



# Gamma Iota Sigma Alumni Newsletter

Spring 2016 Edition

Gamma Iota Sigma  
Alpha Kappa Chapter

Spring 2016

Gamma Iota Sigma's Alpha Kappa Chapter had a tremendous Spring semester with many opportunities for industry involvement and professional development. The chapter was made up of 40% underclassman and 60% upperclassman. The chapter received awards from Grand Chapter in: Alumni Relations, Chapter Management, Community Service, Membership Development, & Public Relations. If you are looking to connect with other Gamma alumni students in your area, [become involved in the Gamma Alumni Council](#). The purpose of the Alumni Council is to engage and connect GIS alumni in their local communities, support local Gamma student chapters and further the mission & brand of GIS.

## 2015-2016 Officers

*Jake Morris (President)*  
*Allison Slater (VP- Student Affairs)*  
*James Peachey (VP- Internal Affairs)*  
*Stefani Arapidis (Secretary)*  
*Tanner Schultz (Treasurer)*  
*Dylan Smalley (Director of Alumni)*  
*Micheal Delzoppo (Fundraising Director)*  
*Courtney Guzzino (Director of Publicity)*  
*Travis Ahrens (Director of Volunteering)*  
*Ryan Fitzpatrick (Director of Recruiting)*  
*Judy Cheng (Actuarial Liaison)*  
*Nick Valaitis (Historian)*  
*Debbie Babcock (Advisor)*  
*Yuluena Ma (Advisor)*

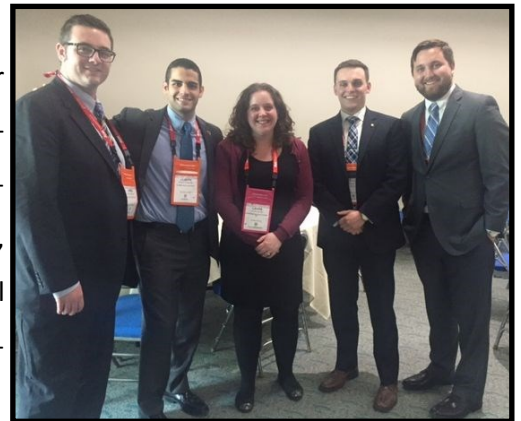
**Below:** James Peachey, Joe Iavarone, Laura Meade, Ethan Witting, and Jake Morris at the RIMS Conference

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## 2016 RIMS Conference in San Diego

On April 9th-13th, the Katie School sent 11 students to San Diego, California for the annual RIMS conference. There were approximately 10,000 insurance professionals in attendance so this was a great opportunity for students to network. Students were able to attend educational sessions, hear from insurance executives, network, and enjoy the great city of San Diego. The students volunteered at local schools fixing decks & yards and attended receptions at Petco Park, the USS Midway and other venues around the city.



## Insurance Professionals Speak to Gamma Members

During the spring semester, the Alpha Kappa Chapter was fortunate to host a variety of industry speakers and companies. Some of the companies include Liberty Mutual, Swiss Re, Marsh, and M3 along with others. For students to develop their soft skills, students participated in an etiquette diner,

CIAC Insurance Sales & Personality Trait Presentation, Toastmasters, and a CPCU Networking Event. In addition, students were invited for job shadowing opportunities through the Chicago Chapter of RIMS and Pekin Insurance. Students were also fortunate to attend Mid-IL RIMS lunch and learns featuring topics about UAVs and their related issues, Predictive Modeling in the Claims Industry, and New Madrid Seis-

mic Zone & its Associated Risks. During the monthly general meetings there were presentations by Great American Insurance Group about management liability and its internship & job opportunities; State Farm representatives spoke about the benefits of having a CPCU and tips on test taking; and Aspen Insurance spoke about career advice and transitioning into the workforce from the Katie School of Insurance.



## 13th Annual NAPSLO Symposium

The 13<sup>th</sup> Extreme Risk Takers NAPSLO Symposium was held in Chicago and hosted by the Derek Hughes/NAPSLO Educational Foundation, the Alpha Kappa Chapter of Gamma Iota Sigma and the Katie School of Insurance at Illinois State University on the weekend of March 18th-20th. Over 125 students from 17 different universities across the U.S. attended the conference. The symposium began with a career fair with 16 great companies looking to hire the students. There were seven different sessions throughout the weekend ranging from The Foundation, NAPLSO and You; Overview of the Surplus Lines; Intermediaries in the Surplus Lines Market; How D&O Business Works in Conjunction with the E&S Market; Case Study on Risk Management; Lloyd's and the Global Market; and Roles and Career Paths in the Surplus Lines Market. The NAPSLO Symposium also allowed students to network with RMI students who share the same interest in a career in the risk management and insurance industry. During the evening, the students socialized and watched the NCAA basketball games at Lucky Strike and RB Grille. A special thanks to NAPSLO and the Derek Hughes/NAPSLO Educational Foundation for the support to offer this Symposium to future industry leaders.



## Gamma Students Continue to Give Back

The Alpha Kappa chapter continued its commitment to volunteerism through several different community service events. This year's volunteer events were led by the Director of Volunteer Efforts, Travis Ahrens. One of the volunteering opportunities was volunteering at the Midwest Food Bank where the students packaged goods to help alleviate those in need of food. Also, the annual Polar Plunge was held on February 27th at Miller Park, which raises money to support Special Olympics. Six students took the plunge and a total of \$850 was raised between the students plunging and watching. Lastly, the Alpha Kappa Chapter cleaned up the Illinois State quad on April 21st.





## 8th Annual Gamma Games

This year's 8th Annual Gamma Games took place on April 16th in the Bowling and Billiards Center and there were a total of about 60 students and alumni in attendance. The Vice President of Student Affairs, Allison Slater, coordinated this event. Students and alumni paired together for an intense competition of several rounds of minute to win it games and GIS Jeopardy, which included insurance, pop culture, and Gamma Iota Sigma trivia questions. Thank you to all of the alumni who attended: Ashley Rieger, Jayne Carver, Michelle Godbey, Jenny Trowitch, Javier Zavala, Jon Perry, Andy Vuong, Mire Andreeva, Sarah Turek, Ryan Janssen, Stephanie Hitchins, and Nicole McArdle.

## Katie School Symposium

The Katie School Symposium was held on April 22nd at the Normal Marriot Hotel. During the symposium there were presentations exploring topics on new insurance products for new exposures. Dr. Kevin Ahlgrim gave a presentation on The Need for New Insurance Products. There were also two students research teams who presented. One of the student presentations was given by Thomas Klinger, Micheal Del Zoppo and Ryan Fitzpatrick on Cyber Liability and the other was given by James Peachey, Aleks Majewski and Mfon Ekot on renewable energy sources. The symposium was a great opportunity for industry experts, consulting firms and students to discuss pressing issues in the insurance industry.



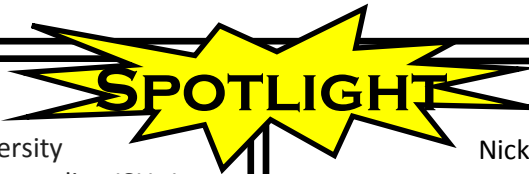
Gamma Transition Dinner with Current and New Officers



Etiquette Dinner



Officer Retreat at the Challenger Learning Center



## Jon Perry

Jon graduated from Illinois State University in 2009 with a BS in Insurance. While attending ISU, Jon was heavily involved in several organizations on campus, including his time as a Preview Guide, Resident Assistant, and performer in the Gamma Phi Circus. Jon was also very involved in GIS, serving as the Recruiting Director and as President in 2009. Jon was selected for the Katie School International Internship and he enjoyed three weeks in Bermuda. Upon graduation, Jon accepted a position with Travelers. He participated in the Underwriting Development Program and his hands-on curriculum focused on Management Liability Insurance. In 2014, Jon joined Allied World, where he continues to underwrite Public D&O insurance products.

Jon is thankful for both the Katie School of Insurance and GIS for giving him the opportunity to explore insurance as a career. He still maintains many business and personal relationships that started in the Katie School and GIS. Jon's engagement with GIS continues today, as he serves as the Chicago Regional Director of the recently created GIS Alumni Council. He encourages recent and upcoming ISU Katie School graduates to reach out to him for additional information ([jon.perry@awac.com](mailto:jon.perry@awac.com)).

Jon currently lives in Naperville, IL with his fiancé, Katie. Jon and Katie met as performers in the Gamma Phi Circus. In his free time, Jon enjoys watching sports (particularly Redbird basketball), whiskey, making music, and asking his friends embarrassing questions.



## Nick Mullinax

Nick is a sophomore Insurance and Finance double major with an expected graduation date of May 2018. Nick will be the President of Gamma Iota Sigma's Alpha Kappa chapter during the 2016-2017 school year. Throughout this school year, Nick has been involved with a multitude of Gamma events such as lunch and learns, risk manager dinners as well as volunteer events such as Clean the Quad and Habitat for Humanity. He is also involved at ISU as a Resident Assistant for University Housing as well as serving on the executive board for Illinois State Students in Finance.

Nick recently spent time in Chicago job shadowing a risk manager, as well as attending a Gamma Alumni Council network event with many Katie School alumni. This summer, Nick will be an intern at M3 Insurance, specializing in P&C and Employee Benefits based in Madison, WI. Nick is grateful for all of the opportunities at the Katie School of Insurance as well as the insurance industry as a whole and said, "I am very happy to be in an industry that is continuously changing and has many exciting opportunities. The events and opportunities that the Katie School and Gamma Iota Sigma offers is a direct representation of this exciting industry." Nick would like to pursue a career in wholesale brokerage due to the variability and complexity of the E&S Market.

In his free time, Nick enjoys spending time with family and friends, working out, volunteering and playing or watching soccer. Feel free to connect with Nick on LinkedIn or email him at [nmullin@ilstu.edu](mailto:nmullin@ilstu.edu).



### 2016-2017 Officers

- Nick Mullinax (President)
- Judy Cheng (VP Internal Affairs)
- Bri Allen (VP Student Affairs)
- Sean Fitzgerald (Treasurer)
- Matt Dubiel (Secretary)
- Lauren Applebaum (Volunteer Efforts)
- Emily Tomaszewski (Publicity)
- Ethan Witting (Recruiting)
- Marie Bedoun (Alumni Affairs)
- Rebekah Verbeke (Historian)
- Aaron Puntriano (Actuarial Liaison)
- Michael Cappel (Outreach)
- Vlada Gudzenko (Professional Development)

### 2016 International Interns

The Katie School of Insurance & Financial Services is excited to announce the 2016 International Interns. This summer, six outstanding students will have a tremendous experience in a global insurance marketplace. Bri Allen & Ethan Witting will be in London, England; Matt Dubiel & Brett Brozovich will be in Zurich, Switzerland; and Judy Cheng & Emily Tomaszewski will be in Bermuda. They are all honored to be selected and look forward to an amazing experience. Their experiences will be shared in the Fall 2016 Alumni Newsletter.



## Where Are They Now?

## Alumni Photos

**Christy Johnson (12)** recently switched jobs from Lexington/AIG to Aspen Insurance to underwrite excess auto liability again. She bought a condo in September and is currently on the board of Insurance Associates in Chicago. She is working towards completing her CPCU.

**Eric Mutch (13)** completed his CPCU designation and hopes to see other Katie alumni in Hawaii in September at the CPCU annual conference.

**Jason Preston (00)** is managing the Financial Lines Public Accounts team (management liability insurance for all publicly traded insureds except Financial Institutions, which are handled separately by our dedicated FI team) for AIG's Midwest region. His six year anniversary at AIG will be in August of this year. He and his wife, Andrea, have a 19 month old, Kaylie.

**Jake Timmins (11)** Jake is wrapping up his 2<sup>nd</sup> full year in Dallas, TX after moving down from Kansas City in 2014. Work is going great and he recently moved into a new townhome with his girlfriend so they are very excited to spend much of the summer by the pool!



Maddy, daughter of **Thomas Daly (08)** and his wife, Kate



**Dan Fuld** hosting Katie School interns, **Ethan Witting** and **Bri Allen**, in London



Send news to:  
debbie.babcock@ilstu.edu

### Alumni Photos

**KATIE** OF INSURANCE AND  
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## Katie Alumni Speaking on Campus

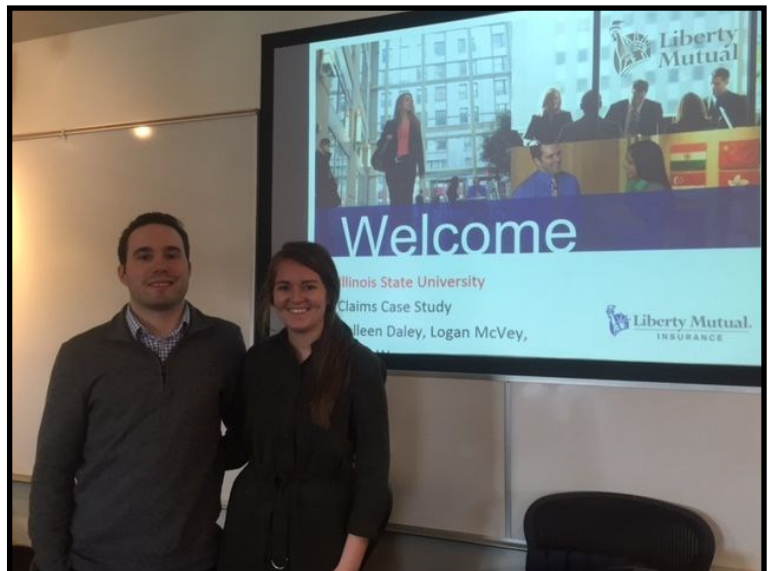


Above: L-R: Ryan Fitzpatrick, Renee Gerdisch, Danielle Engelke and James Peachey

Above: L-R: Bri Allen, Vanessa Contreras and Sean Fitzgerald



Above: Amanda Vanecko from Gallagher



Above: L-R: Logan McVey and Colleen Daley



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### Alumni Photos

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## Katie Alumni at the ISU Career Fair



**Above: Tom Mullins**



**Above: L-R: Jeff Schulz and Tom Krug**



**Above: Jen Gill**



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## IICF Trivia for Charity



L-R: Patrick Henning and Chris Hubbard



L-R: Tom Ear and Bill Lally



L-R: Jenna Milas, Stan Yanz and Jimmy Oakes





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## IICF Trivia for Charity



L-R: *Andy Vuong, Marcie Stephan and Tom Mullins*



L-R: *Patrick Henning, Erin Sanford and Chris Hubbard*



L-R: *Debbie Babcock, Sarah Turek and Ben Delinski*



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### IICF Benefit Event



L-R: Adam and Marcie Stephan



L-R: Patrick and Audrey Doyle



L-R: Tom Mullins, Debbie Babcock and Marcie Stephan



L-R: Debbie Babcock and Ben Delinski



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# Alumni Photos

## KATIE SCHOOL

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## Gamma Games



**LET THE GAMES BEGIN!**





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## Alumni Photos

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## Gamma Games



## Team Competition!





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## Gamma Games



Above: Katie alumni—L-R Back: Stephanie Hitchins, Jenny Trowitch, Andy Vuong, & Andy Vuong  
L-R Front: Sarah Turek, Mira Andreeva, Michelle Godbey, Jon Perry, Jayne Carver, & Ashley Rieger

Above: Gamma Games Committee: L-R: James Peachey, Stefani Arapidis, Judy Cheng, Courtney Guzzino, Allison Slater, Nick Valaitis, Dylan Smalley, Travis Ahrens & Jake Morris



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## Gamma Games





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## Gamma Games



**L-R: Javier Zavala, Sarah Turek, Jason Rehor,  
& Katherine Kowalczyk**



**L-R: Jake Moore, Raissa Mboma, Mira Andreeva,  
& Andy Vuong**



**L-R: Jerry Jackson, Jenny Trowitch, Paiton Florey,  
& Joe Iavarone**



**L-R: Steven Jagodzinski, Michael Cappel, Jayne Carver,  
& Stephanie Hitchins**



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## Gamma Games



**L-R: Jon Perry, Nicole McArdle, Nick Mullinax, Precious Baah, & Aleksandra Majewski**



**L-R: Isidro Espinoza, Emily Tomaszewski, Ashley Rieger, & Ryan Janssen**



**L-R: Brandon Timpe, Marie Bedoun, Michelle Godbey, & Daniel McCurdy**



**L-R: Judy Cheng, Bri Allen, Courtney Guzzino, & Stefani Arapidis**





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## NAPSLO Symposium



L-R: Elyse Wright and Dana Thomas at the NAPSLO Symposium career fair



L-R: Brianna Gatto, Brett Glaser, Dana Thomas and Elyse Wright



Jake Timmins on an industry panel



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## NAPSLO Symposium



L-R: Back—*Marcie Stephan, Jake Timmins and Brett Glaser* on an industry panel



L-R: *Brianna Gatto and Brett Glaser* at the NAPSLO Symposium career fair



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## Alumni Photos

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### Katie Alumni at Work



L-R: *Scott Adams, Allison Slater and Dan Pettie*



L-R: *Allison Slater, Jean Celestin, Ashley Rieger, Kevin Kostyk and Faye Callahan*



L-R: *Karly Shannon, Tom Mullins and Stan Yanz*