

EDITORIAL

It is a great honor for me to have been appointed to the new Editor-in-Chief (EiC) of *ASTIN Bulletin*. I have been serving as Editor for *ASTIN Bulletin* under the retiring EiC Andrew Cairns since 2011. Andrew Cairns has been EiC of *ASTIN Bulletin* for 17 years, the first 5 years together with Paul Embrechts, another 2 years jointly with Shaun Wang, and since 2008 he has been solely responsible for *ASTIN Bulletin*. Andrew Cairns has done an extraordinary job; with his huge commitment and knowledge, he has established *ASTIN Bulletin* as the leading journal in actuarial science, both in industry and academia. In his time, *ASTIN Bulletin* has been awarded the Thomson Reuters Impact Factor, it has changed the publisher to Cambridge University Press, and it has integrated all of the scientific sections of the International Actuarial Association IAA. Today, *ASTIN Bulletin* publishes roughly 30 articles per year (with an average acceptance rate for new submissions of about 30%). Our greatest thanks go to Andrew Cairns for his achievements and this great success of *ASTIN Bulletin*.

Looking forward, the actuarial profession faces major challenges that will imply several changes in the near future. Our main goal and purpose is to support and prepare the profession for these changes with outstanding and high-quality research. The biggest challenges are coming from the broad domain of data science, which is one of the core competences of actuaries. Ever-growing data repositories (big data) and quickly emerging new statistical methods (machine learning algorithms) are currently impacting on many professions. This provides a lot of new competition, but also opportunities. Encouraged by the huge success in image recognition, speech recognition or search engines, machine learning methods have become more and more established, also for solving actuarial and statistical problems. For instance, in telematics car insurance, companies have started to collect high-frequency car driving data that needs to be explored and analyzed; covariates need to be extracted so that this high-frequency data can be made useful for predictive modeling. This data may easily contain several terabytes which highlights the challenges faced by the insurance industry. My goal is to support the profession in these new fields as well as in traditional actuarial fields like mortality modeling, life, pension and health insurance, claims reserving, regression and credibility modeling, catastrophe and reinsurance modeling, asset and liability management, financial modeling or risk management and portfolio optimization. I would like to call for your high-quality research, for your brilliant ideas and for your interesting data, so that we can share this knowledge among the (actuarial) community. Our future success relies heavily

on you, our authors, our editors, our reviewers and our readers, and I am looking forward to a very fruitful collaboration.

MARIO WÜTHRICH