

# Gamma Iota Sigma Alumni News Fall 2010

Gamma Iota Sigma  
Alpha Kappa Chapter

Fall 2010

**\*Save the Date - Gamma Games April 22nd\***

## Gamma Iota Sigma starts off Fall of 2010

### 20th Annual Insurance Executive Forum

On October 19 a select group of seniors were fortunate to go to the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Insurance Executive Forum at the Union League Club in Chicago. As part of the day we greeted and talked with guests and were able to talk about various activities at the Katie School. We were then paired with different company tables for breakfast. We were able to learn about the company we sat with as well as hear about the different positions that these employees currently held.

The panel discussion with industry leaders was moderated by Rodd Zolkos, the special projects editor for *Business Insurance*. The speakers included: Eugene W. Bader, director of Corporate Risk Management for Abbott Laboratories in Chicago, John A. Beckman, senior vice president and chief risk officer at CNA, Shaun E. Kelly president and chief executive officer for U.S. Operations of Ironshore Services, Inc., and John

L. Lumelleau president and chief executive officer of Lockton Companies, LLC. The conversation focused on the wave of change that is forming in the insurance industry due to the economic recovery and the challenges and opportunities that it presents. This was a great way for us to learn more about current issues in the insurance industry and to meet professionals who support the Katie School. We would like to give thanks to all of those who were able to make it.—Keith Gallagher



Katie School alumni attending the Forum: L-R Jeremy Gallico, Ryan Dunn, Sarah Mixen, Dominick Bruno, Meredith Rambert, Kyle Powal, Sarah Hogan and Mike Miler.

### 2010-2011 Officers

- Jake Timmins (President)*
- Bill Lally (VP-Internal Affairs)*
- Elyse Klimek (VP-Student Affairs)*
- Keith Gallagher (Director of Alumni)*
- Drew Hannan (Volunteer Efforts)*
- Laura Nance (Reporting Secretary)*
- Rebecca Kagan (Historian)*
- Kelsie Griffin (Treasurer)*
- Jayne Rector (Fundraising Efforts)*
- Jeremy Santana (Actuarial Liaison)*
- Kelsey Mroczka (Recruiting)*
- Scott Adams (Publicity)*
- Debbie Babcock (Advisor)*
- Dr. Yu-Luen Ma (Advisor)*

### Inside this issue:

<i>20th Annual Executive Forum</i>	1
<i>Constitution Trail Community Service</i>	1
<i>Risk Manager in Residence Al Gorski</i>	2
<i>Chartis and Gen Re Company Visits</i>	2
<i>2010 Gamma Iota Sigma Nationals</i>	2
<i>Where Are They Now?</i>	3
<i>Gamma Event Calendar</i>	4



Gamma Iota Sigma members, enjoying a Peoria Chiefs game with RLI

## Gamma Cleans the Constitution Trail



Gamma members cleaning the Hidden Creek Nature Sanctuary

On Friday afternoon October 29, Gamma members took some time away from studying to help clean up the community. The students met at the College of Business and gathered supplies of rubber gloves and garbage bags to begin picking up trash throughout the quad. They made their way over to the Constitution

trail beginning in Uptown Normal and walked for about a mile and a half making the community a cleaner place.

They also cleaned the Hidden Creek Nature Sanctuary and began really getting their hands dirty as they cleaned up around the forest. It was a gratifying feeling for us to be able to go out and help the community in any way we can, and we also were able to enjoy a nice day walking the trail.



Gamma Iota Sigma members having some fun and team building while rock climbing at Upper Limits



## Risk Manager in Residence Al Gorski

This year the Katie School hosted Al Gorski, Chief Risk Officer of the Orange County Transportation Authority, as our 2010 Risk Manager in Residence. It was interesting to hear about his career path and his choices that have led him to his current profession with the City of Orange County where he is responsible and accountable for the organization's workers' compensation, loss control, casualty, property and litigation management needs. Throughout his prosperous career, Mr. Gorski has also held management positions as Western Regional Claims Manager for Kmart Corporation and Risk Manager for Underground Technology Incorporated.

Mr. Gorski presented in many classes as well as an evening presentation in the Cat Auditorium During his talk. Mr. Gorski discussed the types of risks that he has to deal with on a day to day basis. As a professor of insurance at California State University, Mr. Gorski was very comfortable answering questions from students, whether they were questions regarding his career choices or students just asking for advice as they begin developing their own aspirations.

I feel so fortunate to have been given the opportunity to meet and

get to know Mr. Al Gorski during his few days at Illinois State University. He is a great example of how hard work really does pay off while also emphasizing how important it is to give back to the community through community service efforts and teaching.

- Kelsey Mroczka



Gamma officers dinner with Al Gorski at Bloomington Country Club

## Chartis and Gen Re Company Visits

For the Gamma Iota Sigma - Alpha Kappa Chapter company visit for the fall semester, a group of students had the opportunity to visit the offices of Gen Re and Chartis in Chicago. We started the adventure off at Gen Re's office downtown and were greeted by their fantastic team of underwriters. We then received a quick introduction about Gen Re and the reinsurance industry that was followed by the students splitting up into groups. The groups rotated between underwriters who presented different everyday scenarios to the students, facilitating it in an interactive discussion. After a great lunch provided by Gen Re we headed onto Chartis' Chicago office. At Chartis we began with a roundtable like setting where we were able to introduce ourselves and get to know the employees better while learning a bit about Chartis. After introductions, the students split up into one on one groups with a Chartis employee so that everyone could learn a little bit more about the details of the everyday work that goes on at Chartis. Both of the company tours were extremely informative and everyone at both companies was quite friendly and very easy to talk to about industry issues. The company tour gave a great snapshot of what many of our futures could potentially be and really motivated all the students! *Bill Lally*



Gamma members at Gen Re with former Gamma Iota Sigma president Jeremy Gallico



Gamma members visiting Chartis

## 2010 Gamma Iota Sigma Nationals



Gamma officers getting ready for a fun day at nationals

Nine of this year's officers ventured to Mt. Pleasant, MI, for Gamma Iota Sigma's 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Management Conference. The event was hosted by the Nu chapter at Central Michigan University from October 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>. The sessions informed attendees about the professional insurance industry as well as Gamma Iota Sigma initiatives. Industry presentations ranged from discussions on catastrophe coverage and claim procedures to underwriting initiatives during hard and soft markets. The networking between other chapters really helped us brainstorm new and innovative ideas for the semester!

A career fair was also arranged during the conference. Students were able to browse through the booths during some breakout sessions. They were able to receive information about internship and job opportunities with various insurance companies. Students were also encouraged to sign up and attend first-round interviews.

At the closing ceremony of the conference, Alpha Kappa proudly earned two Black and Gold Awards! The first was for our general

meeting workshop event which took place during the Fall 2009 semester. The second was for the McLean County Compact ambassador program which was implemented through the Katie School. The closing festivities concluded with a dinner banquet held at the Soaring Eagle Casino and Resort, which is located on a Native American reservation. The entertainment for the night included a traditional powwow provided by the tribe. This was a great way to end the conference and weekend full of educational experiences! - *Rebecca Kagan*



## Where Are They Now?

Ever wondered what old friends from school may be doing now? Here is list of some of the things people are doing.

**Jim Bowen (04)** was married in May 2010 to Lynnette in Chicago where they both grew up. From a career perspective, Jim moved to a new opportunity a little over a year ago, taking on a role as the senior risk analyst in the risk management department at U.S. Foodservice, Inc. The transition to the business side of our industry has been very interesting and rewarding. His team has accomplished a lot in the past 12 months and is taking on new challenges every day.

**Ryan Burk (03)** relocated to Florida as the Director of the CNA Small Business Service Center.

**Diana (Camper) Lister (09)** was married on November 13, 2010 to David Lister, was transferred two weeks later from the St. Louis branch office of Bituminous Insurance to the Denver branch office and is now a full underwriter with her own territory and book of business.

**Kevin Conner (06)** recently became engaged to his college sweetheart and his wedding is set for July 2011, also his five year mark at Travelers Insurance. He moved back to Chicago after spending a year on the east coast as a participant in Travelers Home Office Financial Management Leadership Development Program. He is currently an Account Executive in Chicago Middle Market Commercial Underwriting.

**Brian Flynn (02)** continues his career with State Farm Insurance in Atlanta and became engaged this past year to Jill Soloman, a University of Texas graduate who is an interior designer and architect. Wedding plans are for August 2011. Congrats, Brian and Jill!

**Justin Frey (01)** has been working with Physicians selling Medical Professional Liability Insurance to them for the past 7 years, currently at The David Agency in Elmhurst. He has been married for 3 1/2 years and has a beautiful 20 month old daughter.

**Jeremy Gallico (10)** moved to Chicago in July and completed Gen Re's training program for the Global Property Facultative department in October. He has been working as an Underwriter Trainee since and hosted a group of Katie School students at Gen Re this fall.

**Kevin Halteman (06)** is living and working in San Francisco at Zurich E & S Brokerage, transitioning from a Marketing role last June. He is currently in the Environmental

Group as a Senior Account Executive underwriting both Property & Casualty lines, earning his Fire & Casualty and Surplus Lines California Broker License last fall. He enjoys everything California has to offer such as boarding in Tahoe, hiking in Yosemite, tasting wine in the Sonoma, and 65 and sunny weather in January!

**Dan Hibbs (03)** moved back from Pittsburgh to Chicago and accepted the position of Senior Underwriter, National Casualty Accounts with Arch Insurance Group. He was formerly with Zurich.

**Kristin Johnson (10)** moved to Chicago in June 2010 and started at Chartis Insurance, in the WorldSource Property department. She is in a year-long training program to become a commercial property underwriter, called the Professional Associate Program.

**Matt Nowaczyk (09)** is working in the Chicago office for ACE USA in the Surety department and is just finishing his training program in February to become an "official" underwriter. He moved to Wrigleyville, is enjoying the city life and is also pursuing his AFSB (Associates in Fidelity and Surety Bonds).

**Nick Paul (10)** is currently working with Liberty Mutual and is a little over half way through the commercial lines underwriter development training program plus passing professional exams. The program ends in June and he will be promoted upon completion of his mastery exam.

**Kyle Powal (04)** resigned from ACE in June 2010 and joined Allied World Assurance Company (AWAC) in June 2010 as an Assistant Vice President in the Primary Casualty Unit, writing domestic GL, FVWC and DBA.

**Rafal Rosinski (00)** is in the Special Investigative Unit with State Farm Insurance handling a variety of P&C claims. He is also in the process of finishing his CPCU designation and planning a trip to Poland.

**Bryan Schatz (10)** is an analyst in the Central Region of JPMorgan Chase's Real Estate Banking group. He primarily works on commercial mortgage originations and credit analysis out of the Chicago office.

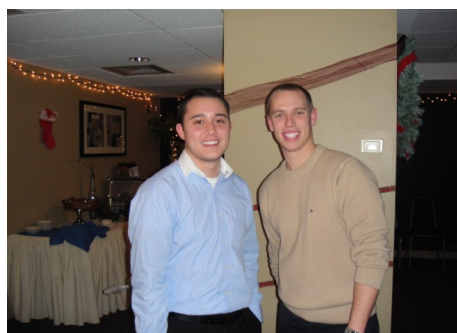
**Ben Tiffany (09)** lives in Chicago, IL and is currently a Business Analyst for Zurich North America's Global Corporate Business Unit, working out of both the Schaumburg and Chicago offices. He is also working on finishing his CPCU and only has a few exams to go!

## Alumni Cocktail Social



Above: Mike Miler, Ken Stewart and Kevin Conner

Below: Jeremy Gallico and Matt Nowaczyk



Above: Matt Nowaczyk, Stephanie Hitchins, Vince Porter, Kristin Johnson, Jeremy Gallico and Jake Timmins.

Below: Ben Tiffany, Mike Hayden, Chris Craveiro, and Andy Vuong





**Gamma Iota Sigma  
Alpha Kappa Chapter**

[www.katieschool.org](http://www.katieschool.org)

**KATIE SCHOOL** OF INSURANCE AND  
FINANCIAL SERVICES  
ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

To provide news for the newsletter:  
Phone: 309-438-3368  
Fax: 309-438-7753  
E-mail: [debbie.babcock@ilstu.edu](mailto:debbie.babcock@ilstu.edu)

Campus Box 5490  
Normal, IL 61790

Katie Alumni representing  
their companies at the Fall  
Career Fair.



## Spring 2011 Gamma Iota Sigma Calendar

January 19	First General Meeting	March 16	RIMS Lunch
January 28	Lunch and Learn-Reinsurance	March 16	Third General Meeting- Workshops
February 8	2011 Spring Internship Fair	March 25-27	2011 NAPSLO Symposium
February 9	RIMS Lunch	Mar 28-Apr 1	Business Week Events
February 9	Second General Meeting	April 8	Relay For Life
February 9	ISU Basketball Game	April 13	RIMS Lunch
February 11	Lunch and Learn Captives	April 13	Fourth General Meeting with Speaker
February 14	Amica Presentation	April 22	Initiation
February 15	Liberty Mutual Lunch	April 22	<b><u>3rd Annual Gamma Games</u></b>
February 15	2011 Spring Job Fair	May 1-5	2011 RIMS Conference
February 18	COUNTRY Company Visit	May 7-8	May Commencement
February 24	Laugh (Funny Bone)		
February 27	Polar Plunge		