2008

Attendance at Council Meetings

All numbers are out of 10 possible meetings, other than for Sharon Tan who was co-opted in August (and so attendance is out of 6 possible meetings)

President	Andrew Linfoot	10
Vice-President	Khoo Kah Siang	6
Hon. Secretary	Mark Birch	9
Hon. Treasurer	Timothy Beardsall	7
Council Members	Au Sing Hong	6
	Chi Cheng Hock	10
	Duncan Lord	8
	Frank McInerney	10
	Sebastian Tan	5
	Sharon Tan	6
Ex-officio	Richard Holloway	4

2. Changes to Council

There were no changes in Office Bearers during the year.

At the AGM held on 9 March 2007, only nine Council Members were elected by the Membership, leaving a vacancy of one position. At the Council Meeting in August, the Council used its powers under the Constitution to co-opt Sharon Tan May Kim, who was then duly appointed as a Council Member. This took the total number of Council members to the maximum permitted of ten persons (excluding the ex officio member).

3. Council Members : Authority to Sign Cheques

It had previously been agreed that the office bearers shall be the authorised signatories of the Society's cheques. As there were no changes in office bearers at the AGM held on 9 March 2007, there was similarly no change to the authorised signatories.

SINGAPORE ACTUARIAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FRIDAY 7 MARCH 2008

4. SAS Standing Committees

Life Insurance Committee

Khoo Kah Siang Chair
Tang Loo Chuan
Marcus Ho Keng Guan
Lee Wai Yi

General Insurance Committee

Sebastian Tan Chair
Anne-Marie Cooke
Jeremy Lian
Alvin Fu

Health Insurance Committee

Chi Cheng Hock Chair

Teng Yuen Ning
Chen Wei Hin
Khoo Poh Huat
Moi Seng Yew
Samuel Tan
Sebastian Tan
Geoff Baars (resigned August 2007)
Teh Loo Kim (resigned August 2007)
Andres Webersinke (resigned August 2007)
Bryan Wong (joined August 2007)
Neo Pay Peng (joined August 2007)

The HI Committee was organised into two Subcommittees, the Best Practice Subcommittee and the Statistical Analysis Subcommittee:

- The objective of the Best Practice SC is to develop guidance notes on health insurance pricing and reserving to present to members in 2009. The interim goal in 2008 is to create a resource centre on the SAS website of health insurance related material which will be useful for actuaries practicing in the field.
- The Statistical Analysis SC will analyse Ministry of Health data posted on its website and identify medical cost trends which will allow HI actuaries to separate general medical cost inflation from policyholder behaviour induced inflation. The SASC will develop a template to capture MoH data.

The HI Committee issued its annual Healthcare and Financing Report 2006/07 in November 2007. The report covered developments affecting health insurance in Singapore for the period Jan 2006 to Jun 2007. The work to prepare the Report was led by **Moi Seng Yew** with the editorial support of **Chen Wei Hin**.

Teng Yuen Ning was appointed as the liaison with the Institute of Actuaries of Australia Health Practice Committee.

SINGAPORE ACTUARIAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FRIDAY 7 MARCH 2008

Membership Committee

At the Council meeting held in April 2007, the Council decided that to reflect the increasing scope of the Membership Committee, the functions of this committee would be split into two new committees: a Public Relations Committee; and a Members' Education Committee. The revised terms of reference and membership of these committees are set out below.

Public Relations Committee

Terms of Reference:

- Social activities
- Public relations and communication activities. This should include raising awareness of the SAS, including our professional role and responsibilities, with the local employer community and the public at large. It also includes revamping the Society's website but excludes maintenance of the current website.
- Recruitment, including co-ordination of school and college career talks, although the actual delivery of any talks may be delegated to other members of the actuarial community as appropriate.

Sharon Tan May Kim Chair

Yap Ling Seang
Mak Kwok Fai
Wong Kooi Fong
Samuel Seah
Khor Kah Hoa
Huang Xin Yi
Wang Jian
Joey Zhou
Anil Mancham

Members Education Committee

Terms of Reference:

- Organisation of Professional meetings e.g. Lunch Forums and SAS sponsored seminars. This will include highlighting CPD opportunities.
- Liaison with other professional bodies regarding educational matters e.g. joint courses run in Singapore on behalf of the IoA, SoA or IAA.

Duncan Lord Chair

Mark Birch UK Profession Liaison
Sumit Narayanan Forum Coordinator

Administration Committee

Timothy Beardsall Chair
Andrew Linfoot
Mark Birch

Professional Affairs Committee

Andrew Linfoot Chair
Timothy Beardsall
Richard Holloway

SINGAPORE ACTUARIAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FRIDAY 7 MARCH 2008

C. 1. Meeting with Mr Low Kwok Mun, Executive Director and Other Officers of Monetary Authority of Singapore : 13 August 2007

For the Society

Andrew Linfoot
Mark Birch

For the Monetary Authority of Singapore

Low Kwok Mun
Chi Cheng Hock
Lee Wai Yi
Alex Lee

Council Members of the Society met with Mr Low and other MAS officers to provide MAS with an update of the Society's activities over the past year or thereabouts, and to seek input for any future developments that they suggest.

The conversation covered topics such as:

- the implementation of the new process to allow Council to admit Fellows from 'non-recognised associations';
- the change in the UK Profession's rules that now permits local Fellows to nominate SAS as their primary professional regulator;
- the clarification of the Society's Mission and Vision statement;
- the implementation of the mandatory CPD requirements for SAS Fellows;
- Conferences and similar events run by the Society;
- The proposed Appointed Actuaries Symposium;
- Appointed Actuaries Induction Course; and
- the desire to prepare SAS Guidance Notes which is constrained by our available resources.

2. Society Representatives at other events

The President represented the Society at a number of events during the year:

- IAA Fund Conference in Bangkok: 6-8 September 2007
- EAAC Executive Board Meeting and Conference Tokyo: 9-12 October 2007
- Spoke at IAAust Christmas dinner: December 2007
- Spoke and presented a prize at the 10th Global Conference of Actuaries, Mumbai: 7/8 February 2008

Additionally, the President has been appointed to the Board of Examiners of the Singapore College of Insurance.

3. International Actuarial Association

The key issue currently being considered within the IAA is probably education where the IAA is progressing a plan to implement an international-based level education for use by all IAA members. Plan would be for it not to replace the UK or US exams but be used by those members with less developed educational programs which may not be in line with new IAA educational requirements.

Another, related, issue concerns what the role of the IAA should be – there being some parallels here with the situation of SAS. The main questions seems to be whether IAA should set global minimum standards or just be an international lobbying and networking group for actuaries.

SINGAPORE ACTUARIAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FRIDAY 7 MARCH 2008

IAA Ballots

Delegate : Andrew Linfoot
Correspondent : Tim Beardsall

The Society has voted "Yes" in all IAA ballots that it has voted in since 9 March 2007.

SAS Representatives on IAA Committees / Sections

Committees

Financial Risks : Khoo Kah Siang

Insurance Accounting : Nithiarani Rajasingham
(& Actuarial Standards
Subcommittee)

Professionalism : Tim Beardsall

Sections

Health : Chi Cheng Hock
Samuel Tan

The HI Committee was an active member of the International Actuarial Association Health Section (IAAHS):

- **Andres Webersinke** presented a paper at the IAAHS Colloquium held in May 2007 in Capetown, Republic of South Africa.
- The HIC participated in an IAAHS survey on HI actuarial practices and contributed an article to the IAAHS Online Journal 2/2007.
Andres Webersinke (Critical Illness) and **Chi Cheng Hock** (Risk Equalisation) continue to be members of IAAHS Topic Teams.

D. 1. Guidance Notes/Professional Standards

Issued prior to the 2007/08 session:

L01 : For Appointed Actuaries of Singapore Life Insurance Funds

G01 : For Actuaries Investigating the Policy Liabilities Relating to General Insurance Business

PS1 : Professional Standard for SAS Fellows – Continuous Professional Development

Issued during the 2007/08 session:

L02 : Valuation of Policy Liabilities for Life Insurance Business

SINGAPORE ACTUARIAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FRIDAY 7 MARCH 2008

2. **Exposure Drafts and Extraordinary General Meetings**

EGMs were held as follows:

9 March 2007 - An Exposure Draft was circulated to members on 21 February 2007 concerning Guidance Note L02 – Valuation of Policy Liabilities for Life Insurance Business. The Life Insurance Committee had previously discussed a preliminary draft with Appointed Actuaries. At the EGM, three proposed changes to the Exposure Draft were discussed and approved and the Guidance Note so amended was then approved by voting members.

3. **Constitutional Changes**

No changes were made to the Society's Constitution during the 2007/08 session.

4. **Appointed Actuary Induction Course**

During the year five newly-appointed Appointed Actuaries undertook the Society's Induction Course. The Council is grateful to **Khoo Kah Siang, Eric Seah and Richard Holloway**, who conducted these courses on the Society's behalf and to **Lee Wai Yi** and **Khoo Kah Siang** for updating the course notes.

5. **Appointed Actuaries Symposium**

The Life Committee organised the first SAS Appointed Actuary Symposium on 4 October 2007. The Symposium attracted about 45 participants (including speakers) and covered topics ranging from AA roles, regulator's view on stress testing and also the future development in IFRS4. Arising from the discussions it was clear that there is a demand for further guidance notes or professional standards to be prepared by the Society on matters such as stress testing, par fund management and conflicts of interest.

6. **Modelling Module CA2 Workshop**

On behalf of the Society, **Mark Birch** organised a Faculty and Institute of Actuaries Modelling Module CA2 Workshop on 28/29 August 2007 in Singapore.

The Workshop was led by Mark Birch and supported by **Irma Hadikusuma**. It was attended by 24 candidates and 14 of those were successful in passing CA2. This pass rate is commensurate with that achieved on the corresponding courses held in the UK since the eligibility requirements had been relaxed.

Mark Birch is arranging a further CA2 workshop in Singapore on 22/23 April 2008, to be led by Professor John Shepherd of Macquarie University, Sydney.

7. **Commercial Actuarial Practice**

Good progress had been made by **Andrew Linfoot** and **Mark Birch** with the aim of holding the Institute of Actuaries of Australia's Commercial Actuarial Practice course in Singapore in September 2007. However, the event was cancelled by the Institute when it discovered that there were insufficient numbers of students wishing to take the course outside of Australia at that time.

8. **Joint Professionalism Course**

The Professional Affairs Committee is developing a joint professionalism course, which is intended to be endorsed by all the main examining bodies. This would enable actuaries within the region to satisfy the professionalism course requirements of their examining body by attending a course locally. The inaugural course is tentatively planned for the week commencing 4 August 2008.

SINGAPORE ACTUARIAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FRIDAY 7 MARCH 2008

9. National Longevity Insurance Committee (NLIC)

Following a meeting with the NLIC, attended by **Andrew Linfoot** and **Khoo Kah Siang**, a small working group comprising **Au Sing Hong**, **Khoo Kah Siang**, **Andrew Linfoot**, **Frank McInerney** and **Ken Ng** prepared a submission to the NLIC regarding the proposed longevity insurance scheme. Following further input by Council Members the proposed submission was circulated to members on 17 December 2007 and submitted to the NLIC on 27 December 2007.

The submission was received positively by the NLIC and the Society was the only professional organisation specifically named by the NLIC, in its final report to the Minister for Manpower, as having provided input.

10. SAS Gold Medal Award 2007

Awarded to the best final year student in the Nanyang Technological University "Bachelor of Business in Actuarial Science" degree course:

Awarded to: **Mr Kok Ern**, who now is working at Great Eastern Life Assurance Co

E. 1. Forums

The Members' Education Committee was formed in September 2007 and it has since organised the following forums:

19 October 2007 attended by 32 persons	Dr Christian Braun Munich Re	"Valuation of General Insurance Policy Liabilities"
25 October 2007 attended by 21 persons	James Attwood Asia Capital Re	"Lessons from the Individual Capital Adequacy Standard regime"
7 November 2007 attended by 29 persons	Chris Daykin UK Government Actuary	"Implications of Longevity For Risk- sharing"
5 December 2007 attended by 52 persons	Soon Kian Lee Mercer	"Strategic asset allocation for managing insurance funds in regulatory environment"
4 February 2008 attended by 88 persons	Rob Curtis, Trevor Cooke and Edward Shone Financial Services Authority	"The Evolution of Insurance Solvency Standards"
9 March 2008 (attendance not known at time of writing)	Andrew Linfoot President SAS Nick Dumbreck President of the Institute of Actuaries Timothy Beardsall Hon. Treasurer SAS	"Risk Management Aspects of Variable Annuities" "Developments of the Global Actuarial Profession" "The Future of the SAS"

Thanks to **Duncan Lord**, **Sumit Narayanan** and **Patsy Lau** who were the principal organisers of these Forums and to the organisations that have provided accommodation for these events.

SINGAPORE ACTUARIAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FRIDAY 7 MARCH 2008

2. Conference: Health Insurance

The Society organised a 3 day conference with the theme 'The Role of Health Insurance in Health Care Provision in South East Asia,' preceded by a 2 day Technical Seminar given by Howard Bolnick FSA.

The keynote speaker was Mr Khaw Boon Wan (Minister for Health) and there were 18 other speakers from 10 countries (Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, India, Hong Kong, Japan, Iran, USA and Australia).

There were 150 Attendees (78 Seminar, 124 Conference, 52 both) from Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, India, Hong Kong, Korea, Japan, Pakistan, UAE, Germany and Australia.

The event received positive feedback from participants and had some good press coverage, although we probably need to emphasise the Society's name more in future events.

The event broke even financially, thanks to sponsorship.

The Society's thanks are due to the Working Party comprising:

Frank McInerney (co-Chair)
Walter de Oude (co-Chair)
Chi Cheng Hock
Samuel Tan
Ong Soon Choi
Teng Yuen Ning

and supported by Patsy Lau.

3. Silver Convention

The Society assisted the MAS in the Silver Industry Convention by supplying a speaker, **David Richardson**, who spoke on "The Impact of Government Regulations on Retirement Savings Across Several Markets – Opportunities for Industry". The Society's thanks are given to **Luke Seberry** who coordinated our involvement and David Richardson for speaking.

4. Social Functions

Social Functions arranged by the Public Relations Committee during the year were:

15 October 2007	Social drinks night at Oosters
18 December 2007	Bowling night
21 February 2008	Visit to Asia Pacific Brewery

5. Career Talks

During the year, the following talks about the actuarial profession were conducted at:

17 August 2007	NTU Actuarial Sciences (networking session)	Mark Birch & Sharon Tan
10 September 2007	NTU (talk to students)	Sharon Tan

SINGAPORE ACTUARIAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FRIDAY 7 MARCH 2008

6. **Website :** www.actuaries.org.sg

The Public Relations Committee is in the process of arranging a revamp of the Society's website. The proposed layout and content of the new website has been redesigned by the **Samuel Seah** and **Sharon Tan** and has been reviewed by a small steering group of Sharon Tan, Duncan Lord and Mark Birch.

The implementation of the new website is being contracted to an independent web-builder and work will shortly start on this. The redesign includes a number of features to make the website more useful to members and to ease the administration for the Society, so as to enable it to remain up-to-date.

F. Secretariat

Ms. Patsy Lau has continued to provide an excellent service to the Honorary Secretary and to other Officers of the Society. I wish to record my appreciation at this meeting for her dedication over the past year.

With effect from 1 January 2008, Patsy became a full time employee of the Society in response to the Society's increasing need for administrative support.

During the session, Ms Lau has been based in the offices of Scottish Re who kindly have provided accommodation for the administrative functions of the Society over the year and the Society is grateful to them for their support. Following the change in Patsy's employment status, she will now be working from her home.

Report presented by

Mark Birch
Honorary Secretary
Singapore Actuarial Society

7 March 2008