

Gamma Iota Sigma Chi Chapter

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“Your membership in Gamma Iota Sigma is only the beginning, and the associations you make will contribute greatly to your progress.”

Knowledge. Brotherhood. Leadership. Professionalism. Community Involvement.

Alumni Newsletter

In This Issue...

Drake Symposium

We hosted the first Drake Symposium last year. We invited other Gamma Iota Sigma chapters to attend a speaker series paired with our formal and a golf tournament and clinic.

International Conference

The Bowers is back! Find out which awards were won and at the GIS International Conference in Dallas.

Internships

Our members let you in on what they have been doing for internships recently, spanning from Wisconsin to Texas.



2017 in Review



Drake University Symposium

The Drake University Symposium on Leadership and Insurance took place April 7th-8th of 2017. This event was a multi-chapter event, as Gamma Iota Sigma members from Drake, St. Thomas, Temple, and St. Johns attended. The first day was comprised of 3 speaker sessions with 7 total speakers, a keynote address at lunch, and our formal dinner in the evening. The speakers ranged from actuarial in nature to current and former insurance executives. The Casualty Actuarial Society graciously sponsored the lunch and had Chris Westermeyer, VP of Workers Compensation at Travelers, give the keynote address.

After the professional half of the day was over, members had a short break until our formal started that night. Titled "A Night in Disguise," the formal had a masquerade theme and included students from the visiting universities.

The second day of the Symposium consisted of a golf tournament and clinic. The instructional clinic was hosted by two of our members and was focused on providing basic fundamentals to learn the game of golf. The visiting chapters, as well as the members, were able to participate. Additionally, there was a golf outing for professionals that occurred at the same time which culminated with a networking lunch with the students afterwards.

Overall, the Drake Symposium was a huge success, and we will be hosting the second annual Drake Symposium April 6th-8th, 2018. The topic this year will be Innovation in Insurance. We have a great lineup of speakers and are looking forward to the event!



International Conference



Last fall down in Dallas, Texas, our chapter was presented with multiple awards at the 46th Annual GIS conference. We were awarded the Superior Chapter Award, and the Black and Gold Award for our events “Mock Career Fair” and “Paint Your Future.” For individual member awards, Trevor Carlson won the Thomas J. Miles Actuarial Award, and Kate McCoy won the Alan C. Williams Award, the highest honor that can be bestowed on any Gamma Member. On top of those awards, the Chi chapter won the Bowers Award!

We had a great time attending sessions and meeting our brothers from around the country. Conference was a blast, and we can't wait to go Chicago for the next International Conference this fall.

Internships

Ty
Albrecht



My name is Ty Albrecht, and I am a junior working as an intern for Global Insurance Accelerator during the spring semester. Global Insurance Accelerator is a business accelerator for start-up companies in the insurance market. Each year, eight start-up companies participate in their 100-day program and meet with mentors from insurance companies in Des Moines, grow their network, practice pitches, and ultimately present at the Global Insurance Symposium at the end of April.

As an intern, I work on various tasks that mostly involve market research, although I have also looked at some datasets, thinking of ways in which the data could be used. I have learned about the effect smart home devices are having on the insurance market and how some insurers provide incentives for using them because of how the risk of a claim decreases. From working at an insurance accelerator, I have been exposed to the innovative side of the insurance industry. There are start-ups within the insurance industry that have ideas for improving the industry through data and technology, and it's exciting to see how the insurance world changes.



Krista Hutchinson

This past summer, I had the amazing opportunity to intern with American Family Insurance in Madison, Wisconsin. I interned within the Actuarial Pricing division of their Life Company.

I spent a large portion of my time this summer working on their annual Dividend Benchmark analysis, which is used to assess the overall profitability of the participating products to determine if there should be a change to the current dividend structure. Other projects included researching potential products and organizing a visit with SJNK Himawari Life and RGA. Within these projects I got to work closely with the project management department.

Additionally, I got to participate within community service projects, go to two Brewers' games, and explore other aspects of the company through intern programs. I also went to Summerfest, a music festival in Milwaukee, for free thanks to American Family.

I got to meet and work with many wonderful people while interning with American Family, including another member of Gamma Iota Sigma from Illinois State University. Overall, I loved my summer at American Family. I got to do meaningful work, while also having a lot of fun.

Noah Daniels



Over the 2017 Summer, I had the wonderful opportunity to intern with USAA in San Antonio, Texas. I worked in their Property Pricing area, where my roles were exactly as you might think: Pricing Property Insurance. Aside from working on our pricing reviews for two states, I also had the opportunity to attend some Generalized Linear Modeling trainings and give three different presentations to various professionals about the details of my work.

I met many great people including my mentor, who graduated from Drake University, my fellow interns, some of which were members of other Gamma Iota Sigma chapters, and I also got to catch up with Sam Hehir, former Co-President of our chapter.

As an intern, I also gained plenty of "experience" socializing with my coworkers. Karaoke, Top-Golf, Movies, Baseball games, and a shooting competition at a ranch (I was in Texas, after all) to name a few. Most uniquely, myself and about 400 other workers spent one Friday morning (if you can call 4am morning) in uniforms at a field with current and former military members from every branch, getting a taste of what most of USAA's customers have gone through while serving the United States.

Overall, I had a great time and I'm excited to return in May.

Alumni Donation

We want to provide the best opportunities for our members across the board, from Brotherhood to Professionalism. A great opportunity for members is attending Gamma International Conference, where members can attend speaker sessions to gain more knowledge of the field, expand their professional skills, and be able to attend a career fair attended by companies that do not directly recruit at Drake.

Taking members to Conference is expensive, and we want as many members as possible to be able to go and increase their network and to aid their search for full-time employment or internship experience. We hope to take 25 members to the conference in Chicago, and need some help to do this.

If you are willing and able to give back and donate to the Chi Chapter, please fill out the Alumni Donation Form attached in the email. All donations will be put towards the group expenses of International Conference, so the event will be more accessible to all members.

Thank you for your support and consideration! Go Gamma!

