



## Volunteers' experiences

*“Over the years serving on working parties and committees has broadened the range of options for my career by giving me useful experience beyond my ‘day jobs’.”*



An IFoA Member  
Engagement Profile

## A view from a volunteer: Seamus Creedon



**Seamus Creedon is a Fellow of the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries (IFoA) based in London. He volunteers for the IFoA in a number of ways including fulfilling the role of Chair of the Managing Committee responsible for driving forward the IFoA's Non-Executive Director (NED) Member Interest Group (MIG) and delivering objectives.**

**Seamus is himself a NED on the boards of a life insurer, an asset manager, a catastrophe reinsurer, and a life and health reinsurer.**

### The experience of a volunteer developing NED opportunities

I heartily recommend volunteering to support the work of our profession as a good career move! Over the years serving on working parties and committees has broadened the range of options for my career by giving me useful experience beyond my 'day jobs'.

#### Our skills can be of great value

These days my main volunteer work is with actuaries who are either already on company boards or would like to be. I believe that our skills can be of great value to companies in dealing with the risk and uncertainty that are intrinsic to business. My late father became an active non-executive director (NED) after retiring as a civil servant and always told me he enjoyed it more than anything else in his career.

At present I am on the boards of a life insurer, an asset manager, a catastrophe reinsurer, and a life and health reinsurer. My wife is also an actuary and serves on the board of a quoted bank. I believe my colleagues value me for my capacity to ask good questions and to help explore what might happen – 'What could go wrong and then where would we be?' is always useful!

Being a director is not without risks and businesses do get into trouble sometimes. The question for a director then becomes 'Did I do my reasonable best?'

#### Benefits of being involved in the IFoA's NED MIG

NEDs love to compare notes with one another and I was delighted when the profession encouraged a member interest group specifically for actuary NEDs and actuaries interested in such a career. We have organised a series of events which have gone down really well with members and we also have a LinkedIn group.

We would be very happy to hear from individuals who are keen to volunteer to be involved in the MIG Managing Committee, and we also encourage members to be involved in the MIG. Discover more about the MIG [here](#).



Institute  
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### The value of volunteering

Throughout my career I have usually been happy to contribute by speaking or writing, preferably on subjects I know something about! It has helped me to organise my thoughts and also to learn from discussion with others, which I hope has made me more valuable in my main work. I am very proud of our profession – one of my sons is an actuary in Asia – and I think volunteering is a win-win, both for the volunteer and for all of us actuaries. I encourage you to get involved.

To get involved in volunteering for the IFoA visit:  
[www.actuaries.org.uk/get-involved/volunteering-ifo](http://www.actuaries.org.uk/get-involved/volunteering-ifo)