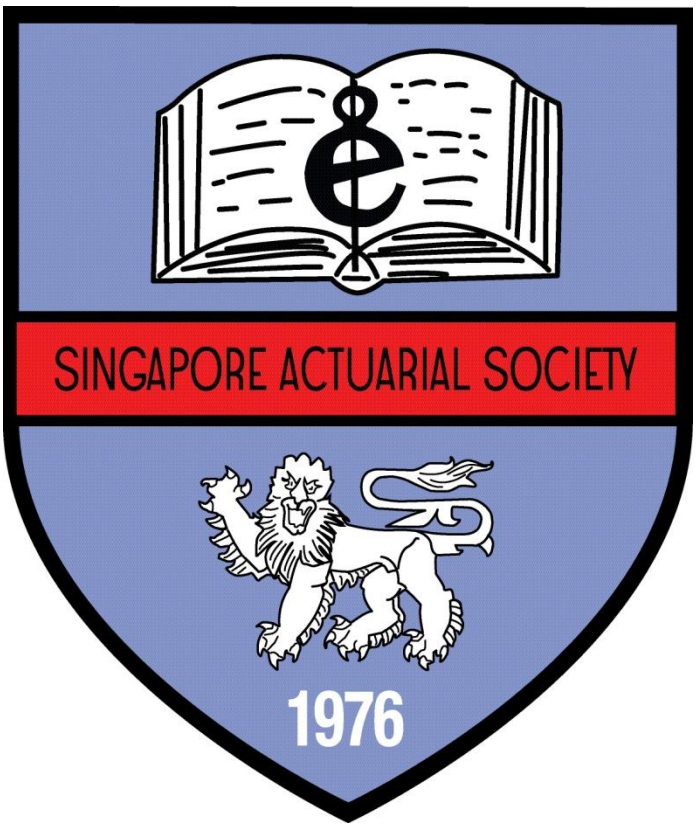

Singapore Actuarial Society

2008/2009 Annual Report & Accounts

What is an Actuary?

An actuary is a financial services professional who advises clients on financial matters which involve management of the risks of financial events in the future which cannot be predicted with certainty.

An actuary is a professional and, in giving advice, must always act with integrity, due diligence, competence and in the interest of all parties affected by his or her professional advice.

What is the Singapore Actuarial Society?

The Singapore Actuarial Society was formed in 1976. At that time, the profession was little known in Singapore and there were only a handful of qualified actuaries. The adoption of the new Constitution in July 1996 and the Code of Professional Conduct in November 1997 is the fruition of efforts made in the past two decades to promote the study of actuarial science and professional standards.

The Society ultimately aims to be the recognized representative body of the actuarial profession in Singapore, having the final authority in setting professional standards. The objectives of the Society are:

- to uphold the highest professional standards among members
- to promote the study, discussion, publication and research into the application of economic, financial and statistical principles to practical problems, the actuarial, economic and allied aspects of life assurance, non-life insurance, employee retirement benefits, finance and investment with particular reference to Singapore and the ASEAN region
- to assist students in the course of their actuarial studies and
- to foster and encourage social relationship among the members.

We are located at 81 Clemenceau Avenue, #04-15/16 UE Square, Suite 40, Singapore, 239917 or www.actuaries.org.sg

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President's Message

Frank McInerney

I am pleased to present you with the first Annual Report of the Singapore Actuarial Society (SAS). This report covers the period 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009 and will highlight the achievements made this year and the goals of the Council for next year.

I am honoured to have served as President for the past year, and look forward to serving again in the upcoming year. As I reflect back on the past year, I'm pleased to see such an active membership. On the last page of this report we have listed all of the volunteers for this past year. Thank you for your dedication and hard work.

However, there is always the need for more volunteers. Volunteering not only benefits the SAS, it also benefits you. Volunteering allows you to meet with other actuaries and industry colleagues, that you might not have encountered. You learn practical skills, such as how to run a meeting, take notes, manage a budget or provide leadership. And it looks good on a CV! There is a committee or event to suit your interest and time commitment, so please do not hesitate to contact myself or another member of Council to find out how you and the SAS can benefit together.

This Year's Achievements - 2008/09

The 2008/2009 Council year was a busy one with many targets.

Secretariat

Patsy Lau

In 2008, Patsy Lau became the SAS's first full-time employee. She is responsible for the day to day running of the Society. You will have seen her at numerous events, registering participants and ensuring that the day runs smoothly.

The SAS also rented office space for the Secretariat, giving the SAS its own home at 81 Clemenceau Avenue, #04-15/16 UE Square, Suite 40, Singapore, 239917.

Ms. Lau has been doing a wonderful job and the Council thanks her on behalf of all our members.

Forums and Seminars

One of the overall goals of the SAS is to provide quality learning experiences for our members.

Forums:

Date	Speaker	Topic	Attendance
27 March 2009	Alan Yip	Credit Derivatives	27
16 March 2009	Trevor Thompson	The IAA Paper	41
5 November 2008	Steve Nuttall	Corporate risk management - examples from the UK pensions buyout market	20
29 September 2008	Gavin Maistry	ERM & the New SOA CERA Credential	29
03 July 2008	Lawrence Tsui	Cancer Insurance Products	38
26 June 2008	Wolfgang Droste	Dread Disease Survey	49
28 April 2008	Gary Venter	ERM for Strategic Management	30
31 March 2008	Greg Martin	Developing role of actuaries in Australia	18

Seminars:

Date & Attendance	Seminar	Attendance
22-23 April 2008	Modeling Module CA2 Workshop	26
4-7 August 2008	Joint Professionalism Course*	23
2 December 2008	Appointed Actuaries' Symposium	41

Council thanks all those who were involved with organizing and running these events.

* The Joint Professionalism Course is run in conjunction with the Casualty Actuarial Society, the Institute of Actuaries of Australia and The Actuarial Profession (UK).

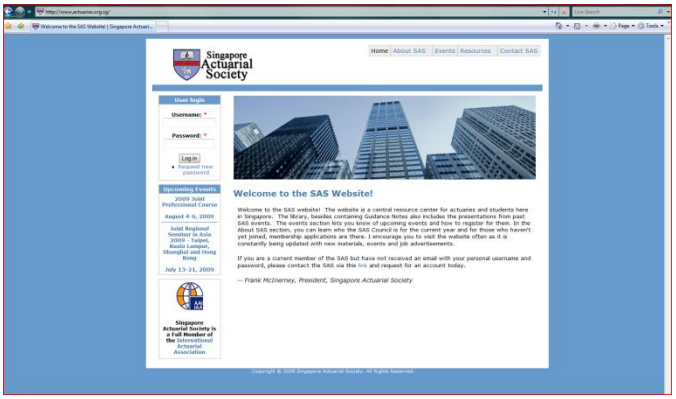
Social Events

Besides the educational events that provide networking opportunities for our members, several social events were arranged this year. They were:

Date & Attendance	Event
October 2008 attended by 32 persons	Drinks Night at Oosters
December 2008 attended by 52 persons	Bowling Night

Website

The SAS website, www.actuaries.org.sg, was redesigned and re-launched in 2008. It is easier to navigate for members; it provides members with the ability to update their own personal details, as well as email other members, without knowing their email address; and it is more user friendly for the Secretariat so the website can be kept up-to-date more easily



Next Year's Goals – 2009/10

Education

The Council wishes to provide members even more educational opportunities. In May 2009 there will be the first General Insurance conference, and in August 2009 a joint LIA/SAS protection conference.

We hope to offer at least 10 forums throughout the year. The East Asian Actuarial Conference (EAAC) is in Seoul, Korea, and we encourage our members to attend and to present papers at this important conference.

Professional Standards

Council has reviewed PS1 - Professional Standard for SAS Fellows – Continuous Professional Development and have found that in today's market it may not be appropriate. Changes will be proposed at an Extraordinary General Meeting to be held March 27, 2009 in which the number of hours will be proposed to be increased from 12 hours to 20 hours, more in line with other actuarial bodies.

Guidance Notes

The Life Insurance Committee will be tasked with the review of guidance notes, L01: For Appointed Actuaries of Singapore Life Insurance Funds and L02: Valuation of Policy Liabilities for Life Insurance Business to ensure that they are appropriate and relevant.

Constitution

The Constitution was last revised in 2006. The International Actuarial Association has recommended some modifications to the Constitution which will be reviewed to see if appropriate.

Public Relations

Council would like to open up a more regular dialogue with the Monetary Authority of Singapore and other industry bodies, as well as the actuarial universities in Singapore. Meetings will be set up with the relevant parties. The SAS will work on gaining a higher profile for actuaries in the industry and also with the public.

Student Outreach

The SAS wants to reach the actuary of tomorrow. If there is an interest, a Student Committee will be set up and events appropriate for them will be established.

International Committee

More and more this is a global world and the International Actuarial Association (IAA) is trying to bring the various societies and associations around the world together. A separate committee will be set up to handle the various requests from the IAA.

Salary Survey

The data from the Salary Survey was collected at the end of 2008 and results will be finalized in the 2009/2010 year and will be sent to those who participated in the survey.

Honorary Secretary's Message

Jill Hoffman

When I contacted the Honorary Secretary of the SAS, Mark Birch, to volunteer, I had no idea that I would become so intimately involved with this great organization. Mr. Birch wanted to step down his involvement on Council, so I agreed to take over his role. It has been a pleasure becoming Honorary Secretary mid-year, and working with Council as well as Patsy Lau.

Ms. Lau became full-time with the SAS at the beginning of 2008 and I have no idea how the Society functioned before that! She has been a great help to me and to other members and I thank her for her hard work and dedication.

This has been an eventful year for the Council. There were numerous changes in the Council composition, beginning with a new President at the start of the year and a number of changes in the make-up of Council. New people bring new ideas and I think we have an excellent Council to continue on the path laid down by those who preceeded us.

This is the first year that the SAS has produced an Annual Report such as this. It is continuing in our aim to become a more professionally recognized body with the industry and general public, alike. I hope that you enjoy the report.

SAS Structure and Council

The Society of Actuaries is a non-profit organization registered with the Registrar of Societies. It was founded in 1976 and is governed by the Singapore Actuarial Society Constitution (Revision July 2006).

The objects of the Society are to set and uphold the highest professional standards among members; to promote the study, discussion, publication and research into the application of economic, financial and statistical principles to practical problems, the actuarial, economic and allied aspects of life assurance, non-life insurance, employee retirement benefits, finance and investment with particular reference to Singapore and the ASEAN region; to assist students in the course of their actuarial studies; to foster and encourage social relationship among the members.

This Society is governed by a Council which is to be composed of a minimum of 7 and a maximum of 10 elected or co-opted members and 1 Ex-officio Member.

2008/2009 Council

Council attendance and roles are shown in the table below:

Person	Role	Total Attended	Total Possible	Note
Frank McInerney	President	13	13	
Eric Seah	Vice-President	2	8	Resigned in November
Tim Beardsall	Hon. Treasurer	9	13	
Mark Birch	Hon. Secretary	2	2	Resigned as Secretary in May
Jill Hoffman	Hon. Secretary	10	11	Co-opted as Secretary in May
Chi Cheng Hock	Council Member	12	13	
Angela Koechli	Council Member	13	13	
Andrew Linfoot	ex officio	9	13	
Colin Pakshong	Council Member	10	13	
Sharon Tan	Council Member	8	13	
Luke Seberry	Council Member	4	6	Resigned in September
Mark Birch	Council Member	2	3	Resigned in September
Ken Ng	Council Member	4	6	Co-opted in Council in October
Rani Rajasingham	Council Member	5	6	Co-opted in Council in October

Changes to Council

There were a number of changes in the Office Bearers and Council members during the year.

Eric Seah resigned as Vice-President in November. The Council would like to thank him for his participation. No one was elected by Council to take over the Vice-President position for the remainder of the year.

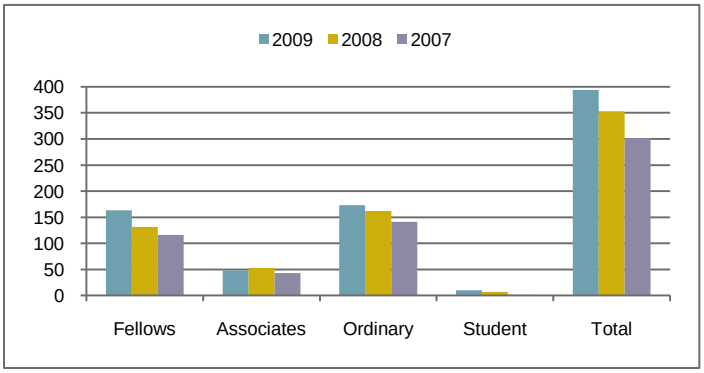
Mark Birch resigned as Honorary Secretary in May 2008 and ***Jill Hoffman*** was co-opted by Council, under its powers under the Constitution, to assume this position. Mark then served as a Council member until September, when he then resigned from Council. The Council would like to thank Mark Birch for his years of service.

Luke Seberry resigned from Council as he left Singapore. Council would like to thank him and wishes him the best with his new opportunities.

Due to the vacancies created by the resignations, Council co-opted ***Ken Ng*** and ***Rani Rajasingham*** to the Council in October.

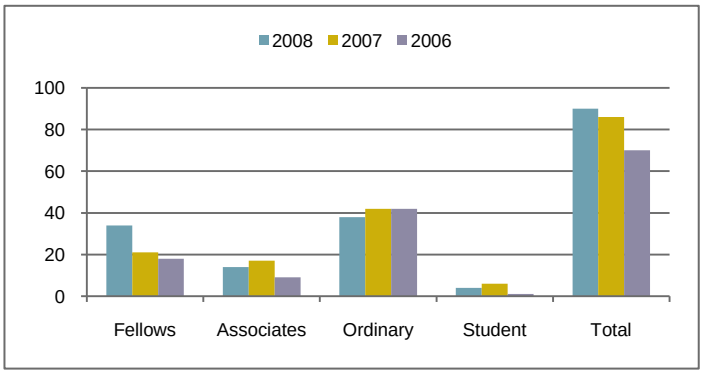
SAS Membership

Figure 1 - Current Membership



As at 27 March 2009, the membership of the Society numbered 394, a 12% increase over the year and 31% increase over the past two years.

Figure 2 - New Members



Membership continues to grow, with 90 new applications received in 2008/2009 versus 86 in 2007/2008.

New Fellows

The following members have all completed their examinations, professionalism courses and gained Fellowship of the SAS during the year.

Khoo Kay Hwee
Yeo Keng Leong
Huynh Ly Duyen
Yap Ling Seang
Jonathan Yen Vui Hiung
Harry Lee Chun Foong

The Society offers its congratulations to all of the above.

SAS Gold Medal Award 2008

The Gold Medal is awarded to the best final year student in the Nanyang Technological University "Bachelor of Business in Actuarial Science" degree course and the winner was: ***Eric Goh Hong Leong***. Congratulations Eric!

Practice Committee Reports

The SAS has a number of Practice Committees who provide actuarial research and other services to the members of the SAS.

Life Insurance Committee

This committee is chaired by Walter de Oude and is tasked with:

- Ensure Guidance Notes on Life Insurance are appropriate
- Respond requests from the MAS, LIA and any other body on Life Insurance matters.
- Contribute to any debate, public or private, on Life Insurance issues where appropriate.
- Organise an annual Appointed Actuary Symposium.
- Organise other Conferences, Seminars on Life Insurance.
- Maintain & run the Appointed Actuary induction course.
- Encourage the production of papers and talks on Life Insurance issues.
- Work with the MAS on producing regular updates to the Singapore Mortality tables.

General Insurance Committee

This committee is chaired by Jim Attwood and is tasked with:

- Ensure Guidance Notes on General Insurance issues are appropriate
- Respond to circulars and requests from the MAS, GIA and any other body on General Insurance matters.
- Contribute to any debate, public or private, on General Insurance issues where appropriate.
- Organise an annual General Insurance Seminar
- Organise other Conferences, Seminars on General Insurance issues
- Encourage the production of papers and talks on General Insurance issues

Health Insurance Committee

This committee chaired by Chi Cheng Hock and is tasked with:

- Ensure Guidance Notes on Health Insurance issues are appropriate.
- Respond to circulars and requests from the MAS, LIA and any other body on Health Insurance matters.
- Contribute to any debate, public or private, on Health Insurance issues where appropriate.
- Organise a biennial Health Insurance Conference
- Organise other Conferences, Seminars on Health Insurance issues as appropriate.
- Encourage the production of papers and talks on Health Insurance issues.

Support Committee Reports

The SAS has a number of support committees that help with the organizing of events and other matters.

Public Relations Committee

This committee is chaired by Sharon Tan and is tasked with the following:

- Promote the Society and the actuarial profession in Singapore through the media, links with educational institutions and industry bodies.
- Produce a monthly newsletter.
- Use the website to promote the Society.
- Organise regular social events for members.

Education Committee

This committee is chaired by Mark Birch and is tasked with the following:

- Organise 10 Forums a year.
- Liaise with other actuarial bodies to run relevant educational courses in Singapore.
- Propose conferences and seminars and any other CPD events to be organised in Singapore.
- Recommend seminars and conferences run by other bodies for endorsement by the Society as CPD opportunities for our members.

Honorary Treasurer's Message

Tim Beardsall

I am pleased to present you with the Accounts as at December 31, 2008 for the Society of Actuaries. Advertisements were a strong revenue driver in 2008 but is not expected to continue for the next year. Seminars ran at a small profit. SAS membership fees, while increased, do not cover the administration cost of running the SAS and other means of income generation will have to be looked into.

The net surplus for 2008 was $13,299 compared to $59,289 for 2007. The decrease of nearly $46,000 was mainly due to Ms. Lau becoming full-time in 2008, the acquiring of a rental office for the SAS, the purchase of liability insurance and the redevelopment of the website. Beside the website redevelopment, all other expenses are to be on-going. Due to this, Council agreed for the 2009 renewal year to increase subscription fees as well as operate seminars at a profit or with an explicit expense margin for covering the administration expenses.

The SAS remains solvent with over $243,000 of net assets.

Accounts

Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended 31/12/2008

All amounts in S$	2008	2007
Income		
Subscription & Entrance Fees	38,149.22	23,241.88
Fees for Seminar\Forum	8,095.00	1,159.00
Conference (Retirement/Health)		121,790.07
AA Symposium	13,400.00	12,050.00
Social	1,147.95	210.00
JRS Product/JPC	29,400.00	27,480.00
CA2 Module	32,400.00	30,600.00
Bank Interest	666.65	1,470.06
AGM & Dinner	2,920.00	2,060.00
Induction Course	1,000.00	3,500.00
Conference Rebates	180.00	
Job Advertisement	44,000.00	36,500.00
TOTAL INCOME	**171,358.82**	**260,061.01**
Expenditure		
AGM & Dinner	14,629.50	7,968.65
PO Box	-	-
Website	7,049.37	288.32
Costs of Admin Support	39,941.40	15,895.40
Seminar\Forum	11,911.31	4,600.68
Conference		121,471.55
CA2 Module	14,614.23	8,483.19
JRS Product/JPS	26,797.35	21,191.89
Postage & Stationery + Misc Office Costs	961.13	
Office Equipment	4,063.49	1,700.00
NTU Gold Medal	300.00	300.00
International Actuarial Association membership fees	2,427.29	2,112.55
Social Events	4,800.37	373.23
Council Refreshments	676.26	400.85
Bank charges	59.00	5.80
Tax	5,400.76	4,019.52
AA Symposium	6,708.02	10,960.01
Liability Insurance	7,704.00	-
Office Rent	9,016.50	-
Donation to IAA Fund	1,000.00	1,000.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	**158,059.98**	**200,771.64**
NET SURPLUS/ (DEFICIT)	**13,298.84**	**59,289.37**

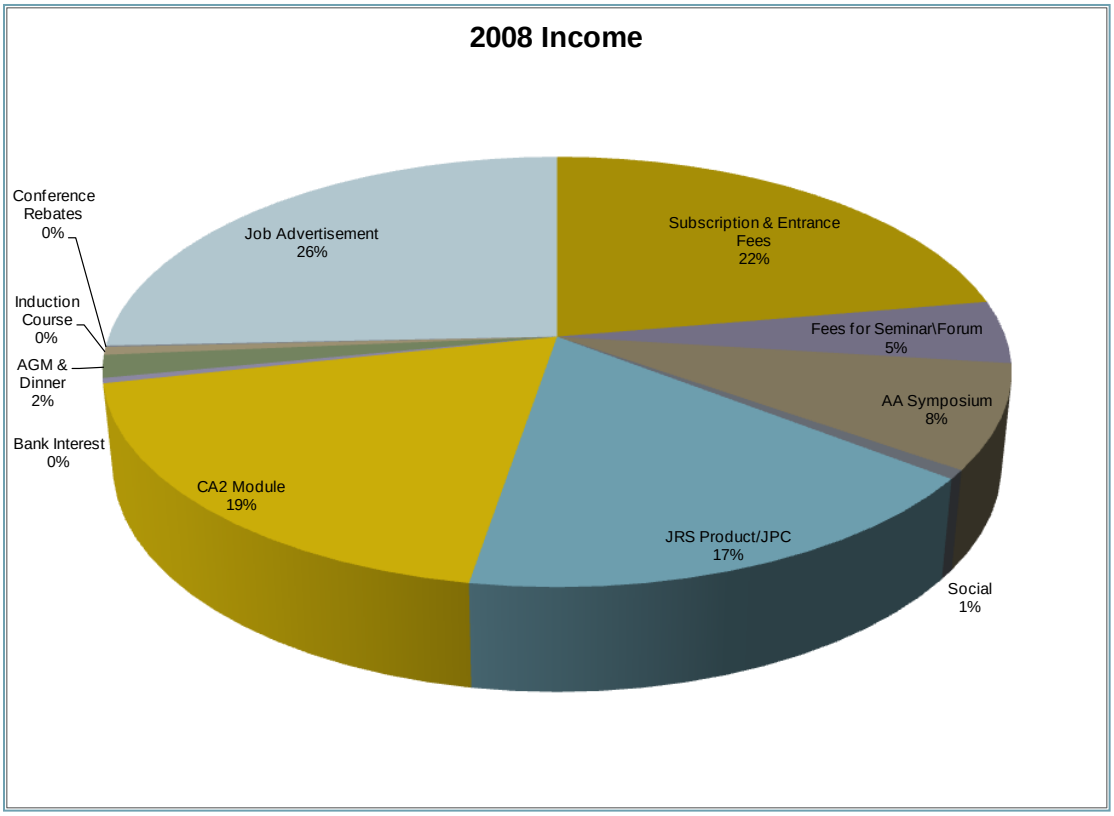
President
Frank McInerney

Balance Sheet as at 31/12/2008

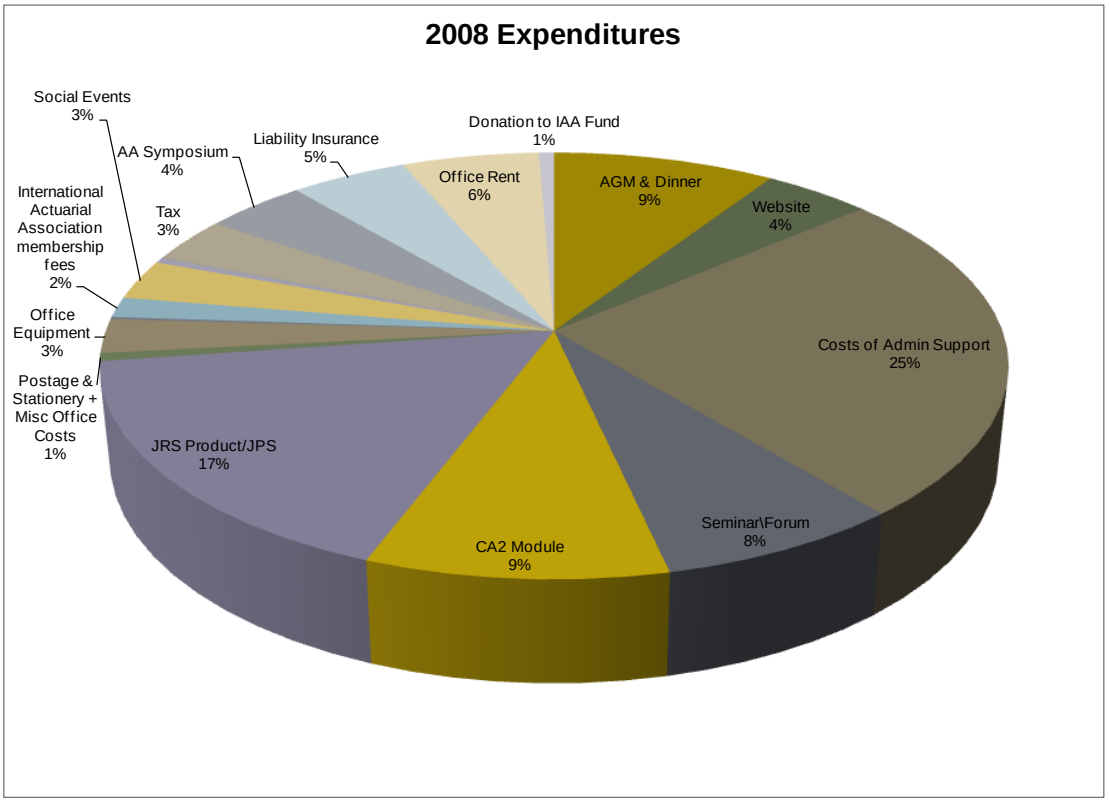
All amounts in S$	2008	2007
Current Asset		
Cash in hand		-
Fixed deposit	93,781.49	93,114.84
Bank balance	150,123.79	140,202.75
Amount Owed	188.42	
Rental Deposit	1,900.00	
Total Asset	**245,993.70**	**233,317.59**
Current Liabilities		
Provision for cheques not cleared	2,582.04	322.25
Provision for Tax	-	4,019.52
Total Liabilities	**2,582.04**	**4,341.77**
Net Asset	**243,411.66**	**228,975.82**
Represented by:		
Accumulated Fund at the beginning of the year	228,975.62	174,756.45
Advance Subscription & Entrance Fees for next year	1,505.00	368.00
Advance Subscription & Entrance Fees from last year	(368.00)	(5,438.00)
Surplus / (Deficit) arising during the year	13299.041	59,289.17
Balance at the end of the year	**243,411.66**	**228,975.62**

President
Frank McInerney

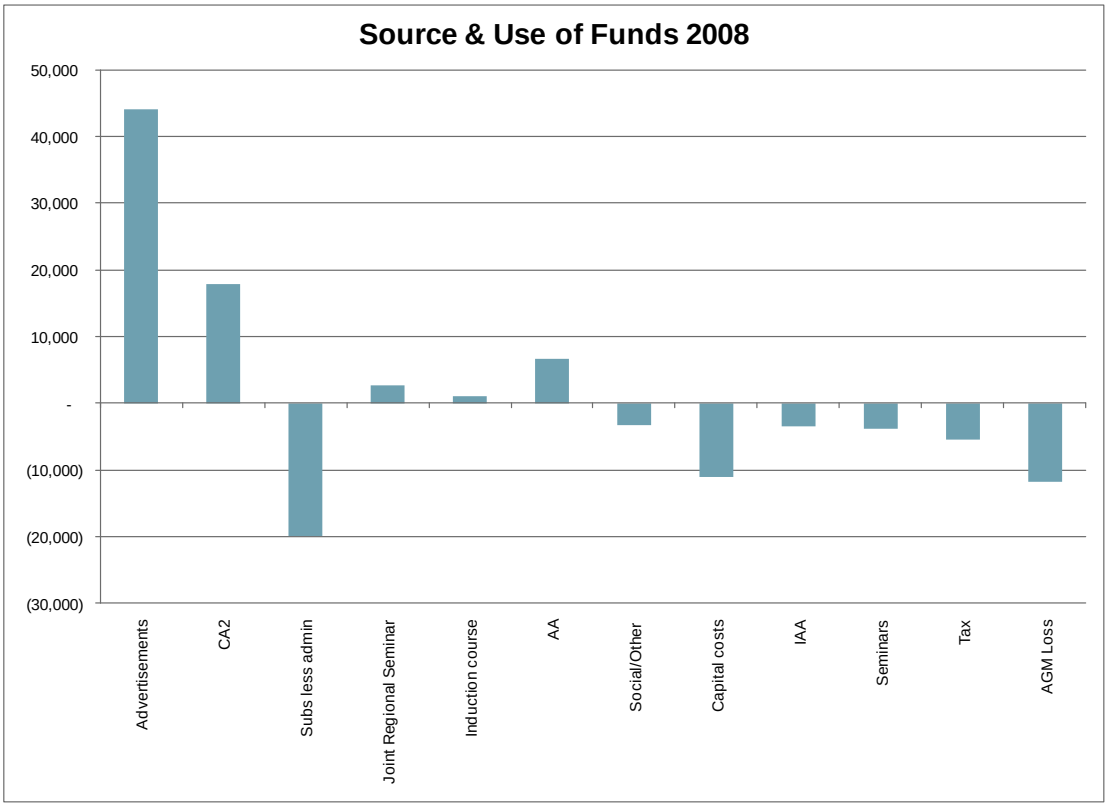
The chart below shows the sources of income for the year. As shown, job advertisements and subscriptions make up nearly 50% of the SAS's income. Other major source of revenues are the fees collected for seminars.



The chart below shows the expenditures for 2008. Fixed costs of rent and administration support are now 30% of the cost.



Below shows the Sources and Uses of funds. All the fixed administration costs (compensation, rent) are netted against subscription income. No expenses are netted against advertisements.



Thank you

The SAS would not exist if it were not for all the volunteers on various committees. Council would like to thank…

Alan Yip	Alistair Chamberlain	Alvin Fu	Andrew Linfoot	Angela Koechli	Anil Mancham
Anne-Marie Cooke	Bryan Wong	Chen Wei Hin	Chi Cheng Hock	Chris Daykin	Colin Chan
Colin Pakshong	Colin Startup	Dominic Ong	Dr. Jacky Li	Eric Seah	Frank McInerney
Gary Venter	Gavin Maistry	Greg Martin	Jenny Lai	Jeremy Lian	Jill Hoffman
Jim Attwood	Joey Zhou	John Gleba	Judee Lee	Ken Hung	Ken Ng
Khoo Kah Siang	Khoo Poh Huat	Khor Kah Hoa	Kimmy Yean	Lawrence Tsui	Lee Wai Yi
Lim Choon Kwang	Luke Seberry	Mak Kwok Fai	Marcus Ho Keng Guan	Mark Birch	Martin Knight
Moi Seng Yew	Neo Pay Peng	Ong Soon Chooi	Pierre Balthazard	Professor John Shepherd	Rani Rajasingham
Samuel Seah	Samuel Tan	Sebastian Tan	Sharon Tan May Kim	Steve Nuttall	Sumit Narayan
Tang Loo Chuan	Teng Yuen Ning	Timothy Beardsall	Trevor Thompson	Walter de Oude	Wang Jian
Wolfgang Droste	Wong Kooi Fong	Woon Dar Vei			