

## Highlights

### The Risk Management Speaker Series



Despite the precautionary physical barriers established this past year, the RMI program maintained its high-level of industry interaction, albeit in an online format. In the fall of 2020, we launched the

Virtual Risk Management Speaker Series that brought in a number of risk management professionals from around the nation who addressed timely and intriguing topics such as the impact of the pandemic on the insurance marketplace and the rapidly evolving world of enterprise risk management. The virtual environment allowed us to open the sessions to a broader audience and we had an overwhelming number of students in attendance (over 100) for each presentation.



**Jonathan Ball**  
*Trammell Crow*



**Andrew Bent**  
*Sage Group*



**Amelia Bourassa**  
*PepsiCo*



**Alan Kubitz**  
*eBay*



**Esequiel Nathal**  
*Compass Risk Services*



**Andy Nottestad**  
*United Airlines*

### Professional Development



The RMI program has been busy at many levels seeking to add opportunities for student development and stronger interactions with industry. A few examples of the more prominent endeavors include the introduction of the SOAR

Professional Development and the emerging Professional Education Programs. SOAR includes a series of mini-professional development workshops aimed at better-preparing our students for entrance into the professional world. The Professional Education Program encourages our students to pursue professional designations while still a student. Students are reimbursed for costs associated with exam materials through grants provided by the Spencer Educational Foundation and Dallas Fort Worth RIMS. Additionally, we are currently in the process of creating a formal UNT RMI Mentoring Program that will pair our students with professionals working in the local insurance industry. If you are interested in volunteering as a mentor, please access and complete the mentoring-interest form using the QR Code to the right.



### RMI Advisory Board

While individuals contribute to the success of the UNT RMI program in a multitude of ways, we owe a special debt of gratitude to our advisory board who make everything possible. Comprised of six insurance industry stalwarts, the members of the board support the program efforts both financially, as well as in a more direct manner. Our board members share a special relationship with our students, our faculty, our staff and the Ryan College of Business. They are in our classrooms and GIS meetings, they sponsor internships, fund our student-travel to regional and national industry events, and employ our graduates, etc. In short, they make the system work. For more information about our advisory board, please contact Dr. Nat Pope ([Nat.Pope@unt.edu](mailto:Nat.Pope@unt.edu)).



# Student Success

## Connecting Students with Industry

Our students were also “on the go” this past year participating in many online conferences, including, among others:

- » Various national and regional Gamma Iota Sigma conferences
- » Insurance Council of Texas Property and Casualty Symposium
- » Women in Insurance Dallas Virtual Summit
- » IIAD's Jim Millerman Insurance Hybrid Summit
- » NAAIA DFW 2021 Scholarship Luncheon

One particularly notable event was co-hosted by the UNT GIS chapter and the Dallas Fort Worth chapter of the National African American Insurance Association (NAAIA) in April 2021 that focused on D&I and closing the talent gap in the insurance industry. A virtual panel comprised of insurance industry representatives and regional academic institutions shared wide-ranging strategies and initiatives intended to diversify the insurance industry work population. Participating panelists included individuals from the NAAIA DFW Chapter, Travelers Insurance, Chubb, IRMI, QuestPro, University of North Texas, University of Texas at Dallas, and St. Mary's University. You can view a recording of this informative panel discussion on our GIS website: <https://www.untgis.com/>.

## GIS 2020-2021 “Gamma Gives Back” Virtual Outreach Event Initiatives



Despite COVID restrictions, our GIS student organization was still active and managed to step up and participate in multiple civic and community endeavors, including “contactless” food drives that benefited the UNT Food Pantry, various community beautification efforts and involvement in the Insurance Industry Charitable Foundation Week of Giving event, just to name a few. The pandemic has not stopped our students’ efforts to work together and give back!

## RMI Program Student Spotlight: Stacy Rodriguez



While we have any number of incredible students in our program, some stars just seem to shine a bit brighter. One such star is Stacy Rodriguez, a December 2020 graduate. While a student, Stacy was a student leader of GIS, a recipient of many scholarships and has

attended multiple industry conferences as a student representative. As a NAMIC (National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies) scholar, Stacy was a featured guest on the NAMIC Insurance Uncovered podcast where she spoke about attracting young talent to the insurance industry. She was also chosen as a Gamma Iota Sigma International Student Representative, one of only two students from the US. In that role, Stacy served as a liaison between 90+ universities and the GIS Grand Chapter. She is a role model and inspiration to other students. Stacy has accepted a post-graduate position with Chubb as an underwriting associate.

## Connect with UNT RMI

*We want to connect with you. Please follow us on social media and reach out to us with any questions.*



**UNT RMI program website**  
[cob.unt.edu/firel/rmi](http://cob.unt.edu/firel/rmi)



**LinkedIn**  
[www.linkedin.com/company/rmiunt](http://www.linkedin.com/company/rmiunt)



**UNT GIS Beta Zeta Chapter**  
<https://www.untgis.com/>



**Instagram**  
[untgis\\_](https://www.instagram.com/untgis_)

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