



Gamma Iota Sigma Alumni News Fall 2007

Gamma Iota Sigma
Alpha Kappa Chapter

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Gamma Iota Sigma Kicks off the Fall of 2007!

RIMS goes New Orleans

The Risk Management Conference was held in New Orleans on April 29-May 3, 2007. There were twelve Katie School students that attended the RIMS conference.

This past April I had the privilege of attending the Risk Insurance Management Society (RIMS) annual conference in New Orleans, Louisiana. Our group of students participated in the Hurricane Katrina cleanup day. We went with other professionals and students attending the conference and helped clean up a park that was destroyed by the hurricane. It was my first time attending this conference and I was pleasantly surprised at the number of insurance companies and brokerages that were in attendance. Professionals in the industry held sessions during the day about different insurance topics and my favorite one was the "Risk Manager's Toolkit"

session. This was about what a risk manager does and how to be an effective risk manager for your company. It was beneficial because it was tailored to people who had a broad or basic understanding of the insurance industry and was easy for me to understand. I was also able to walk through the convention hall and visit booths of different companies and even insurance markets including the Lloyd's of London and Bermuda booths. It was fun to learn about different companies I hadn't heard of before attending the conference.

*-Lauren Leggett
Secretary*



Katie School students at the RIMS conference in New Orleans

2007-2008 Officers

AJ Rector (President)

Thomas Daly (VP-Internal Affairs)

Bill Jones (VP-Student Relations)

Elizabeth Heeren (Director of Alumni)

Elaine Sellars (Volunteer Efforts)

Lauren Leggett (Secretary)

Jessica Bobbe (Historian)

Amber Armand (Treasurer)

Javier Zavala (Director of Publicity)

Craig Hawes (Fundraising Efforts)

Jeremy Harlow (Actuarial Liaison)

Jon Perry (Recruiting)

Debbie Babcock (Advisor)

Dr. Yu-Luen Ma (Advisor)

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Katie School students with alumni, Stephanie Buckner, on Traveler's Day

Katie School Hosts Alumni Golf Outing



Katie School students and alumni having fun playing golf

The Katie School hosted an Alumni-Student Golf Outing on October 5th. The outing took place at the Illinois State University Golf Course and a social at the Pub II followed.

Twenty-two Katie School members along with eleven Alumni showed up to play

golf on Friday. A luncheon was held before golf where Gamma members were able to socialize and network with Katie School Alumni. The event lasted most of the day, but alumni and students were able to relax and enjoy a good time at the Pub II.



Katie School students who had an international internship in the summer of 2007

Gamma Iota Sigma Nationals Washington D.C. October 11-13

Katie School students attended the Gamma Iota Sigma Nationals in Washington D.C.

Seven officers and I were able to represent the Alpha Kappa Chapter at the conference. I was very pleased to have the forum to discuss pertinent issues with other presidents who were facing the same challenges as me, as well as being able to freely discuss things that were working very well for our local chapters. It was also beneficial to experience the excellent social and professional networking with sponsors and other Gamma students.

All of our officers took away some great suggestions on how to improve our chapter. For example, our fundraising chair, Craig Hawes, was able to learn about several innovative new ways to help improve our financial situation. In addition, some of the other officers learned how to recruit and retain new and old members in a

much more effective manner than we were using before the conference.

The final point of pride for us was winning three Black and Gold awards and the International Chapter's "Best Kept Secret" Award, an honor given to chapters that are expanding and creating new innovative programs to engage their members. We were very proud to receive all these awards, because it pays tribute to all the hard work past and present members of our chapter have demonstrated to make Gamma Iota Sigma a well respected student organization here at Illinois State.

-AJ Rector
President



Gamma Iota Sigma officers posing for the "Best Kept Secret" award

Central Illinois CPCU Chapter Expo

The Central Illinois CPCU Chapter held an expo on September 18. Katie School students were invited to attend the 2007 expo at the Doubletree Hotel in Bloomington.

The keynote speaker at the CPCU Expo was the mayor of Bloomington, Stephen Stockton. Mr. Stockton explained how his previous career in the insurance industry compared to his current career as mayor of Bloomington. The expo was a great opportunity to learn more about the CPCU program and learn from those who have their CPCU designation.

Students from Gamma were invited to the annual CPCU Expo meeting held at the Double Tree Hotel and Conference Center. The Expo is a yearly event that recognizes all of the new members that have passed all of the CPCU exams. This year was a blow out year, because the national trip for all of the new members was to Hawaii. The CPCU organization not only provides knowledge and skills to those working in the insurance

industry, but they also have a mentorship program for college students interested in insurance.

I've had a mentor for the past year, Rex Presson, who works at State Farm Insurance in the administrative services department. Rex has helped me learn more about the Property/Casualty side of insurance, and also helped me in my development to become a better leader. At the Expo, Rex and I were asked to speak about our mentor/mentee experience and to encourage others students and CPCU members to get involved in the program. Our Gamma chapter recently had a CPCU mentor meeting where we hope to pair more of our members with knowledgeable, helpful insurance business professionals.

-Thomas Daily,
VP-Internal Affairs

Officer Retreat Held in Champaign



Gamma Iota Sigma officers with the Risk Manager in Residence, Cathy Reineke, Jim Jones, and Debbie Babcock

Officers spent two days in July at the Illini Union Hotel to discuss and plan events for the upcoming fall semester. The goal of the retreat was to figure out what type of social, fundraising, volunteer, and professional programs Gamma Iota Sigma would have in the fall. The officers decided to start a boxed lunch speaker event that will take place on two Fridays during the fall semester. The goal of the boxed lunch is to allow GIS members to learn about an industry topic that is not discussed in any of the insurance

classes taught at ISU. A point system was also created to get GIS members more involved with the organization.

The officers accomplished a lot at the retreat, which made the weekend very successful. We were able to come up with several great ideas that will help Gamma Iota Sigma stand out in the College of Business. We are all looking forward to a new year!

-Elizabeth Heeren, Director of
Alumni Affairs

Where Are They Now?

Ever wondered what old friends from school may be doing now? Here is the latest update on some Katie alumni. If you would like to be added to the list, please e-mail Debbie Babcock at debbie.babcock@ilstu.edu.

Troy Ahearn (98) is currently the Compliance and Operations Audit Supervisor, Commercial Underwriting, at Lincoln General Insurance, a Division of Kingsway America. He and his wife, Melissa (Taverna) Ahearn (Political Science '98) live in Plainfield IL. She is a Purchasing Manager with Mack Pump Equip Co. They welcomed their first child, Dylan Patrick, in April 2007.

Kristi Ammirati (00) is still at Motorola after 7 years and is currently a Senior Financial Analyst for the Subscriber and Accessory product portfolio in their Government and Public Safety business. She went back to school in January for her MBA, attending Northern Illinois with an expected graduation of December 2008.

Stephanie Buckner (07) is in Commercial Surety at Travelers in Naperville and has signed up for ASFB 151 in December so she is studying hard! She is getting her feet wet working with producers and loves her job!

Mark Coyle (00) had his world change with the birth of his son, Finnigan (Finn) William Coyle, born on August 31st with a bunch of hair. Mark has been working for over a year as an underwriting specialist at Wausau Insurance Companies in Downers Grove.

Shelly Crawford-Stock (98) has become one of the

principals/owners of C F & H Insurance Agency, Inc. C F & H Insurance Agency, Inc. has office locations in Monticello, Sullivan and Windsor, IL. She is also currently serving as Monticello Rotary Club President and as Vice-President for Monticello Chamber of Commerce. She and her husband Tim (Stock) reside in Monticello, IL.

Joe DeVary (00) has assumed a position as an Associate Agency Manager with COUNTRY Insurance in Madison County near St. Louis. He had previously spent 5 yrs as a multi-line agent in McLean County with COUNTRY. His responsibilities will include hiring, training, motivating, and assisting agents during all stages of their career as a multi-line agent.

Amy Gilmore (02) continues to work at Iowa Mutual as a senior commercial lines new business underwriter and recently purchased a house in DeWitt, IA.

Tara Gleeson (05) started working for Chubb Insurance in Chicago as a personal lines underwriter in July. Previously, she had worked at COUNTRY Insurance in Bloomington as a claims adjuster and billing specialist. She lives a few blocks from Wrigley Field and is enjoying every minute of it!

Sara Hogan (00) continues to work at Aon Risk Services as an Account Specialist for Risk Management accounts and has been here since graduation. She recently had another baby boy on 7-7-07, Caleb, and has a 2 1/2 year-old as well, Gabriel. Sara and

her husband, Dan, live in Chicago and he runs a mentoring program for fifth through eighth graders at a school on the west side near where they live.

Abiola Kalejaiye (04) is a financial analyst at Newark and is also a 2011 JD Candidate at DePaul Law School.

Kurt Konkey (00) has been at Travelers since 2001 and is currently the Managing Director of the Public Company Underwriting Business Segment. The PCL group underwrites Director's and Officer's Liability, Employment Practices Liability, Kidnap and Ransom, Fiduciary Liability and Crime.

T.J. Krzmarzick (05) has been with AIG Excess Casualty as an underwriter for a little more than two years now and will be taking his 4th CPCU test later this year. On September 9th he completed Ironman Wisconsin in 12 hours 52 minutes (2.4 mile swim, 112 mile bike, and a 26.2 mile marathon). Other than that he has been watching the Cubs / Bears and hanging out with friends & family.

Maegan (Fidel) Lunte (05) works as an Account Manager (aka underwriter) for the Religious Segment at Zurich North America in Schaumburg, Illinois. She has been part of this team since her graduation from the Zurich Associate Program a year and a half ago. Outside of work, Maegan recently was married to Jason Lunte (Accounting '05) on the first of September. They currently live in Buffalo Grove, Illinois and could not be happier.



AJ Rector presenting at the Gamma Iota Sigma 1st General Meeting



Jessica Bobbe, Craig Hawes, and Bill Jones at the RLI/Peoria Chiefs Game



Thomas Daly with a Travelers recruiter



Kristin Church and Katie Haas at the RIMS meeting in Champaign at the Illinois Fire Service Institute

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Alpha Kappa Chapter**

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Gamma Iota Sigma booth at the Fall Festival



Katie School students bowling at the Gamma Iota Sigma social

2007 Gamma Iota Sigma Calendar

August 23	Festival on the Quad	October 5	Alumni/Student Golf Outing
August 24	Jr. Experience Day	October 9	RIMS/Fire Safety Institute
August 24	Peoria Chiefs Game	October 9	Risks Manager in Residence
August 29	First Gamma Iota Sigma Meeting	October 11-13	GIS Nationals
September 11	RIMS Luncheon	October 17	2nd General Meeting
September 12	Travelers Day	October 24-26	REBEX Conference
September 18	Career and Internship Fair	October 31	Trick or Treat for Change
September 18	CPCU Expo	November 1	Lockton Speaker
September 27	Gamma Iota Sigma Bowling Social	November 7	All Industry Day
October 3	CPCU Mentor Meeting	November 9	Gen Re/Marsh Company Visit
October 3-5	PIIAI Convention	November 15	RIMS Luncheon
		December 6	Finals Break/Social