



# Gamma Iota Sigma Alumni News Fall 2009

Gamma Iota Sigma  
Alpha Kappa Chapter

Volume 3, Issue 3  
Fall 2009

## Gamma Iota Sigma Kicks off Fall of 2009!

### It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia

This year's Gamma Iota Sigma Annual Management Conference was held in historically rich Philadelphia, PA. From October 1 – 3, eight of this year's officers were able to attend the conference and learn from fellow chapters how to make the Alpha Kappa chapter better in a number of ways. For example, the *Halloween Policy* fundraiser event (which was done by our chapter years ago) was discussed in a fundraising session and implemented this year.

In addition to learning about fellow chapters and events they put on, members were able to attend breakout sessions hosted by industry professionals ranging from topics on catastrophe modeling to effective brokering at-

tributes. Incorporated into these events was a career fair in which students could network with recruiters from a variety of companies and even attend first-round interviews. During the closing ceremony of the conference, Alpha Kappa proudly took home a Black & Gold Award for the November 2008 *Happy Birthday Week* event! It was a great weekend!

-Jeremy Gallico



Katie School students attending Gamma's National Conference in Philly

### 2009-2010 Officers

*Jeremy Gallico (President)*

*Tommy Mullins (VP-Internal Affairs)*

*Joanna Leggett (VP-Student Relations)*

*Bryan Schatz (Director of Alumni)*

*Elyse Klimek (Volunteer Efforts)*

*Taylor Vranek (Reporting Secretary)*

*Susan Lipps (Recording Secretary)*

*Tyler Wood (Historian)*

*Kristin Johnson (Treasurer)*

*Stacey Hinterlog (Fundraising Efforts)*

*Katrina Williams (Actuarial Liaison)*

*Emily Babiarz (Recruiting)*

*Debbie Babcock (Advisor)*

*Dr. Yu-Luen Ma (Advisor)*

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Gamma Iota Sigma members, Nick Paul and Kelsey Mroczka, with mentor Ross Norstrom at REBEX 2009

## Gamma Visits Arthur J. Gallagher & Zurich



At Zurich North America with Katie alumna Ben Tiffany

On October 9th, twenty members attended company visits to both Zurich North America and Arthur J. Gallagher. We were able to tour the different buildings and learn about any future opportunities for internships or training programs. The Zurich tour was very informative as we were able to sit in on the training for the current members of their

trainee program. After some more rotations learning about claims, underwriting, and actuarial science we were able to meet with the recruiters for this upcoming year. At Arthur J. Gallagher we were able to take a tour of the beautiful building and talk to people from the underwriting, claims, and law departments. Both company tours were immensely informative and really helped students learn more about prospective future employers.

- Taylor Vranek



Gamma Iota Sigma Members at golf lessons...practicing for the Alumni Golf Outing!



## Gamma Iota Sigma Halloween Policy

This year at the Gamma Iota Sigma National Convention in Philadelphia, PA, the executive board was presented with an idea of selling 'Trick-or-treat' policies. Essentially the idea is to raise donations by agreeing with a donor to clean their homes' exterior of any debris left by trick-or-treaters on Halloween. There was no set amount that we required to be given to bind a policy; rather we were happy to take any amount of money. Because of the demographics of Bloomington/Normal, this fundraising idea seemed ideal. State Farm and COUNTRY Financial both are nationally headquartered in Bloomington, IL and thus those employees could relate to the creativity of our idea. Generally three to five members of Gamma would team up to solicit one neighborhood per evening and all together we were able to fundraise in a significant number of the Bloomington subdivisions. With additional planning and increased resources, our Halloween policies fundraiser could become one of our most

profitable functions in the years to come.

For our newer members this was also a great opportunity early in the Fall semester to become active and go out with returning members to establish good working relationships. Unfortunately, in previous years, the semester tended to take a slow start, but with this function's help we were able to get many more people involved earlier; which, always makes for a more productive rest of the year. We are looking forward to the continued success in coming years!

-Tommy Mullins



Gamma members just before participating in the Halloween Policy Fundraiser

## 2009 Annual Katie School Alumni/Student Golf Outing

One of my favorite and also first Gamma functions I attended was the Katie School alumni golf outing. Being as this is my first semester with Gamma, I really did not know anyone going to the outing. Little did I know, that was not going to matter one bit. While I was eating my lunch that was provided before we started golfing and also waiting out the rain, many people came up to me and talked with me and made me feel welcome and right at home. Once the rain finally let up and we were allowed on the course, I found my team and we hit it off right from the beginning. We all had a blast and I will never forget that our alumna made a 25ft putt for a birdie after she had just hit a 200 yard shot. We were all excited! This is a great event to meet a lot of great people and to kick off the semester.

-Jake Timmins



Sam Klein, Keith Gallagher, Jeremy Gallico and Lauren Leggett



Tyler Wood, Jon Perry, Kristin Johnson and Nikita Garman



Drew Patton, Ken Stewart, Aaron Malone and Elyse Klimek



Students networking and learning about the insurance industry at the CPCU Expo

## Gamma Volunteers at The Chicago Marathon

The weekend of October 10 - 11 members of Gamma were able to volunteer for the Chicago Marathon and the Expo. We teamed up with a few Phi Sigma Epsilon volunteers as well as this was our first experience working with the Marathon. On Saturday October 10<sup>th</sup> the day before the actual marathon, the expo was held and we prepared the bags for the registered runners and handed them out. These bags held their shirts for the run as well as a few pamphlets with some samples. Not only people from the United States participated in the marathon, but people from all over the world including

those coming from France and Brazil. The following day, Sunday October 11<sup>th</sup>, was when the actual run was held. That day we volunteered at the finish line where we presented the runners with beer since the carbs in the beer helped the runners at the end of the long run. It was inspirational to see people run for non-profit organizations or for family members who were unable to participate. This was a very rewarding experience and even had me thinking about taking the 25.8 mile run across Chicago in 2010!!

-Elyse Klimek



## 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.

**Amber Armand (07)** is at Travelers in Naperville, IL in Bond and Financial Products and recently became engaged. Her fiancé's name is Ryan, he works at Grainger Industrial Supply in Northbrook and their wedding date is October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010 in Downers Grove! Best wishes to Amber and Ryan!

**Diana Camper (09)** is currently working at Bituminous Insurance Companies as an underwriting trainee at the home office in Rock Island, IL. She will be transferring to St. Louis in the middle of February to continue her work as an underwriting trainee in that branch office. She also became engaged in the middle of December and is planning her wedding for the middle of November of this year! Best wishes to Diana and her fiancé!

**Erin Carr (05)** transitioned from Arch Insurance Group where she was a National Accounts Casualty Underwriter for four years to Swiss Re working as an Assistant Vice President in the Casualty Facultative Client Markets Division.

**Mark Coyle (00)** is a consulting underwriter at Liberty Mutual Middle Markets in Warrenville, IL and has a 2 ½ year old son Finn and he and his wife are expecting a baby girl soon.

**Ryan Doyle (09)** is officially in the Religious Nonprofit Unit within the Public Nonprofit Division at Arthur J. Gallagher & Co in Itasca focusing on nonprofit organizations and different religious and non religious churches. So if any of the students know of anyone that runs a church or nonprofit, he would love to talk to them. He is looking forward to Gamma Games 2010 on April 16th!

**Steve Dubiel (07)** is currently in his 3<sup>rd</sup> calendar year working for Chartis (AIG) as a primary (WC, GL, Auto) construction underwriter. His territory includes Chicago, Dallas, Minnesota, Indiana, and Nebraska and travels roughly 20% of the time. Some of his largest accounts include: The Dallas Cowboys stadium, Minnesota Twins stadium, as well as a large General Contractor in Indiana: Hunt Construction. He is pursuing both his CPCU and ARM designations and hopes to continue his advancement as an underwriter.

**Derek Dudgeon (08)** is an underwriter in Little Rock, AR for Bituminous Insurance and writes primarily casualty line construction. He is also currently working towards his CPCU designation.

**Kevin Halteman (06)** made the transition from Zurich North American Strategy in Chicago last April to San Francisco as a Product Launch Leader for the Northwest Region in the Zurich Marketing group. The role is a marketing and sales role and is new to Zurich. His responsibility is to launch marketing & sales strategy of new campaigns both internally and externally for the NW region to Tier 1, 2, and 3 brokers & wholesalers.

**Kyle Little (05)** is still at Great American Insurance and has been for a little over 3 years now. Out of college he worked as a producer for a local insurance agency for about a year and a half and then decided to move to Great American to be an underwriter in their bond division. He is presently a Senior Underwriter is also currently working on obtaining his Associate in Fidelity & Surety Bonding (AFSB) designation... only one more course left! He and his wife are expecting their first child in March!

**Michael Matherly (07)** started working for Interstate Chemical Company in November 2007 as an Account Representative and he was married on June 13, 2009.

**Adam McGuckin (07)** is working as an Account Manager in Zurich North America's Group Captive business unit and is responsible for handling two medium-sized captives totaling nearly \$20,000,000 in premium. In 2009, he finished and received both CPCU and ARM designations, designations he started while being a Katie School student.

**Angie (Knapp) Schrock (04)** continues to work at Auto-Owners Insurance as a Commercial Lines Underwriter and loving it. She and Jason moved to Eureka in October and they had their second daughter, Alivia Faith, on December 28, 2009 - 4 1/2 weeks early, but they are all doing very good. Jason is still working for Kaiser Electric as an Electrician

**Ben Tiffany (09)** is in the Associate Program at Zurich and is now living in Chicago and working in the Chicago Office with the Construction Underwriting Team for 8 weeks of training to learn how to underwrite Construction accounts (Auto, GL, WC) as part of his Underwriting Rotation. His program ends in April and he hopes to be back in Chicago at the end of the Associate Program with the group he is working with now.



Katie Alumni speak in classes: Dominick Bruno, Erin Corbin, Bryan McCoy, Bert Margis, Chris Hubbard and Javier Zavala above and Elicia Walker, Mark Coyle, Ryan Doyle, Nick Banter and Chris DuCharme below.



Students network with insurance professionals from RLI Insurance at a Peoria Chiefs baseball game



Gamma members tailgate before watching an ISU football game



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Alpha Kappa Chapter**

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ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

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Katie Alumni representing their companies at the Fall Career Fair.



## Spring 2010 Gamma Iota Sigma Calendar

January 20	First General Meeting	March 17	Third General Meeting
January 29	Heritage Manor Nursing Home Visit	March 18	Officer Meet 'n Greet
February 9	COUNTRY Financial Day	March 26-27	NAPSLO Symposium
February 11	Polar Plunge Fundraiser	March 29-	
February 16	Internship Fair	April 1	Business Week
February 17	Career Fair	April 16	Initiation & Gamma Games
February 17	Second General Meeting	April 17	Barndance
February 19	COUNTRY Financial Company Visit	April 21	Fourth General Meeting
February 24	ISU Men's Basketball Game	April 25-28	RIMS Conference 2010
February 28	Polar Plunge	April 30	Finals Study Break
March 7-14	Spring Break	May 9	May Commencement