1. IT Update
The EC received a briefing on the IT upgrade project. The Secretariat has “interviewed” several Full Member Associations (FMAs) and other professional associations to learn about their IT systems – functionality, effectiveness, implementation, maintenance, costs, etc. A key conclusion is that we should be able to identify an appropriate “off the shelf” system and therefore avoid the more costly “custom” solution.

While the upgrade efforts are in the early stages, some of the more problematic aspects of the current system were addressed in the first half of 2017 and so the risk of imminent IT obsolescence has been reduced. Involvement of Sections will be important in the next project phase. Additional information on the IT upgrade project, including the timeframe and more detailed budget, will be provided to the EC and Council in Chicago.

2. Revised Publications Policy and Guidelines for Committee Papers
This review is ongoing. The Branding and Communications Subcommittee intends to continue to gather relevant input and prepare final policy and guideline revisions for approval in Chicago.

3. Inclusive Insurance Project with the International Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS)
A webinar on inclusive insurance was held on June 14, 2017. The webinar was hosted by President Tom Terry and featured presentations by Nigel Bowman, Chair of the Microinsurance Working Group, Jules Gribble, Senior Policy Advisor at the IAIS. The recording and presentation can be accessed on the website.

The EC was updated on the progress of the parallel work going on between the IAA and the IAIS on this topic. After this review and discussion, the EC concluded that inclusive insurance developments had the potential to be very significant to the world wide insurance industry and to the actuarial profession. The EC was very supportive of the IAA’s efforts.

4. Follow-ups from Meetings with Committee Chairs, June 13 and 20
The EC met with IAA Committee Chairs during special meetings scheduled for June 13 and 20. The substance of these meetings were further discussed at the EC’s June 27 meeting. In general, the joint meetings provided Chairs and the EC the opportunity to listen to and learn from one another about individual committee activities, the considerable number of cross-committee projects, the challenges of coordinating such projects during the regularly scheduled IAA meetings, and the importance of Secretariat support for their activities.

The EC was reminded of a takeaway from the full day strategy brainstorming session in Cape Town: that the IAA had a significant number of committees, subcommittees, working groups, etc., and that reducing this number and/or restructuring committees should be considered. The EC discussed this at length in light of the discussions with committee chairs on June 13 and 20 and concluded that there was no immediate problem that would be best addressed by a structural change. The greatest opportunity for improving and/or streamlining IAA committee work would be by recognizing the considerable project overlaps and streamlining cross-practice/topical projects by reorienting our meeting time together every six months. The EC also acknowledged, however, that reorganizing committees always will remain an option where it is deemed appropriate.

The EC was reminded that at the IAA Council and Committee meetings in Chicago, half of the first day is being set aside for roundtable discussion on “hot topics” that should be of interest to attending FMAs. The EC will keep an open mind about the structure of these meetings and consider ways to use the time creatively to help facilitate work related to cross-discipline projects.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Terry, Chairperson