



Gamma Iota Sigma Alumni News Spring 2008

Gamma Iota Sigma
Alpha Kappa Chapter

Volume 3, Issue 1
Spring 2008

Gamma Iota Sigma Starting off a New Year!

REBEX in Itasca

The Risk and Employee Benefits Exposition (REBEX) Conference was held in Itasca, IL on October 24-26, 2007. The Katie School was able to send twelve students to the conference.

This past fall I had the opportunity to attend the REBEX conference in Itasca, Illinois. I considered it a valuable experience as it gave me the chance to meet representatives from numerous insurance companies and gain insight regarding a number of problems and situations that insurance professionals face on a daily basis. At the beginning of the conference, we were assigned mentors who gladly answered any industry related questions that we may have had. In addition, we had the option of attending various educational sessions which covered a number of different



Derek Dudgeon, Bill Jones, and Adam Green at the REBEX conference

insurance related topics. My favorite session focused on the 14 points of World Class Recall. This session was extremely informative and I obtained information and insight that could not be acquired in a traditional classroom setting. All together, REBEX was a great experience and I would recommend this conference to any student. I look forward to representing my company at this conference in the future.

-Adam Green
Gamma Iota Sigma member

2007-2008 Officers

- AJ Rector (President)*
- Thomas Daly (VP-Internal Affairs)*
- Bill Jones (VP-Student Relations)*
- Elizabeth Heeren (Director of Alumni)*
- Brandon Nicol (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)*

Inside this issue:

<i>Troy Insurance Symposium</i>	2
<i>Michael Moore's "Sicko"</i>	2
<i>Gamma Iota Sigma Induction</i>	2
<i>Congratulations to the New Officers</i>	2
<i>Where are they now?</i>	3
<i>GIS Calendar</i>	4



Katie School students and alumni with Janice Ochenkowski at the APIW

CPCU President, Jim Britt



Jim Britt, CPCU President

The Katie School of Insurance was enthused to have Jim Britt, the 2008 President of the CPCU Society, present at ISU to talk about his experience in developing leaders and to give advice to students preparing for careers in the insurance industry.

Mr. Britt gave an inspiring presentation. He challenged students to explore how they can develop their leadership skills through personal

interaction with a broad array of people who can help influence their success. He wants students to understand how leadership emerges and evolves and that everyone should develop their own effective leadership style.

The Central CPCU chapter was gracious enough to pay for numerous copies of Jim Britt's book, "Building Leaders One on One." After the presentation, students were able to talk with Mr. Britt and have him sign a copy of their book.



Bill Jones & AJ Rector with the Business Week speaker, Sakuntala Ganason

Troy Insurance Symposium

The Katie Schools sends two students to the Troy Symposium every year. This year Vanessa Contreras and Jennifer Sommer were able to attend the symposium on November 2-4, 2007.

In the fall of 2007, I was given the opportunity to attend the Annual Troy University Surplus Lines Symposium in Alabama. Another student and I were able to learn a great deal about the surplus lines industry, which is not focused on very much in class. We were able to attend various network opportunities throughout the weekend. My favorite part of the weekend was the NAPSLO internship presentation as well as the past interns panel. I later applied for this internship because of the many great experiences that I heard about at the Symposium. Attending the Symposium opened up many opportunities for me as well as provided me with a better insight into the industry.

I was able to hear from professionals in the insurance field that had recently started working and those who had been in the industry for awhile. At the end of the Symposium there was a job fair with a number of surplus lines companies across the nation. It was an amazing experience and I left the symposium with a lot more knowledge about the surplus lines industry and insurance in general. I am very grateful to the Katie School for granting me this opportunity.

*-Vanessa Contreras
Gamma Iota Sigma member*



Gamma Iota Sigma officers with Mark Henderson and Mat Apodaca from Lockton

Gamma Iota Sigma Induction

Gamma Iota Sigma started up an old, but important tradition this spring. On April 11, GIS had its official member initiation ceremony. The ceremony was held in the Caterpillar Auditorium in the College Of Business.

This was important for all members to be a part of, as it signified their dedication to the Alpha Kappa chapter. The fraternity also officially inducted all the new officers for the 2008-2009 school year.

At the ceremony, the past four Gamma Iota Sigma presidents were in attendance— Kerri Mathews, Kevin Conner, Maegan (Fidel) Lunte and Eric Pan.

Each past presidents talked about how Gamma has helped them in school and after graduation. The induction ceremony was a huge success and will be continued every year.

Michael Moore's "Sicko"

On April 3rd, Gamma Iota Sigma showed Michael Moore's "Sicko" at Capen Auditorium. This documentary is about the effectiveness of the current healthcare system in the United States as compared to the rest of the world.

Moore makes his case why he believes that privatized healthcare systems (ones that use insurance companies as a means to funding healthcare costs) are inferior to universal healthcare systems (which are used by all other first world nations and are funded by the government). The United States was reported to have the 37th worst health care system in the world.

After the film, Greg Smith, who has 30 years of experience

in insurance, discussed the film from the opposing standpoint.

The idea behind showing this film is not to promote one idea over another. It is simply to get people thinking about a relevant issue (one that is a hot topic in the upcoming presidential election) that affects everyone.



Congratulations to the New Officers

The new officers for Gamma Iota Sigma 2008-2009 have been chosen and will work with the current officers for a smooth transition going into the new school year. The new officers are ready to step up and take on their new roles.

President: Jon Perry

Vice President of Internal Affairs : Jeremy Gallico

Vice President of Student Affairs: Vanessa Contreras

Recording Secretary: Diana Camper

Reporting Secretary: Kristin Church

Treasurer: Stacey Hinterlong

Director of Alumni Affairs: Ryan Doyle

Director of Publicity: Andy Vuong

Director of Recruitment: Kristin Johnson

Director of Volunteer: Patrick Doyle

Director of Fundraising: Jacob Guimond

Historian: Joanna Leggett

Actuarial Liaison: Thomas Lauren

Congratulations and Best of Luck!

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. If you would like to be added to the list, please e-mail Debbie Babcock at debbie.babcock@ilstu.edu.

Jim Bowen (04) has been working at Lockton Chicago for the past 2 years in the construction/real estate practice. He participated in Lockton's account manager trainee program in the home office in Kansas City from July-October of 2007 and was promoted to Account Manager in December 2007. He is pursuing his CPCU designation. Jim has been living in Wrigleyville for the past 3 years and is excited for the Cubs to break the 99 year curse; there's no way we're getting to 100.

Brent Clawson (05) is currently an Inland Marine Underwriter for Fireman's Fund Insurance in Chicago.

Kristin (Noonan) Coffey (04) is currently working at COUNTRY Financial as a Personal Lines Underwriter & living in Normal, IL.

Danielle (Romani) Coykendall (12/02) and her husband, Scott, are moving back to the Peoria area to be closer to family after two years in Mt Vernon, IL. After spending five wonderful years with Auto-Owners, she had to resign from her position with Auto-Owners and is now working back in her father's State Farm Agency.

Jennifer (Anders) DeSmedt (05) is Account Management Director for Specialty Risk Services in Chicago and she recently spoke at the Mid-IL RIMS Chapter meeting on "Workforce 2020." She is keeping very busy between managing her accounts and

managing her house! Her daughters are now 5 and 9 and she is active at their school and with their outside activities such as dance and softball. She will celebrate her 13th anniversary this year and her husband continues to work as a Program Manager at the DuPage County Health Department

Steve Dubiel (07) started the Professional Associate program at AIG in July 2007. He had interned at AIG for two summers and winters before accepting the P.A. position and now works in the Construction division in Chicago with his territory being the Midwest. He has traveled back and forth to NYC for training since August and has also done some marketing in Minnesota, Indiana, and Iowa. He is on track to graduate from the program in July and become a full time underwriter in the construction division.

Kevin Halteman (06) is an enterprise project manager at Zurich North America in Schaumburg. He recently moved to the Strategy and Operational Planning & Execution group and his work includes: Competitive intelligence, Market Research, Project Manager of top 400 managers meeting, Zurich Classic golf tournament in New Orleans project, and supporting / leading various other strategic initiatives throughout the organization for the office of the CEO.

Mike Ludy (05) has been at Arlington/Roe & Co., Inc. (Managing General Agents/ Wholesale Insurance Brokers) in Geneva for almost three years. He is an Associ-

ate Broker for the casualty lines accounts and the target area for him in the commercial lines area includes Environmental Liability, Umbrella/Excess Liability, Monoline Products Liability, General Liability, Ocean Cargo, Large Package Policies, etc.

Robin Marthaler (04) is a Commercial Business Underwriter with The Hartford and handles Property/Casualty, worker's compensation, and business auto, along with umbrella. She has been with Hartford since June of 2004 and lives and works in downtown Chicago.

Stephanie (Buckner) Miller (07) is in Naperville with Travelers Bond and has been active with recruiting at ISU for Travelers, which is exciting. She has visited campus a few times for functions including mock interviews. She was married in February 2008 and passed the AFSB 151.

Joanne (Prince) Minton (99) is currently taking a break from the Insurance World and enjoying her two children, Logan who is 3 years old and Ella who is 3 months.

Angie (Knapp) Schrock (12/03) married Jason Schrock on August 23, 2003. She started at Auto-Owners Insurance in the underwriting dept. after graduation in Dec. 03 and is still there and loving it! They just had their first child - Addison Grace on February 7th, 2008.

James Sutter (06) is currently working at Amica Insurance Company as a claims adjuster and living in Northern New Jersey. He just completed two years with the company and things are going great. He was at the spring career fair and plans to return for the fall fair.



Katie School students socializing at the second general meeting



Emily Deters and Stephanie Hitchens having dinner at the REBEX Conference



Katie School students working on the Habitat for Humanity House



Jim Jones with Gamma Iota Sigma member, Dan Box

**Gamma Iota Sigma
Alpha Kappa Chapter**

Campus Box 5490
Normal, IL 61790

Phone: 309-438-3368

Fax: 309-438-7753

E-mail: debbie.babcock@ilstu.edu

KATIE OF INSURANCE AND
SCHOOL FINANCIAL SERVICES
ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

www.katieschool.org



Gamma Iota Sigma cheering on the Redbirds at the basketball game against Drake



The design for the Gamma Iota Sigma polo shirts

Spring 2008: Gamma Iota Sigma Calendar

January 23	New Members Meeting	April 2	Lockton Speaker
January 31	First General Meeting	April 3	Michael Moore's "Sicko"
February 5	Redbird Basketball vs. Drake	April 8	RIMS Luncheon
February 12	RIMS Luncheon	April 9	Katie School Scholarship Banquet
February 18	Amica Mock Interviews	April 10	Katie School Advis.Bd Feedback
February 22	COUNTRY Insurance Visit	April 11	Gamma Iota Sigma Induction
March 2	CPCU President, Jim Britt	April 11	Alumni Cocktail Reception
March 11	RIMS Luncheon	April 17	Golf Lessons
March 19	Second General Meeting	April 18	State Farm Claims Lab
March 21	Aon/AIG Company Visit	April 18-19	NAPSLO Symposium
March 24	Business Etiquette Dinner	April 25-26	Relay for Life
March 25	Mock Interviews	April 27-May 1	RIMS Conference
March 26	Keynote Speaker: Ed Rust	May 6	RIMS Luncheon
		May 10	Graduation