

EDITORIAL

The new editors would like to take this opportunity of introducing themselves. We intend to publish an editorial—not necessarily written by either of us—in all forthcoming issues of *ASTIN BULLETIN*.

In taking over the responsibility for the editorship of the *ASTIN BULLETIN* we must start with a compliment to Peter ter Berg. He has managed the bulletin for 7 years and in the period of his editorial activity *ASTIN BULLETIN* has become an internationally respected journal. Its scientific level has been raised considerably and we are proud of this.

As we all know, the actuary needs a scientific basis for his daily activity. On the other hand, we are also aware of the fact that the interpretation of scientific results to the extent where they become guidelines for practical work is as important as the basic research activity. This “transcription” of fundamental thinking into real applications is close to an art. It is hence more difficult in the sense that intuition and expertise play as much a role as logical thought.

The new editors hope that, as well as in the basic scientific field, an area where we aim for originality and quality of the publication, *ASTIN BULLETIN* may also become a forum for reports on how basic methodologies have been applied in practical work, or how practical work has generated new methodologies of general interest.

How can we achieve all this?

We hope to encourage the involvement of a greater number of *ASTIN* members with their journal by clearly defining several sections for each of the forthcoming issues.

1. *Editorial and Announcements*
2. *Articles*: Under this heading we should like to publish papers along the traditional *ASTIN* lines.
3. *Workshop*: This should be the forum for interaction between real application and theoretical modelling.
4. *Letters to the Editors*: With this section we are starting an experiment. In principle, we invite reactions and possibly suggestions from the readership about papers published in *ASTIN BULLETIN*. The experiment may become critical if we get either too few or too many letters, but let's cross that bridge when we come to it!

5. *Reviews of New Books*

We must stress that the structure of the bulletin provides only a framework, which we invite you to use. The success of *ASTIN BULLETIN* depends on all the individual contributors. Please help us to make *ASTIN BULLETIN* the breeding ground for the symbiotic culture of true practical applications and high quality methodological research.

Harry Reid and Hans Bühlmann