

2023-2024 RISK MANAGEMENT & INSURANCE NEWSLETTER

Students On the Go!

While we certainly believe there is some professional content that is best taught in a class-room environment, we also believe that there is a wealth of education that can only be absorbed through interaction with industry professionals. To that end, one of the remarkable benefits of being a UNT RMI

student is the opportunity to enjoy sponsored attendance and no-cost travel to a variety of industry conferences, both locally, as well as nationally.

This past year the RMI program sent 51 student-attendees to conferences in 10 different locations. In Texas, our students attended the Jim Millerman All Industry Day, the annual DFW RIMS Fall Conference, the ICT Property & Casualty Insurance Symposium and the Houston Marine and Energy Insurance Conference. Nationally, our students attended the annual GIS leadership symposium in Columbus, the annual GIS conference in Baltimore, the Casualty Actuarial Society Student Conference in Los Angeles, the GIS regional conference in Atlanta, the WSIA Extreme Risk Takers Symposium in Chicago and not least, RISKWORLD in San Diego. What an impressive list of travels and series of adventures! In addition to these formal conference events, our students have participated in any number of local collaborations with DFW professional insurance industry groups such as the YRP, DFW RIMS, CPCU Society, IIAD, and NAAIA, among others.

Additionally, UT-Dallas and UNT GIS organizations continued their co-sponsoring of an increasing number of events that allow the students of both programs to get to know one another in anticipation of eventually working together in the local DFW insurance industry.

Our students also volunteered as docents at the Marsh DBA Summit and spent a Saturday morning volunteering at Shiloh Gardens which is a community garden in Denton, Texas that grows produce for local food pantries and charities.



Rising Stars





This year, our program organized and sponsored a student-team case competition whose task was to identify a list of student-travel issues that may face UNT when it sends students off campus while representing the University.

The intent of the exercise was to help the actual UNT risk management department identify real issues confronting UNT associated with such travel. Students from RMI, Accounting, Financial Planning and Logistics majors participated in the competition and two RMI students, Brock Polydoroff and Kyndra Raymond, emerged as the winners of this challenge. Their success earned them an all-expense paid trip to RISKWORLD in San Diego (hosted by RIMS), along with a monetary prize.

This generous opportunity was made possible through a grant from the Spencer Educational Foundation. Members of UNT's actual risk management department served as part of the judging panel for the event - collaboration at its best!

Advisory Board

We extend a special thanks to the dedicated corporate members of our RMI advisory board. The most recent addition of Marsh McClennan Agency brings that contingent to ten members. Their commitment to our program is the driving force behind the success and the achievements of our students and we are grateful for their support. In recognition of their commitment of the UNT RMI program, we hosted the second annual RMI Day event in the Ryan College of Business Atrium this past spring. Our board member companies were invited to "takeover" the atrium for an afternoon and in addition to our core RMI-student group, meet as many business students as possible during the afternoon interaction. The event included free popcorn, gifts, raffles and...personal photos with Scrappy – the UNT mascot.



















Register for the Fall 2024 Risk Management and Insurance Career Fair



Program Events

RMI Week at UNT took place during October of this past year and included a series of exciting events. The week featured a variety of activities, including, among others, a reception dinner for our 2023 Risk Manager on Campus, Ms. Andrea Nelson, the VP of Risk Management for Manhattan Construction Group, an RMI career fair, and also a behind the scenes tour of the Dallas Cowboys Stadium for our RMI students. Ms. Nelson was present throughout the week, adding valuable insights and perspectives to the week of RMI events.

The RMI career fair noted above broke existing records for student attendance and participation from industry. This success underscores the growing interest and importance of the RMI field.

Of special note, in a first-of-its-kind event, UNT RMI co-hosted the Cybersecurity Symposium with the Travelers Institute at the beautiful George W. Bush Institute on the SMU campus. The event attracted over 100 attendees from the insurance industry.



Success at the 52nd Annual GIS Conference



UNT's Gamma lota Sigma (GIS) Beta Zeta chapter made a significant impact at the 52nd GIS annual conference in Baltimore. Eighteen GIS students from UNT participated in the conference which left a lasting impression on each of them. Additionally, we are thrilled to announce that our chapter received the Distinguished Chapter Recognition award, placing us among the top 10 out of over 100 other national chapters. This prestigious honor highlights the dedication and excellence of our chapter and further solidifies our commitment to advancing the field of risk management and insurance.

Global Center of Insurance Excellence Renewal



We are pleased to announce that UNT RMI has once again been recognized by the International Insurance Society as a Global Center of insurance Excellence (GCIE). UNT was first awarded GCIE recognition in 2018 and continued recognition is reviewed once every five-years. The honor recognizes the world's top collegiate risk management and insurance programs that play an integral role in promoting insurance knowledge and research, as well as advancing the interests of the global insurance industry. To receive the designation, a program needs to meet stringent criteria for consideration, including: its course offerings, graduate employment rates, professional involvement, and faculty expertise and qualifications. As of 2024, only 34 universities worldwide have received this designation and UNT remains the only university in Texas that has received this recognition. Congratulations!

Risk Management and Insurance Degree Name Change

Our RMI degree has a new name. For the past decade, the Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) degree in RMI has been a track under the Risk, Insurance, and Financial Services major, which also included the Financial Planning track. To increase the visibility and brand name of the UNT RMI program, our BBA degree has now formally changed its name to BBA in Risk Management and Insurance. In addition to a BBA degree in RMI, UNT also offers an RMI Minor and an RMI Certificate, catering to a variety of student needs and aspirations.

Promoting the UNT RMI Brand

To spread the word about RMI and GIS, the program has created two videos! The first focuses on the broader student population and illuminates the career opportunities in the insurance industry and the annual RMI career fair. The second video focuses on promoting student involvement in the GIS student organization. Please check them out.





RMI Career Fair Video

UNT GIS Video