Dear Colleague,

Welcome to the Joint Regional Seminar 2019.

The Joint Regional Seminar (JRS) is an annual event co-organized by the Institute & Faculty of Actuaries, Actuaries Institute Australia and Society of Actuaries with the support of the local actuarial societies in the region. It is designed to assist actuaries and other professionals in meeting their CPD requirements.

Thanks to all the speakers and supporting organisations in Asia, the JRS 2018 attracted a great turnout with over a thousand participants across 6 locations. We are pleased to announce the JRS 2019 has been extended to cover Vietnam. It is with great pleasure that I write to you to obtain your kind support for our flagship event by considering to submit a proposal(s) to be one of our regional speakers.

The 2019 schedule will be as follows:

- 22 - 23 Jul, Mon – Tue  
  Taipei (1.5 days)
- 24 Jul, Wed  
  Hong Kong
- 26 Jul, Fri  
  Ho Chi Minh
- 29 - 30 Jul, Mon - Tue  
  Kuala Lumpur (1.5 days)
- 31 Jul, Wed  
  Jakarta
- 2 Aug, Fri  
  Sydney
- 5 Aug, Mon  
  Bangkok

The format for the full day program in each location consists of presentations by regional and local speakers whereas a workshop may be presented during the second half day program in Taipei and Kuala Lumpur.

**Theme**

In today’s dynamic business landscape, insurance companies are facing more than ever critical changes and evolving risks. The industry is undergoing significant regulatory changes with respect to financial reporting standards, capital requirements and supervisory framework. Most notably, the new International Financial Reporting Standard 17 (IFRS 17) will impact on the revenue recognition, data, systems and processes, among many others. A number of regulators are also either introducing risk-based capital (RBC) or revisiting their existing RBC framework. While insurers are relentlessly cracking the new regulatory changes, the business environment continues to be rapidly changing with the emerging trends and demographic shift, including longer life expectancy, ageing population, changing habits and behaviors. Actuaries are playing an increasingly important role in dealing with these challenges and turn them into competitive advantages. Hence the theme of this year’s JRS is
“Changing Environment, Emerging Trends and Evolving Regulations – Deja Vu or Crystal Gazing?”

There can be a variety of topics. We propose a few below, but by all means, they are not exhaustive:

- What challenges and opportunities will IFRS 17 bring to insurance companies?
- Latest regulatory movement of the capital regimes across the region and its implication
- How assets and liabilities matching / management of assets would change with the implementation of IFRS 17 and new capital regimes for insurers?
- What are the critical actions to transform the financial reporting to be more flexible with changes and the roles of actuaries in it?
- What emerging risks do insurers worldwide face and how are they prioritising them?
- Healthcare / medical technological advancements around the globe and its implication to medical cost and product design
- How shifts in people habit / behaviour e.g. online purchase, frequent usage of cell phones/computers, wearing smart devices etc. can shape the insurance operating model?
- The new thinking on enterprise risk management in the fast-moving world
- Social responsibility and customer protection
- Innovation and start-up insurance businesses
- Panel discussion on the innovative product ideas addressing emerging trends
- Professionalism and arising ethical issues associated with evolving technologies, how are we going to deal with it?
- The increasing threat of cyber and catastrophe risks and how to manage these issues

**Presentation / Workshop**

We welcome speakers from all insurance and financial backgrounds to discuss the above topics and more. We particularly like to hear from those who are already working in the areas of our proposed topics and can share insights of their work with us.

We are opening up several speaking slots in each location to insurers, consultants and reinsurers. Ideally, we would like to have the speaker present the same presentation across the region or have them around similar topics with tweaks addressing local concerns. If you are interested, please provide us with the name of the speaker(s) and their profiles, proposed topic(s) and synopsis of the presentation, the locations that you would like to speak in, area of focus, level of technical details (1 to 5, 1 being light and 5 being very technical) as well as where your paper has been presented before. **Please ensure that your proposed topic is relevant to the theme of the seminar.** Please respond by using this RFP template:
As part of the program, the Taipei and Kuala Lumpur programs will include a half day workshop. We expect the workshop to be a practical, technical and interactive session as well as align with the seminar theme. We are also inviting interested and qualified individuals to submit suggestions and proposals to develop and facilitate the workshop.

Unfortunately, we will not be able to accommodate everyone. The committee will commit to put in our best effort in setting up a process to select the best fitted topics for each location.

On behalf of the organizing committee, I look forward to receiving your contribution to this important event. In order to be considered for the seminar program, please send your presentation and/or workshop ideas by completing the RFP template to Pat Kum (patkum@netvigator.com) by 12 April 2019 for the committee’s consideration. Thank you.

With best regards,
on behalf of JRS organizing committee

Tony Ho
Chair
28 Feb 2019