

GAMMA IOTA SIGMA ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

Alpha Kappa Chapter



FALL 2019 UPDATES

Gamma Iota Sigma - Alpha Kappa

Fall semester 2019 was a great time to be a Gamma Iota Sigma member! There were so many opportunities to take advantage of including multiple conferences and lunch & learns, as well as other various networking events. Within this newsletter, there will be highlights of the events we attended as well as an update on where our prestigious alumni are today. We have focused more on collaboration within our Executive Board to create unique events for our members. Currently, there are about 120 members in our chapter and we are constantly looking to grow. One of our main objectives is to re-obtain the title of "Superior Chapter" and through our methods of outreach and recruiting, there is a steady foundation to reach our goal.

2019-2020 OFFICERS

- Caroline Wilioko - President
- Kate Pankhurst - VP of Internal Affairs
- Chris Fortunato -VP of Student Affairs
- Megan Smalter - Treasurer
- Erika Sreenan - Secretary
- Jenna Chervinko - Director of Alumni Affairs
- Macie Brown & John Schlosser - Directors of Recruiting
- Kyle Wolter - Historian
- Dan Roesler - Actuarial Liaison
- Nicole Grendzinski - Director of Publicity
- Sarah Puleo - Director of Volunteer Efforts
- Jackie Neuhalfen & Zach Snow - Directors of Outreach
- Katie Moran & Justin Waller -Directors of Professional Development
- Carlos Rubio - Director of D&I
- Debbie Babcock - Advisor





**KATIE SCHOOL
OF INSURANCE AND
RISK MANAGEMENT**
Illinois State University

Send news to:
debbie.babcock@ilstu.edu

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Follow us on social media!



Instagram: @alphakappagis



Facebook: @Gamma Iota Sigma - Alpha
Kappa Chapter



GIS LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Attendees: Caroline Wilieko, Carlos Rubio, John Schlosser

At the beginning of the semester, some of our members were exposed to valuable information regarding different leadership styles, specific officer tasks, and mastering forms. It is extremely beneficial to learn about how other chapters operate and if there is anything that the Alpha Chapter can implement to better ourselves. The conference also focused heavily on how the new position of Director of Diversity & Inclusion can be best utilized.



RISK MANAGER IN RESIDENCE

Andrea Dudek - Managing Director of Global Risk Assessment & Financing at Accenture PLC



Andrea Dudek, Managing Director of Global Risk Assessment & Financing for Accenture PLC, came to speak at Illinois State on November 11th-13th. Before Andrea started her work at Accenture, she served various leadership roles such as a Senior VP at Willis, working in the Tech, Media, and Telecom space. Andrea held discussions while on campus regarding how AI is changing everyday risk. Andrea also attended several classes throughout her stay in which she shared how her path led her to become a risk manager.

GAMMA NATIONALS

Attendees: Macie Brown, Jenna Chervinko, Kate Pankhurst, Megan Smalter, Caroline Wilieko, Erika Sreenan, Zach Snow, & Dan Roesler



Eight GIS officers attended the 46th Annual Gamma Iota Sigma International Conference in Dallas, TX in late September. While at the conference, members were given the opportunity to attend a variety of informational sessions. The members also had the ability to network and interact with a variety of chapters while attending this conference. The career fair and educational sessions had over 60 organizations in attendance for this event. Student interaction and participation was highly encouraged at Gamma Nationals. The officers also met with four of our alumni members for a traditional Texas BBQ dinner! Our officers also attended the Texas State Fair and made sure to take a picture with Big Tex (55-ft tall cowboy statue).



VOLUNTEER EFFORTS

"Our volunteer events this year have been great! Our members enjoy volunteering since we can give back to the community, and have fun doing it!"-Sarah Puleo, Director of Volunteer Efforts



Bloomington Active Garden



Clean The Quad



Habitat For Humanity



Midwest Food Bank



Home Sweet Home Ministries



Young Women's Christian Association



WSIA TROY SYMPOSIUM

Kate Pankhurst and Brendan Leibfoth were selected to attend the Troy Symposium in Atlanta, Georgia. At the symposium, the members said that they expanded their network, learned about various career opportunities, and heard valuable information from experienced industry professionals. It was also very beneficial to attend the educational sessions that highlighted topics such as emerging trends and daily tasks of brokers and underwriters. Attending conferences like this is a wonderful way to broaden our knowledge of the E&S segment of the industry.



CPCU ANNUAL MEETING

Chris Fortunato and Nicole Grendzinski attended the CPCU meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana. The meeting was an eye-opening experience for our two members. They are both very dedicated to becoming a CPCU designee so they can become a part of the wonderful network that the CPCU brings you!



KATIE SCHOOL EXECUTIVE FORUM

Attendees: Justin Waller, Tristan Aguilar, Caroline Wilieko, Alexander Ojstojic. Brendan Leibfoth, Nicole Grendzinski



The 29th Annual Insurance Executive Forum was a fantastic opportunity for Gamma members to represent the Katie School of Insurance. The ability to recognize the challenges facing the insurance industry from different perspectives allowed our members to better understand the dynamic nature of the industry as well as where the market might head in the upcoming years. The exposure to the foreseeable obstacles at a macro-level is extremely important so students are now better equipped for their careers.

NRRA CONFERENCE

Attendees: Alexander Ojstojic, Ryan Glotzbach, Jake Eichelberger, Emily Selenis, Wyatt Quigley, Tristen Aguilar, Brendan Leibfoth

The Katie School sent six members to the 2019 National Risk Retention Association conference. They participated in the CRISP program which was established with the intent of university students shadowing industry professionals throughout the duration of the conference. One of the major topics that our students learned was domicile vs non-domicile regulation.



Alumni Spotlight

MAEGAN LUNTE / ETHAN WITTING



Maegan graduated from ISU in 2005 with a double major in Risk Management & Insurance and Marketing. Similar to many of us, Maegan "fell into" insurance once she realized the great benefits the Katie School has to offer. She was actively involved in Gamma, and served as Chapter President.

After graduation, Maegan began her career at Zurich North America working as an underwriter. She advanced in Zurich to become a second-level manager. However, after spending 12 years at Zurich, Maegan uprooted everything she knew to expand her comfort zone by starting her own insurance agency, Brightway Insurance in Wylie, TX.

Maegan always had the desire to become a broker but it was essential for her to understand the more technical side beforehand.

Establishing Brightway Insurance has been very challenging, but she says it is the best role she has ever had. By utilizing her underwriting skills, she can truly focus on being a great broker.



Ethan graduated from ISU in 2017 with a major in Risk Management & Insurance. During his time in Gamma, he served as the Director of Recruiting which allowed him to share his passion for Gamma to other students. He says that without Gamma, he would definitely not be in the same place today.

Ethan interned with WSIA which began his interest in surplus lines. After his internship, he decided he wanted to be an underwriter, and started his career with Gen Star in July 2017. As a casualty underwriter, he works with primary and excess risks from transportation liability, to products liability as well as other general liability exposures.

In September, Ethan accepted a position with Gen Star to establish a casualty office in Atlanta, GA to build its presence in the Southeast region. There are very exciting things happening for Ethan!



International INTERNSHIPS

2019



London, England

Carlos Rubio & Macie Brown

Carlos and Macie spent 4 weeks in London visiting 14 companies and learning about a variety of insurance policies. They were exposed to casualty, property, inland marine, cyber, terrorism, and reinsurance. They gained a comprehensive view of the day-to-day workflow of underwriters, brokers, agents, risk managers, and claims professionals within the Lloyd's market. Not only did they observe business transactions in the market, but they also learned about internal operations of the insurance companies.

Their internship experience provided them with guidance to narrow their career goals and prepared them to enter such an exciting and complex industry!



Hamilton, Bermuda

Jenna Chervinko & Caroline Wilieko

Jenna and Caroline spent 3 weeks in Bermuda learning about reinsurance, captives, cyber insurance, and investment strategies. They visited about 30 companies which gave them a unique perspective on the insurance industry. Something unique to the Bermuda internship is that there were 4 other interns from Bermuda. They served as great guides to Jenna and Caroline while on the island as well as great friends! With differing backgrounds and skill sets, it proved beneficial to collaborate with the other interns on various case studies and risk management exercises. Growing an international network is such a valuable aspect of the internship that both Jenna and Caroline greatly appreciate.



Zurich, Switzerland

Erika Sreenan & Megan Smalter

Erika and Megan spent 4 weeks in Zurich and were exposed to international connections and valuable information. They both enjoyed meeting with professionals in different areas of the industry such as underwriting, claims, actuarial, broking, risk engineering, and risk management. The internship helped connect each area of the industry in a way that made things clear. One highlight of the experience was visiting Nestle's headquarters in Vevey, Switzerland where they met with the risk management team and learned about their captive, Intercona. Erika and Megan also spent the weekends travel across Europe, making their way to Vienna, Prague, and Sicily!



2018-2019 OFFICERS

Where Are They Now?



Hannah Crawley
Zurich North
America



Sal D'Acquisto
Chubb



Max Johnson
Liberty
Mutual



Kelsie Klingenberg
Reinsurance Group of
America



Travis Kniep
Swiss Re



Luke Reiser
HDI Global



Eric Reed
USAA



Adrian Villa
Chubb



Alexa Zito
Zurich North
America



KATIE SCHOOL ALUMNI GOLF OUTING

& Golf 101



Before the alumni golf outing, a few of our members met on the golf course to practice. It was a great way to spend time with friends and gain knowledge about proper golf etiquette!

After spending time practicing, some of our members met with alumni on the course for the golf outing. This outing gave our students a great opportunity to speak with alumni about their careers on a more casual level. Speaking with alumni led some students to have a better understanding of their interests within the insurance industry.



JOINT EVENT BETWEEN ALPHA KAPPA AND GAMMA LAMBDA

Justin Waller represented Alpha Kappa at the U of I joint Gamma Chapter event. At this lunch, Justin heard from representatives from Great American Insurance and COUNTRY Financial who spoke about the rise in fidelity crime and insurance products that aid in the recovery process when a loss has occurred. This was a great opportunity to support other Gamma chapters!



CHICAGOLAND RISK FORUM



Several of our members attended the Chicagoland Risk Forum in downtown Chicago and developed valuable relationships with mentors within the insurance industry. It was a great conference to attend for members who were eager to learn more about the risk management side of their major. Attending sessions made specifically for risk managers was a very unique experience for our students. The next few pages consist of pictures of students with their mentors.



CHICAGOLAND RISK FORUM MENTORS



Katie Moran, Cori Maloney and Wyatt Quigley



Kerry Parker and Justin Waller



Raymond Hernandez and Brendan Radecky



Shoba Rajanahally and Megan Smalter



CHICAGOLAND RISK FORUM MENTORS



Brendan Leibforth and Karoline Kniss



Carlos Rubio, Judy Silverman and Caroline Wilieko



Delaney Johnston, Wendy Napolitano and
Kyle Wolter



Erik Benson and Travis Ahrens



CHICAGOLAND RISK FORUM MENTORS



Theresa Severson and Erika Sreenan



Trey Kolenda, Chris Sullivan, and Zach Snow



Tom Biede and Jenna Chervinko



Tyler Niefert, Jason Mezyk, and Tristen Aguilar



Fall 2019 Calendar

Date	Day	Time	Location	Event	Dress
*Aug. 23-25	Fri-Sun	All Day	Columbus, OH	Gamma Iota Sigma Leadership Conference	Bus. Professional
^Aug. 29	Thu	10:00-3:00pm	ISU Quad	Festival ISU	Gamma Gear
^Aug. 29	Thu	2:00-5:00pm	Bone Student Center	Part-time Job Fair	Bus. Professional
Sep. 4	Wed	6:30-7:50pm	SFH 357	1 st General Meeting	Casual
Sep. 5	Thu	6:00-7:00pm	Bloomington, IL	Golf 101	Casual
Sep. 6	Fri	All Day	Weibring Golf Course	Katie Alumni/Student Golf Outing	Bus. Casual
Sep. 9	Mon	6:30-7:30pm	SFH 430	LinkedIn Resume Workshop	Bus. Casual
Sep. 10	Tue	11:30-1:30pm	SFH 430	Great American Lunch	Bus. Casual
Sep. 10	Tue	5:00-6:00pm	SFH 150	Great American Info Session	Bus. Casual
Sep. 10	Tue	6:00-8:00pm	SFH 145	RGA Presentation	Bus. Casual
^Sep. 12	Thu	All Day	Chicago, IL	Katie School Advisory Board	Bus. Professional
Sep. 12	Thu	5-7:30pm	People's Park	Gamma Picnic	Gamma Gear
Sep. 13	Fri	2-4pm	Bloomington, IL	Home Sweet Home Ministries Volunteering	Casual
Sep. 16	Mon	6:30-7:30pm	SFH 430	Conference Etiquette	Bus. Casual
Sep. 17	Tue	11:30-1:30pm	SFH 430	Travelers Lunch and Learn	Bus. Casual
Sep. 20	Fri	2:00-3:00pm	ISU Quad	Clean the Quad	Casual
^Sep. 21-24	Sat-Tues	All Day	New Orleans	CPCU Annual Meeting	Bus Professional
Sep. 23-24	Mon-Tues	All Day	Chicago, IL	Chicagoland Risk Forum	Bus. Professional
^Sep. 24	Tues	4:00-7:00pm	Redbird Arena	Fall Internship & Career Fair	Bus. Professional
Sep 25	Wed	TBD	Bloomington, IL	YWCA Volunteering	Casual
^Sept 26-29	Thu-Sun	All Day	Dallas, TX	Gamma Nationals	Bus. Professional
Oct. 2-4	Wed-Fri	All Day	Chicago, IL	NRRA Conference	Bus. Professional



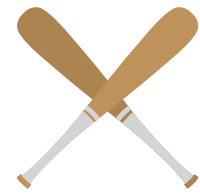
Oct. 2	Wed	6:30-7:50pm	SFH 357	2 nd General Meeting	Bus. Casual
Oct. 8	Tue	11:30-1:00pm	SRH 430	Acuity Lunch and Learn	Bus. Casual
Oct. 11	Fri	TBD	Normal, IL	Normal PD Haunted Trail	Casual
Oct. 15	Tues	1:00-3:00pm	Operation Gratitude	Operation Gratitude Volunteering	Casual
Oct. 13-19	Sun-Sat	All Week	Bloomington, IL	IICF Week of Giving	Casual
Oct. 18	Fri	2:00-4:00pm	Bloomington, IL	Active Bloomington Garden	Casual
Oct. 21	Mon	6:15-7:50pm	CAT Auditorium	Brown & Brown Brokerage Practices	Bus. Casual
Oct. 22	Tue	5:00-7:00pm	SFH 430	CLBA - Consult a Client	Bus. Casual
Oct. 23	Wed	11:30-1:00pm	SFH 430	Gallagher Lunch and Learn	Bus. Casual
Oct. 23	Wed	5:00-7:00pm	SFH 430	Gallagher Case Study	Bus. Casual
Oct. 24	Thu	TBD	TBD	CNA Visit	Bus. Casual
Oct. 25	Fri	12:00-2:00pm	SFH 430	Captives 101	Bus. Casual
Oct. 29-30^	Tue-Wed	All Day	Chicago, IL	Katie School Exec Forum	Bus. Professional
Oct. 30	Wed	5:00-7:00pm	SFH 430	CLBA - Project Management	Bus. Casual
Oct. 31	Thu	4:30-7:30pm	Bone Student Center	Halloween Policy Fundraiser	Casual
Nov. 1	Fri	1:00-3:00pm	Bloomington, IL	Midwest Food Bank	Casual
Nov. 6	Wed	6:30-7:50pm	SFH 357	3 rd General Meeting	Casual
Nov. 7	Thu	5:00-6:00pm	SFH 430	CLBA - How to Run a Meeting	Bus. Casual
Nov. 7	Thu	6:30-8:00pm	SFH 430	CLBA - How to Run a Meeting	Bus. Casual
Nov. 8	Fri	11:30-1:00pm	SFH 430	American Family Lunch and Learn	Bus. Casual
Nov. 9-10	Sat-Sun	10:00-6:00am	TBD	St. Jude Up 'til Dawn Fundraiser	Casual
Nov. 11-13	Mon-Wed	TBD	Normal, IL	Risk Manager in Residence	Bus. Casual
Nov. 14	Thu	5:00-6:30pm	SFH 430	CLBA - Social Media Monitoring Tool	Bus. Casual

Nov. 14-15	Thu-Fri	All Day	Atlanta, GA	Troy Symposium	Bus. Professional
Nov. 15	Fri	11:30-1:00pm	SFH 430	Reinsurance 101	Bus. Casual
Nov. 18	Mon	11:00-4:00pm	Escalante Room	Red Cross Blood Drive	Casual
Dec. 4	Wed	6:30-7:50pm	SFH 357	4 th General Meeting	Casual





CUBS GAMES



Back Row: Henry Glick, Jimmy Gulick, Karly Shannon, Bryan Neville, Kate Tejkl, Hannah Crawley, Patricia Lanigan, Mike Del Zoppo, and Mike Craig
Front Row: Christy Johnson and Katie Dalo



"Grandpa Rossi" David Ross and Kerri Maess



Sal D'Aquisto, Max Johnson and Cody Walsh



AXA XL FORUM



Allen Kus and Katie Dalo



Matt Jurcich



Laura Meade and Tori Greenfield



GAMMA NATIONALS



Jason Engle, Jenna Chervinko, Debbie Babcock, Caroline Wilieko, Megan Smalter, **Katelyn Malec**, Kate Pankhurst, **Amy Gibson**, Macie Brown, Zach Snow, Erika Sreenan, **Maegan Lunte**, and Dan Roesler



Tyler Hall, Royal Charles, *2019 Gamma Iota Sigma National Alumni of the Year-Jon Perry with his award*, Nick Mullinax, Debbie Babcock, and Jeremy Gallico



GAMMA NATIONALS



Jake Timmins



Caroline Wilieko and Rob Balogh



ISU CAREER FAIR



Kevin Maess and Nicole Dalton



Lauryn Appelbaum



Jason Rehor



Jeff Schulz



DIVE-IN AT GENE SISSEL THEATER -CHICAGO-



Tyler Hall, Stephannie Hitchins, Jon Perry, Mira Andreeva, ERin Stochmal and Jenny Trowitch



Tyler Hall, Stephannie Hitchins and Jon Perry



IICF WEEK OF GIVING



Shelby Punke, Tiffany McBride, Karly Shannon and Eric Mutch



Austin Karpinski



Jon Perry



Katie School Advisory Board Member Uli Boeing from Gen Re



KATIE SCHOOL INSURANCE EXECUTIVE FORUM

Katie Alumni and Students



ASSOCIATION FOR PROFESSIONAL INSURANCE WOMEN (APIW) EVENTS



Karly Shannon and Brianna Gatto



Vanessa Contreras, Kerri Maess and Amanda Vanecko



Vanessa Contreras and Erin Stochmal



Megan Smalter, Sarah Puleo, Jackie Neuhalfen, Caroline Wilieko, Erika Sreenan, Jenna Chervinko, Debbie Babcock, Kerri Maess, Katie Moran and Erin Stochmal



IICF ROCK FOR CHARITY -CHICAGO-



Sarah Anderson and Faye Callahan



Thomas Fitzgerald, Chris Craveiro and Jenna Marwitz



Andy Vuong and Jeremy Gallico



Kerri Maess and Ken Stewart



IICF ROCK FOR CHARITY -CHICAGO-



Kerri Maess, Marcie Stephan, Ken Stewart, Chris Craveiro, Andy Vuong and Stephanie Hitchins



Ben Tiffany and Sarah Anderson



Sal D'Acquisto and Debbie Babcock



IICF ROCK FOR CHARITY -CHICAGO-



Sarah Anderson, Andy Vuong, Debbie Babcock, Jeremy Gallico and Ben Tiffany



Nicole Lacy and Katie School Advisory Board Member Sabrina Hart



Jean Celestin and Jackson Gardner



IICF ROCK FOR CHARITY -CHICAGO-



Erin Stochmal, Stephanie Hitchins and Jeremy Gallico



Ben Tiffany and Ken Stewart



Paiton Florey and Matt Dubiel





CHICAGO GAMMA ALUMNI VOLLEYBALL



KATIE ALUMNI ALLOVER



Scott Adams, Carlos Rubio and Macie Brown



Blake Koppersmith, Mike Liedke and Chris Hubbard



Faye Callahan, Sal D'Acquisto, Ben Tiffany, Stephannie Hitchins and Tyler Hall



Eric Mutch



KATIE ALUMNI ALLOVER



Nate Yanz, Courtney Guzzino and Cody Walsh



Blake Koppersmith and Travis Kniep



Stephanie Wig and Ben Tiffany



Macie Brown, Carlos Rubio and Joe Aluise



KATIE ALUMNI ALLOVER



Ryan Ward



Max Johnson



Marcie Stephan and Rob Dunn



KATIE ALUMNI ALLOVER



Kerri Maess and Stephanie Hitchins

Kate Pankhurst, Scott Walding, Justin Waller and Katie Moran



Ian Mayster, Tristen Aguilar, Emily Selenis, Wyatt Quigley, Jake Eichelberger, Alexander Ostojic, Brendan Leibforth and Ryan Glotzbach



Thomas Daly



KATIE ALUMNI ALLOVER



Courtney Guzzino and Paiton Florey



Emily Tomaszewski and Bill Jones



Eric Mutch and Jeremy Gallico



KATIE ALUMNI ALLOVER



Tom Ear, Thomas Klingner, Emily Tomaszewski and Marie Bedoun



Karly Shannon, Bri Allen and Marie Bedoun



Debbie Babcock and Katie Daley



KATIE ALUMNI ALLOVER



Steve Dudek and Bri Allen



Kevin Conner



**Jennifer Sendre, Emily Tomaszewski, Marie Bedoun,
Debbie Babcock, Bri Allen, Courtney Guzzino and Tom Ear**



KATIE ALUMNI HOLIDAY RECEPTION



Haley Eckstein and Stefani Arapidis



Elyse Wright, Christy Johnson, Katie Dalo and Zach Kramer



Sean Fitzgerald, Morgan Loy and Lauryn Appelbaum



Vanessa Contreras, Vince Porter and Ben Tiffany



KATIE ALUMNI HOLIDAY RECEPTION



Amanda Vanecko and Jon Perry



Ben Delinski and Ben Tiffany



Ben Delinski, Chris Craveiro, Andy Vuong, Vanessa Contreras, Vince Porter and Ben Tiffany



KATIE ALUMNI HOLIDAY RECEPTION



**Mark Rogina, Katie Dalo, Elyse Wright,
Christy Johnson and Zach Kramer**



Vanessa Contreras, Jon Perry and Vince Porter



Travis Ahrens, Ben Dyer and Nick Mullinax



KATIE ALUMNI HOLIDAY RECEPTION



Royal Charles, Jon Perry, Travis Ahrens and Haley Eckstein

The names of Katie School alumni are in **bold letters**.

