

Dear IAS members,

It is truly my great pleasure and honor to serve as the president of the International Accounting Section (IAS) of the American Accounting Association (AAA) for 2023-2024. The IAS was created in 1976 and has served our members for nearly 50 years. The vision of the IAS is to “serve as a forum to share and disseminate information about international accounting, education, and research issues,” and to “serve as a point of entry into AAA for international faculty and doctoral students, and increase community of international academics, practitioners, standard setters and researchers.” It is even more relevant in the post-pandemic world to bring international scholars together and promote international accounting education and research.

With that vision in mind, I am pleased to announce that we will offer three different meeting opportunities in 2024 to bring together international researchers, educators, and practitioners to share their unique experiences. First, we will have our 2024 IAS midyear meeting joint with International Association for Accounting Education & Research (IAAER) on January 25-27, 2024 at Atlanta, GA, a lovely international hub that is easily accessible to U.S. and international travelers. Special thank goes to Jeff Chen and Maria Rykaczewski for their very diligent work in preparing for this meeting and to Linda Myers for chairing the PhD/New Faculty Consortium! During the midyear meeting, we will have a Friday morning plenary session on International Financial Reporting and a Saturday plenary session on Sustainability Disclosure, Reporting and Assurance by renowned academics and practitioners worldwide. Additionally, Paul Munter, Chief Accountant of the SEC, will join us as the Friday luncheon speaker. Please look out for another email in November for the full conference highlights. Most importantly, thank you for submitting your manuscript to the meeting and helping your colleagues by reviewing and discussing their papers. As a closely connected community, our success does not happen without your willingness to volunteer and serve the IAS in various capacities.

Second, we will have the 11th *Journal of International Accounting Research* (JIAR) conference on June 20-22, 2024 at beautiful Taipei, Taiwan. The planning and organizing committees (chaired by Agnes Cheng), JIAR editor Steve Lin, and Professor Shuen-Zen Liu of National Taiwan University have spent four years to put together this amazing event, and I very much look forward to it. The JIAR conference has plenary sessions for JIAR submissions and concurrent sessions for research presentations, so all are welcome to attend. There will be another doctoral/New Faculty consortium right before the conference, again thanks to Linda Myers.

Third, the annual meeting will be held in Washington, D. C., from August 12-14, 2024. Francesco Deluca and Long Chen have already started planning it. Please consider submitting your manuscripts and panel session proposals and volunteering to serve as reviewers, discussants, and moderators. We will hold our IAS luncheon on Monday, August 12, to celebrate various award winners and network with colleagues.

We are also undertaking several initiatives this year to complement our in-person meetings. I'm thrilled to share that members from certain Tier-3 countries (Brazil, Africa, and India) can now enjoy two years of complimentary IAS membership when they join the AAA via our special discounted program. For those of you who have joined us

through the Tier-3 program, welcome to IAS, and I hope you will find IAS as your academic home within the AAA. I would love to see you at any of our meetings to welcome you in person. Please also spread the word to colleagues and friends from a Tier-3 country for this great opportunity.

We have also launched a Lifetime Contribution to International Accounting Research award to recognize individuals who have made notable contributions to international accounting research over the course of his/her career. Sudipta Basu and his team are working hard with the Advisory Board to review the nominees. The winner will be announced in November and will be featured during our Saturday luncheon at the 2024 midyear meeting.

I am also very pleased to announce that we will establish an Outstanding Discussion award at both the midyear and annual meetings to recognize the outstanding discussants among conference participants. Stay tuned!

Additionally, we have taken steps to revise the IAS resources webpage. The first IAS resource series of this year was released last week. It features the Stephen Zeff Digital Library from Rice University, as we celebrated Steve's 90th birthday earlier this year. The website contains several short video clips from Steve directly and two of his related publications on the historical evolution of the U.S. and global accounting standards for over six decades. I hope that it provides valuable information as you pursue your research and teaching for IFRS-related topics. Please check out the IAS resource webpage for further releases in our resource series.

As the AAA has established a foundation for its fundraising effort, the IAS is working with the AAA to raise the money for our section. If you know any international or domestic organization that may be interested in sponsoring any of our awards or PhD travel grants, please do reach out to me. We would love to partner with them.

We are in the age of social media. It is my plan to establish a social media committee to promote IAS further this year. If you are interested in working on this committee or know someone who would be a good fit, please feel free to volunteer for yourself and your colleagues.

The IAS is my academic home within the AAA and always has a special meaning in my heart. I am forever grateful for any IAS colleagues who have extended their mentorship and friendship to me. Now, it is my time to give back, and I hope that I can continue building this home-felt community for you all. If you have any suggestions and comments on how to best serve our section members, please keep in mind that I would love to hear from you.

Thanks to many of you for serving on IAS. Hope to see many of you in Atlanta, Taiwan, and Washington, D.C.

Sincerely,

Lucy

Lucy Chen
The IAS president for 2023-2024
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