ARIA Annual Meeting in Seattle, Washington – August 3-6, 2014

by Andreas Richter, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität

The program for the 2014 Annual Meeting in Seattle, scheduled for August 3-6, is steadily shaping up. We received 173 proposals for presentations. Successful authors will be included in a program that is peppered with plenary sessions with classic, cutting edge, but also highly controversial topics. The Emerald City is the perfect location for what is going to be another outstanding Annual Meeting of the American Risk and Insurance Association.

This year’s submission process was attended by an innovation: in cooperation with HelmsBriscoe ResourceOne, a brand new submission system was designed. The system allows us to handle the entire submission and review process. It also supports the generation of the concurrent sessions.

An initial analysis of submissions shows that about 50% of the papers and proposals came from the United States and Canada, 30% from Europe, and 20% from Asia. Sixty percent of those making submissions indicated their papers were predominantly empirical. Slightly more than 20% classified their papers as theoretical. Aside from risk management, the most frequently mentioned topics for this year are property and casualty insurance, regulation, and behavioral insurance.

The annual meeting program will include plenary sessions on “What is Risk?” (organized by Harris Schlesinger), Cyber Risk (organized by Joan Schmit), and the Affordable Care Act (organized by Terri Vaughan).

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This year’s Member/Guest Reception will be held at the Seattle Aquarium on Monday evening, August 4. The Seattle Aquarium provides exciting ways to explore the ocean life of the northwest and beyond. For additional information about the Seattle Aquarium, go to: http://www.seattleaquarium.org/.

Our meeting will take place at the sophisticated Renaissance Seattle Hotel, located just minutes from CenturyLink and Safeco Fields, Pike Place Market and upscale shopping. Please visit the ARIA website (http://www.aria.org/) for further information on the Annual Meeting and making hotel reservations. The conference room rate is $179 per night; free in-room internet will be provided.

On behalf of the Board and the Program Committee, I extend a warm invitation to all interested academics and practitioners to attend what is evolving to be a truly exciting meeting. I look forward to seeing you all in Seattle!

A Few Words to Fellow ARIA Members
by Joseph M. Belth, Professor Emeritus of Insurance, Indiana University

Last fall I sent ARIA NEWS Editor, Diana Lee, a courtesy reprint of the November 2013 issue of The Insurance Forum, in which I announced that the December 2013 issue would be the final issue after 40 years of publication. Diana invited me to write a note for ARIA NEWS for the benefit of ARIA members who did not see my November 2013 issue.

At the outset I want to apologize for not attending ARIA meetings lately. The fact is that I have not flown anywhere in almost ten years.

Starting The Insurance Forum
The credit or blame (your choice) for The Insurance Forum goes to American activist Ralph Nader and the late Herb Denenberg. Herb was elected ARIA vice president and program chairman in the rump election of 1968. He invited Nader to speak at our annual meeting, and announced the program in advance. In preparation for the meeting, I read Nader’s famous 1965 book, Unsafe at Any Speed. When I visited with him at the meeting, I commended him on the book. He then startled me by saying he liked my book, The Retail Price Structure in American Life Insurance. I had heard he was a voracious reader, but I never dreamed he would have seen my obscure book.

During that conversation, Nader made a suggestion that altered the course of my career. He said he had noted that I did not identify companies. He said books, articles, and reports that do not name names generally are not read and do little but gather dust. If I wanted to accomplish anything significant for the benefit of the public, Nader said I should name names.

I began to do so, with predictable results. During the next several years, although I had no problems getting articles published in academic journals, I experienced 31 incidents of censorship by insurance trade journals, trade magazines, trade newsletters, and trade associations.
Because of that censorship, and because few people in the insurance business see academic journals, I searched for a way to communicate with insurance practitioners. For example, I considered a syndicated newspaper column, but scrubbed the idea after two syndicated columnists told me that newspapers—especially in small cities—do not publish articles critical of insurance because of the advertising revenue they receive from the insurance business.

I was aware of independent periodicals. One was *Probe*, a sprightly insurance newsletter started by Ralph Engelsman and Halsey Josephson, and carried on by Josephson after Engelsman’s death.

In 1973, in my presidential address at the beginning of my one-year term as president of ARIA, I said that the next day, at the ARIA board meeting, I would ask the board to approve publication of an informal monthly newsletter in addition to *The Journal of Risk and Insurance*. I volunteered to edit the newsletter as an experiment during my presidency. When the board saw my proposed first issue, which included such article titles as “How to Pay Premiums for A Piece of the Rock” and “Have No Insurance Protection,” the board denied my request. As I recall, they viewed such a newsletter as beneath the dignity of ARIA and were also worried about libel problems. I then started the newsletter myself.

**Ending the Newsletter**

I am 84 years old. Aside from some minor medical problems, I have been blessed with good health. Yet in recent years I have noted some loss of the stamina needed to maintain a monthly newsletter.

When I decided to step aside, I knew of no one with the combination of characteristics needed to take over. Not the least of those characteristics is the willingness to work for little or no monetary compensation.

Also, I was reluctant to turn the newsletter over to someone else. I have seen periodicals become unrecognizable under new management. I want *The Insurance Forum* to be remembered in its original form as my personal 40-year project.

The highest honor *The Insurance Forum* received was a 1991 George Polk Award for “intense scrutiny of the insurance business.” Polk Awards are among the most prestigious in journalism. Also, separate from *The Insurance Forum*, I was greatly honored to receive ARIA’s Elizur Wright Award in 1965 and six ARIA awards for articles published in *The Journal of Risk and Insurance*.

**My Blog**

Last fall, after I finished preparing the final issue of *The Insurance Forum*, I started a blog at www.josephmbelth.com. I invite you to visit. If you wish, you can sign up to receive each new posting automatically by e-mail. As of May 12, 2014, there were 48 items posted, and lately I have been posting new ones at the rate of one per week. The items are similar to articles I wrote for *The Insurance Forum*. Here are a few titles: “Weakening of Disclosure Requirements Imposed by State Regulators on Insurance Companies,” “Phoenix Settles with the SEC and Begins Filing Its Delayed Financial Statements,” and “Florida’s Pasco County School District Faces a Decision on a ‘Too Good To Be True’ Life Insurance Plan.”

**Concluding Thoughts**

I would like to offer a complimentary reprint of the November 2013 issue of *The Insurance Forum*. In it I discuss in more detail why I started the newsletter and why I ended it. I also discuss some accomplishments, some unfinished business, and financial considerations, and identify many individuals who helped greatly along the way.

I also would like to offer a complimentary reprint of the May 2013 issue. It contains my memorial tribute to the late Dr. Dan Mays McGill, to whom I owe a tremendous debt.

I am deeply indebted to Indiana University, where I enjoyed a 31-year academic career, and where I remain professor emeritus of insurance. I also owe a lot to my two Indiana colleagues—the late Ed Hedges and the late John Long, to two students—Travis Pritchett and Joan Schmit, and to two colleagues—Harold Skipper and the late Bob Mehr.

My greatest debts are to my late parents—Irving and Helen Belth, my late parents-in-law—Abraham and Aldia Lavine, and Marjorie (Marge), my beloved wife of 58 years. We have three children, four grandchildren, and one step grandchild.

I hope to hear from you and stay in touch. My e-mail address is jmbelth@gmail.com, and my regular mailing address is P.O. 245, Ellettsville, IN 47429-0245.
Introducing the Journal of Risk Education
by Brenda Wells, Ph.D., CPCU, AAI, Editor, Journal of Risk Education

This year marks my first as a journal editor. It is a pleasure to have Journal of Risk Education (JRE) at East Carolina University! I would like to share with you some information about the journal and the direction I hope to take it. First, I want to thank and commend Dr. James Kallman for the outstanding job he did starting and nurturing this publication through its infancy. I am honored that he has allowed me to continue his work.

Why do we need an education journal? For starters, there aren't too many peer-reviewed publications in our discipline to begin with. But more importantly, the pioneers in RMI education fought long and hard paving the way for us to be where we are today as a discipline. Carrying on their tradition is important to our own careers, as well as the careers of those who will come after us. Also, the students we are training for “the real world,” and the employers that hire them, are counting on us.

While research is important to the growth and understanding of RMI, so is teaching. The JRE provides a Cabell's-listed publication opportunity for those who value the education aspect of our profession. With one issue planned for 2014, we hopefully will move to semi-annual publication in 2015. Of course, that will largely depend on the quantity and quality of submissions we receive.

Meanwhile, we have a great team of associate editors who have graciously agreed to serve. They are:

- Dr. Jim Carson, University of Georgia
- Dr. Kevin Gatzlaff, Ball State University
- Dr. Brad Karl, East Carolina University
- Dr. Kathleen McCullough, Florida State University
- Dr. Tim Query, New Mexico State University

The JRE offers several sections for publication that I hope will appeal to a wide variety of authors and readers. They are:

- **Articles**: double-blind peer-reviewed articles related to risk management and insurance teaching and education. Both theoretical and pedagogical pieces are encouraged.
- **Editorials**: editorially-reviewed commentary related to the practice of risk and insurance education.
- **Book Reviews**: editorially-reviewed summaries of books and periodicals that pertain to risk management and insurance, with preference given to those items that have practical classroom applications.
- **Doctoral Perspectives**: double-blind peer-reviewed articles that are by or for doctoral students planning to become risk educators in the future. Any topic of relevance to doctoral candidates may be submitted.
- **Teaching Cases**: each issue will feature one teaching case for use in the risk management classroom. Teaching cases should be founded in the academic and practitioner literature, and will be double-blind peer reviewed.

To review previous issues of the JRE, or to submit an article for consideration, visit us at www.jofriskeducation.org. There are no submission fees and no cost to subscribe to the journal. Also, if you are willing to serve as a reviewer for JRE, please drop a line to me at editor@jofriskeducation.org.

Brenda Wells is the Robert F. Bird Distinguished Scholar of Risk & Insurance at East Carolina University – College of Business in Greenville, North Carolina.

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If your school or corporation is not an ARIA sponsor yet, please consider joining the above institutions this year!
In this issue, ARIA NEWS profiles Richard B. Corbett, who retired in May 2012 as the Independent Life and Accident Insurance Company Professor in The College of Business at Florida State University (FSU). He is a native of Atlanta, Georgia and earned his MBA and Ph.D. degrees from Georgia State University. Richard also taught at The University of Texas at Austin, Southern Illinois University - Carbondale, The University of Iowa, and Seattle University. He earned the CLU, CPCU, and Associate in Risk Management (ARM) professional designations conferred by The Institutes. Richard taught a variety of courses in both the property and liability and life and health insurance areas and was Director of Master’s Programs in The College of Business at FSU for three years. He taught in a variety of educational venues, included being an invited lecturer at the Instituto Nacional de Seguros in San Jose, Costa Rica and at agent education schools for both national agents’ associations. In 1994, the National Association of Professional Insurance Agents named Richard “Insurance Educator of the Year.” Richard worked as a consultant and expert witness in the areas of insurance and risk management, chaired the Risk Management Advisory Committee for the City of Tallahassee for ten years and is a Past President of the Southern Risk and Insurance Association. He twice co-chaired the United Way Campaign at FSU, volunteered for Habitat for Humanity and Cobb Middle School, and served as a middle school “Brain Bowl” moderator in Tallahassee. Before pursuing graduate business studies, Richard performed for four years as a percussionist with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra.

At FSU’s Insurance Society end-of-year banquet (2012), the faculty and students honored Richard. One of his students summed it up best: “Dr. Corbett enjoyed teaching. It seems right that we celebrate the end of his career with the students, as many are leaving for jobs that he helped them find.” Richard recently took the time to answer a few questions for ARIA NEWS; we hope you’ll enjoy our “chat.”

ARIA NEWS: What prompted you to study finance and insurance?

Richard: Actually, I studied insurance, then finance. My motivation to study insurance was that I was working for a small life insurance company in Atlanta and became fascinated with the insurance mechanism. That led me to return to school for a second bachelor’s degree, with a major in insurance. At the graduate level I took up the additional study of finance.

ARIA NEWS: You began your career working for a life insurance company. What made you switch to teaching?

Richard: Early in my college days I had resolved to be a history teacher. That did not work out – Western Civilization was a barrier – and I ended up with a degree in sociology. Some would allege that I actually majored in fraternity, with a minor in student government. Before finishing my first degree, I went to work for the life insurance company. As I was finishing my second degree, I still had the teaching dream in me, so I began to investigate the possibilities. I’m grateful that worked out for me. Interestingly, Harold Skipper was working at that life insurance company at the same time.

ARIA NEWS: Have there been one or two persons who have been influential in your career? How did they help you?

Richard: First was my wife, who had become a history teacher and a darned good one. We got married while we were both still in college, and she was a lot more focused than I was. She taught high school history while I was a graduate student, did most of the child raising, and endured five moves for my teaching career. Second was John Hall, chair of Georgia State’s Department of Insurance. He encouraged me to consider the doctoral program. He was an excellent role model as a teacher and a great mentor when I was a graduate student. I also have been influenced by a number of colleagues and would be remiss not to mention Mike Murray, Bob Marshall, Harold Skipper, Ann Marie Butler, and Kathleen McCullough.

ARIA NEWS: What thoughts do you have on the future of collegiate risk management education, given continuing changes in the discipline and in universities that have RMI programs?

Richard: This is a tough question. I see many things to be positive about, assuming that we can accomplish several things, and there are also some new programs arising. When I meet new RMI Ph.D. students, I have hope. The key issues in the near future, I believe, are college enrollments, the push for “accountability,” and our ability to furnish new professors for the discipline. We also need to do some “missionary work” with our colleagues. Whenever a business school colleague made a negative comment about our discipline, I would give them this challenge: “Tell me about any business decision that does not have a risk management aspect to it.” That led to many conversations about the integration of business school disciplines.

Another area where “missionary work” is still needed is with the insurance and risk management “industries.” For all but the largest firms, insurance is the foundation of their risk management efforts. I expect that to be true for the foreseeable future; there will be needs for producers, claim personnel, underwriters, and loss control specialists. Yet there are still large parts
of these “industries” where folks are only dimly aware that young people can study risk management and insurance in college. We have to sell ourselves all the time. I taught courses for RIMS for 22 years, and I’m aware that each year when the board turns, the new president may have new priorities. Some years are “education liaison” years and some are not.

On the negative side, I was recently assisting a colleague in compiling a list of now-dormant RMI programs. That’s a sad list, and it caused me to speculate on how that happens. I believe that a chief reason is the hubris present in many finance departments. In a recent annual letter to shareholders, Warren Buffet remarked about there being market inefficiencies everywhere in the world except in academic finance departments. That hubris, that slavish orthodoxy, I believe, has resulted in some RMI positions being converted to finance positions, often chasing the “latest hot thing,” e.g., derivatives or mathematical finance. In some cases, chair positions designated by givers as RMI chairs have been “converted” to finance chairs. In my opinion, that’s a Dean’s failure, and it sure stretches the notion of ethics.

**ARIA NEWS:** What do you consider to be your top professional and personal accomplishments?

**Richard:** My top personal accomplishment is easy. I’ve been married to a fantastic woman for almost 48 years, certainly a testament to her patience. My top professional accomplishment is that, in 42 years as a professor, there were fewer than a dozen occasions when I failed to return an exam graded at the next class period and no instances when I failed to return a writing assignment with my comments. To me, feedback is a critical part of teaching.

As far as other professional accomplishments, I was awarded the first named professorship in the College of Business at FSU and was named PIA’s Insurance Educator of the Year in 1994. During my 14-year tenure as the FSU RMI Department’s Ph.D. Coordinator we graduated 12 new Ph.D.s, all of whom went on to productive academic careers.

**ARIA NEWS:** What did you learn in your career that you wish you knew when you were starting out?

**Richard:** How petty and meaningless academic politics can be, that you must look out for yourself, that it’s always about “what have you done for me lately,” and that it really is all about the students.

**ARIA NEWS:** What career would you have pursued if you didn’t enter academia teaching RMI?

**Richard:** I suspect that I would have retired from that life insurance company in Atlanta, probably as a Vice President, or, if fate’s genie had intervened, I might have gone back and found that history teacher spot.

**ARIA NEWS:** What advice would you give to a younger you?

**Richard:** Your future is in front of you. What has happened in the past is either useful or not useful in living the rest of your life. You can’t learn from your mistakes unless you make, and acknowledge, mistakes.

**ARIA NEWS:** And what advice would you give to younger ARIA members?

**Richard:** My son, our younger child, recently turned 40, so I have thought about this as I passed along some wisdom to him. First, find a great life partner. Second, do stop and smell the roses. Don’t blink your eyes open one morning and wonder when those teenagers moved in with you. Third, think of work as what you do, not who you are. Fourth, keep your skills honed. Last, save money; you’re going to live longer that you think.

**ARIA NEWS:** You’ve been retired for nearly two years now. What have you been doing to keep yourself busy?

Richard: I go to the gym 6 days a week, and I do volunteer work. I take classes, and I read voraciously. I recently had a paper published, and I do some expert witness work. I’m getting good at Sudoku, and I work the *New York Times* crosswords in ink. We travel extensively (Iceland last fall, France in April) and spoil our grandchildren. Don’t know how I ever had time to work.

Thank you for your time, Richard, and best wishes as you continue in your retirement!

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Funded Research: How Do I Get It?

by Rob Lieberthal, Jefferson School of Population Health

Setting my research agenda means identifying the open questions I want to answer with my research. In the broadest terms, my research addresses the question: what is health insurance for? Identifying funding opportunities means determining which entities might be interested in the more granular questions that add up to the answer to my broader research question. I am fortunate that, currently, a number of outside groups are willing to fund, or sponsor, research related to health insurance.

Once I have identified potential sponsors, my next step is to determine how they fund research. Some sponsors issue formal requests for proposals (RFPs), with specific scopes for research topic, timing, budgets, and deliverables. Other sponsors may take an informal approach, surveying the literature and funding research on an as-needed basis. Once I have found an RFP that suits my research interests, or a sponsor whose needs coincide with my expertise, I submit a proposal for the research I would like to pursue. These proposals also have varying levels of formality, from soliciting short one page concept sheets to issuing specifically delineated instructions for formatting of proposals.

When a sponsor expresses an interest in a research project I have proposed, they, my university, and I must come to a formal, contractual agreement as to the scope of the research project. This agreement delineates the aims of the research and the deliverables (end products) due to the sponsor upon completion.

After a project is completed, I work to continue to demonstrate the value of the research to the sponsor through publication of results in the peer-reviewed literature and presentation of results for both academic and industry audiences, which may not be required in the research agreement. These activities can also help with the continued relationship with the sponsor, leading to repeated funding from the same sponsor.

A great example of my experience in obtaining repeated funding from the same sponsor is the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality or AHRQ (http://www.ahrq.gov). AHRQ is an arm of the U.S. government’s Department of Health and Human Services. My AHRQ funding started when I was a Ph.D. student. My department had a departmental training grant from AHRQ that fully funded the pre-dissertation phase of my program. I then returned to AHRQ in a subsequent application, obtaining an individual grant for my dissertation research, supervised by my thesis advisor. Now, I am part of a larger grant from AHRQ, involving a number of investigators at my university, in response to an AHRQ request for applications, or RFA (for more examples, see http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/search_results.htm?year=active&scope=rfa). I feel that my prior experience obtaining funding from AHRQ helped me to understand the agency’s mission, and to contribute to my team’s successful application for funding.

Another example of a sponsor that has funded my research repeatedly is the Society of Actuaries (SOA). My first project sponsored by the SOA was a project based on a publication I produced under my AHRQ funded training grant. That project was based on a publication available cross-sectional data related to hospital performance.

After completing that research, the data set was enriched both longitudinally (multiple years of data were made available) and through the addition of numerous additional variables (data was added in a number of new domains). Using this new data, and the open questions I could answer with it as a motivation, I proposed an extension of my original research to the Actuarial Foundation’s Individual Grants competition (http://www.actuarial-foundation.org/programs/actuarial/grants.shtml). The Actuarial Foundation thought that the proposal might be of interest to the SOA’s Health Section, which ended up funding the grant in its entirety. As a result, I started following the SOA’s calls for proposals website (http://www.soa.org/research/opps/research-opportunities.aspx). When I saw a call for “Approaches for the Evaluation and Adoption of Medical Technologies”...
In the late 1970s, the Texas insurance industry found itself with a diminishing workforce in an expanding industry. A group of forward-thinking independent agents headed by Forrest Pearson of Austin, Dick Swantner of Corpus Christi, and Tom Braniff of Houston joined forces with the Houston-based Wortham Foundation determined to create a solution.

Wortham Foundation Chairman Fred Burns and Buddy Carruth, President of John L. Wortham & Son Insurance Agency, worked with the independent insurance agents group to create and fund the Texas Insurance Education Foundation. The Independent Insurance Agents chapters of Houston, Dallas, Austin, Amarillo, Lubbock and Tarrant Count, as well as independent agents from those and other cities and areas of the state contributed. The foundation’s first official action was to endow the Gus Wortham Memorial Chair in Risk Management and Insurance at the state’s flagship Tier I University of Texas at Austin (UT) in 1983. The chair was named in honor of Gus S. Wortham, founder of two premier insurance entities. Along with his father, John L. Wortham, Gus started the John L. Wortham & Son Insurance agency. More recognizably outside the state, and along with Jesse Jones, James Elkins, and John Link, Gus founded American General Insurance Company, one of the largest insurance companies in the nation. By establishing this chair they recognized the roots of a Texas insurance giant and solidly began building to create a sustainable and innovative future.

The UT program recently had received the Joseph H. Blades Centennial Memorial Professorship in Insurance, honoring the Houston founder of one of the nation’s largest energy and marine insurance brokers and wholesalers and an innovative leader in bringing Lloyds of London insurance coverages to Texas business markets. The program taught risk management and insurance to finance majors. However, in 1997, the Texas Legislature enacted a law guaranteeing freshmen admission to UT applicants graduating in the top 10% of their high school classes. This affected UT’s recruitment and enrollment of students into niche programs, including its insurance and risk management program.

In 2007, three decades after the initiative began, and with an industry in greater need of a dependable pipeline of new industry recruits, independent agent and University of Houston Downtown graduate David de Roode assembled another group of independent agents and affiliates. They included Bob Dean, Tom Braniff, Dennis Baker, Fred de Roode, Tom Fitzpatrick, Bob Holloway, Doug Hotchkiss, Scott Kilpatrick, John Knox, Jeff Lange, Marshall Leicht, Irving Pozmantier, Vikki Robinson, Matt Sasso, Ed Schreiber, Fred Steves and others. These industry professionals sought a new venue to educate future insurance professionals for Texas. They were attracted to the University of Houston Downtown (UHD) for three reasons: its students, its location, and its College of Business dean.

UHD’s 14,000 ethnically and culturally diverse students average 29 years of age with almost a decade of work experience. Seventy percent are the first in their families to earn a college degree, 75% are married, and 70% work fulltime. In general, the IRM program’s students are self-motivated and mature young adults focused on
their pursuit of career-related education and opportunities. Many seek to trade their current jobs for upwardly mobile career positions. The insurance industry recognized that in addition to traditional 22-year-old college graduates, these older and more experienced graduates could add a much-needed dimension to meet the immediate challenges of a work environment needing mid-management and upper-level talent to fill its aging ranks.

Houston is the largest city in Texas and the fourth largest city in the nation. Located in Harris County with over 6 million residents, Houston’s economy has a broad industrial base in energy, manufacturing, aeronautics, and transportation. Houston is the home of the Texas Medical Center – the world’s largest concentration of healthcare and research institutions – and NASA’s Johnson Space Center. Only New York City is home to more Fortune 500 headquarters. With these markets, resources, and risks, Houston also is home to a large number of insurance agencies, carriers, wholesalers, and a cornucopia of insurance-related businesses and associations.

UHD College of Business Dean Don Bates created one of the top undergraduate insurance and risk management (IRM) programs in the nation at Indiana State University. He worked with industry representatives to develop a proposal creating the UHD Insurance and Risk Management Center. The founding insurance entities included the Independent Insurance Agents of Texas (IIAT), AIG, Hotchkiss Insurance Agency, USI Southwest, Houston RIMS, Leicht General Agency, Chubb, Dean & Draper, Myron Steves & Company, The Hartford, Kilpatrick Companies, GEM Insurance Agency, Capstone Consulting, Texas Insurance Consulting, the Independent Insurance Agents of Houston, as well as several individuals in the insurance industry.

Texas Department of Insurance Commissioner Mike Geeslin, Dean & Draper Insurance Agency president and CEO Bob Dean, and The Hartford’s regional manager Jeffrey Lang wrote letters supporting creation of the IRM Center and degree program. In early 2009, Dean Bates’ proposal received the University of Houston System’s board of regent approval. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, chaired by independent insurance agent Bob Shepard of Harlingen, also approved. The UHD IRM Center and its bachelor in business administration degree with a major in insurance and risk management had launched.

For the IRM Center director, the founders recruited attorney and fundraiser Wendall Braniff, law partner and wife of Tom Braniff, one of the original founders of both the UT and UHD programs and president of Texas Insurance Consulting. A university search committee interviewed several candidates and chose her to lead the program in July 2009. Two courses were offered the first semester and the first year had 64 enrollments.

In the summer of 2010, the Braniffs met with Professor Bill Ferguson at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Professors Andre Liebenberg and Larry Cox at the University of Mississippi, and Dean Mike Highfield and advisory council member Chris Boone, chief marketing officer of Bancorp South, at Mississippi State University. Collegiate relationships were born and the candid discussions with these experienced academicians and mentors provided insights that proved important for the start-up program.

Through consultation with Wayne Dauterive of Metro National, Mary Jane Fortin of AIG, and Houston CPCU Society members, a curriculum was developed including courses in property, casualty, life, health, benefits, and risk management. Over time, partnerships were formed with The Institutes, The National Alliance for Insurance Education and Research, and The American College, to allow students to earn credits toward professional designations while completing UHD IRM courses.

A 30-member Advisory Council of high-level industry executives representing agencies, carriers, wholesalers, risk managers, associations, and consultants was recruited from the founders and other industry professionals to fund operations and scholarships, create internships and employment opportunities, and provide other industry support and resources to the Center and its students. David de Roode, by then a partner at Lockton, served as the Council’s first chair, followed by Bob Dean, president and CEO of Dean & Draper Insurance Agency, who served until his death in 2013 when Matt Sasso, Houston-Austin branch vice president of CNA Insurance, took the helm.

Academically-credentialed adjunct faculty members were recruited to teach courses and bring real-world professional experience into the classroom. Executive David VanDelinder invited UHD IRM students to IIAT’s annual legislative briefing at the state capitol in Austin to discuss insurance industry regulatory legislation during Texas’ biennial sessions. Student internships were developed with AIG, Bass Underwriters, Capstone Consulting, Columbia Lloyds, Cravens Warren, Dean & Draper, DNV Petroleum Services, El Paso Corporation, Farmers, Gallagher, HCC Insurance Holdings, IMS/London American, Kilpatrick Companies, Lockton, Metro National, Myron Steves & Company, New York Life, RPS/Leicht, Silver Eagle Distributors, State Farm, Travelers, United Fire Group, USI, Willis, and other industry entities.

In spring 2012, an independent consultant was engaged to work with the IRM faculty to develop courses through UHD’s distance-learning program in an online format. By 2014, the complete IRM major became available worldwide to undergraduate degree and post-baccalaureate students through UHD’s distance-learning program, making UHD’s one of the first
AACSB-accredited bachelor degrees in insurance and risk management offered through a distance-learning program.

With the goal of facilitating face-to-face personal interactions between students and insurance professionals, all UHD IRM majors attend at least two industry meetings or events each semester. The Texas and Houston insurance industry resources are abundant and generous. The Houston Marine Insurance Seminar, Insurance Council of Texas, Independent Insurance Agents of Texas, Independent Insurance Agents of Houston, Houston CPCU Society, Houston RIMS, National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors, and Greater Houston Society of Healthcare Risk Managers provide scholarships, honorariums, memberships and other opportunities for students to attend industry association meetings and conferences.

UHD also hosts several university-wide networking and career events that give students exposure to international and national companies in all areas of business and commerce. The College of Business annual “Meet the Industry” event features presentations by nationally-recognized business professionals and industry niche sessions. Business students and graduates meet with industry professionals to learn about positions available within the industry and the abilities and skills necessary to secure those positions. More than 250 participate annually. Human resource directors and hiring managers of more than fifty insurance entities are also invited to scout new talent at student final presentations in the program’s risk management courses.

The Myron Steves Directorship Endowment, created in 2012 on the occasion of its honoree’s 100th birthday, recognizes centenarian Myron F. Steves for his contributions to insurance education, ethics, and professionalism. In 2013, Fred de Roode, chairman and CEO of PPC Loan, provided the seed money to establish the Faculty Excellence Fund, ensuring competitive salaries and research and publication funding for IRM faculty. By 2014, $1 million had been contributed to the program by the industry.

The IRM Center’s advisory council members contribute and raise funds for scholarships for IRM majors and minors with at least a 2.8 GPA. The Insurance Council of Texas’ Education Foundation, chaired by Tony Gonzalez of UPC Insurance, has funded more than $25,000 in scholarships. By 2014, more than $150,000 has been awarded to students, averaging $4,500 per graduate.

In 2013, Dean Don Bates resigned. His successor, Dean Mike Fields, quickly engaged the IRM Center’s Advisory Council and recognized the resources they bring to the college of business. He used the program’s curriculum development template to involve industry partners in the development of the business college’s MBA program curriculum. His executive speaker series brings national talent in the business world to inform and motivate UHD’s business students. And his vision for the college squares with the IRM program’s focus on career placement; in 2014, Dean Fields created the college of business Career Placement Office.

The same year, Pamela Hurley, Ph.D., joined UHD as a fulltime Associate Professor in IRM. Dr. Hurley, who created and directed the IRM program at Utica College in upstate New York for the preceding six years, quickly secured a Spencer Foundation Risk Manager in Residence grant to bring a nationally-recognized risk manager to UHD to share business and industry knowledge and perspectives with students. She organized students and founded a UHD chapter of Gamma Iota Sigma. Her financial planning class attended Texas Public Risk Management Association (PRIMA) meetings. She recruited and coached students for competitions with the American Association of Managing General Agencies and the Spencer-RIMS Risk Management Challenge. She promoted and facilitated student attendance at RIMS and other national conferences.

Since 2011, UHD has awarded twenty-nine BBA degrees to insurance and risk management majors. IRM majors have completed thirty-eight industry internships. IRM students and graduates are engaged in thirty-three fulltime insurance and risk management career positions.

Two pertinent facts will continue to make risk management and insurance a viable degree and career path for today’s university students:

• Employment growth in insurance agencies will increase by 21.9% from 2010-2020, creating 90,200 new and 94,200 replacement jobs, totaling 184,400 new career opportunities in the industry (Bureau of Labor Statistics 2013).

• The insurance industry estimated salary average of $67,400 within the first 5 years, ranked as the third highest-paid career by the Houston Chronicle (August 8, 2013, “Most profitable degrees aren’t always the most popular,” L.M. Sixel).

The UHD IRM Center ultimately aims to develop a nationally-recognized program that recruits students worldwide and produces a reliable pipeline of well-educated, experienced graduates to fill the talent gap and meet the long-term needs of the insurance and risk management industry.

For further information, please contact Wendall Braniff, Director, Insurance and Risk Management Center at braniffw@uhd.edu or (713) 226-5552.

Calling all Gamma Iota Sigma Alumni!

Be sure GIS has your current contact information so you can keep up with the latest news and updates! GIS boasts an alumni base of over 17,000 individuals from 57 chapters, and we need your help in updating our current records. Please use the following link to update your information, and pass it on to as many alumni as you can: Alumni Update Form.
As a professor emeritus at Wharton, David Babbel (retired, University of Pennsylvania) continues to actively engage in research. His most recent piece will appear shortly in The Journal of Risk and Insurance, and advances a new approach for calculating necessary capital to cover operational risk. Another piece to appear shortly is a review of the “Buy Term and Invest the Difference” arguments. Recently, he wrote an article that appeared in the July/August edition of the NAFA (National Association of Fixed Annuities) Annuities Outlook Magazine that described a new approach toward funding retirement. David currently serves as Director of Insurance Economics at Charles River Associates.

The North American Actuarial Journal (NAAJ) is pleased to announce the appointment of Patrick Brockett (University of Texas-Austin) as Editor. According to the NAAJ, “Pat continues to have a long-term commitment to actuarial science as a discipline, and to the Society of Actuaries research in particular. Well known to academic actuaries around the world, he continues to do research and represent the North American academic actuarial research community at international conferences...and publish in the very top actuarial journals in the world. Pat has been involved with the NAAJ since the very first issue, in the role of Associate Editor and then Honorary Editor.”

Georges Dionne (HEC Montréal) recently published the second edition of Handbook of Insurance, a reference book on insurance and risk management. The first edition won ARIAs 2002 Kulp-Wright Award. The 1,000+ page handbook contains 37 summary articles written by 60 leading international experts in the field of risk and insurance. It includes 15 new chapters covering recent developments in risk management, including risk securitization, the precautionary principle, corporate governance of insurance companies, systemic risk, alternative risk-transfer devices, longevity risk, the regulation of insurance companies and more. Denis Kessler, chairman & CEO of SCOR (the world’s fifth-largest re-insurer), will be inducted into the 2014 Insurance Hall of Fame at the International Insurance Society’s Annual Seminar in London this June. Mr. Kessler is formerly a professor at the University of Paris X Nanterre, the University of Nancy II and the renowned Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales in Paris. His works in the fields of social and economic science include texts on life cycle theory; aging, social security and pensions; decision making under uncertainty; saving and intergenerational transfers; and insurance market dynamics.

Congratulations to Anne Kleffner (University of Calgary) who was promoted to full professor of risk management and insurance at the Haskayne School of Business.

The University of Wisconsin-Madison is pleased to announce that Ty Leverty (University of Iowa) has accepted its offer to join the UWM faculty. Ty will begin with the Wisconsin School of Business officially in Fall 2014.

Congratulations to Andre Liebenberg (University of Mississippi) and his wife, Ivonne, who are the proud parents of baby boy, Lucas Benjamin. Lucas was born on Dec. 23, 2013, weighing in at 9 lbs. 11 oz.! Chloe and Sophie love being big sisters!

Rob Lieberthal (Jefferson School of Population Health) is pleased to announce that some of his research published in Risk Management and Insurance Research was featured in the Philadelphia Inquirer in October 2013 (Rob says, “exciting stuff!”): http://articles.philly.com/2013-10-07/news/42766253_1_best-hospitals-patients-quality.

Congratulations to ARIA member, Yeside Oyetayo (Lagos State University, Lagos, Nigeria), who was recently appointed as the first Rector of The College of Insurance and Financial Management established by the Chartered Insurance Institute of Nigeria. Her position goes into effect beginning on April 1, 2014. The college will be commissioned in July 2014 while various tiers of courses will begin in September 2014. Best wishes and good luck to Sojung Carol Park, who gave birth to three babies during the last two years: a set of twins (Yunjae and Vivienne Jiwon Hur) in 2012 and another boy (Minjae Hur) in 2013! Sojung reports that she has not been able to attend the last two ARIA meetings due to taking care of these three little ones. Also in 2012, Sojung joined Seoul National University as an assistant professor at

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ARIA Members and Friends in the News, continued

ARIA NEWS recently asked members for their thoughts on the following two items:
1. What advice would you give to a younger you?
2. If you were alone on an island, name one book you’d like to have to read and one movie you’d like to have to watch.

Responses to #1 Advice to a younger you:

**P. Chandrasekar** (Unilever): Do not delay continuing with your continuing professional development (CPD); “stay hungry” forever for adding to your qualifications – core and tertiary.

**Alberto Dreassi** (University of Udine): Don’t believe in advice only because it comes from older people.

**Lisa Gardner** (Drake University): I would tell a younger me to be an architect, an artist, or a creative non-fiction writer.

**Haruyoshi Ito** (International University of Japan): Work hard and study hard. I should have studied math, statistics, and English.

**Martin Kocher** (University of Munich): Choose the best Ph.D. program that you can find.

**Diana Lee** (Property Casualty Insurers Association of America): If you enjoyed playing a musical instrument or learned a foreign language early in life, don’t lose these skills. They will be more difficult to take up at an older age.

**Rob Lieberthal** (Jefferson School of Population Health): Reach out to folks in the insurance industry more as you are working on your dissertation as a Ph.D. student.

**Peter Zweifel** (University of Zurich): Just delve deeper.

**Responses to #2 Books and Movies:**

**Willie Dion Reddic** (Syracuse University): Don’t be afraid to try new things. Life is short!

**Harris Schlesinger** (University of Alabama): Be more patient. I feel blessed to have had a job doing what I love. I was always excited about research and would work hard to get to the finish line. But I should have remembered the advice from my first graduate level math teacher. I needed to “learn to go fast slowly.” I now give myself a hard time with my own “finished” papers. I hold on to them longer trying to make them better. What are the weak spots? Could I explain it better? Can I make the model or examples simpler? Sure, there is a trade-off involved in terms of research quantity, but I personally think that the gain in quality is well worth it.

**Kim Staking** (California State University-Sacramento): I would have advised myself to study a lot more physics at the undergraduate level (along with the required math). I find a greater level of interest in how the world works and would like to delve deeper.

**Peter Zweifel** (University of Zurich): Just pursue a topic that fascinates you. Ph.D. candidates are sometimes discouraged when realizing that others (including big fish) have written about the same topic. My experience has been that sooner or later you see one or several points where you disagree. Present your own view of things when realizing that others (including big fish) have written about the same topic. My experience has been that sooner or later you see one or several points where you disagree. Present your own view of things at a conference; the minute delegates think, “I thought this issue was settled, but I found this presentation amazingly interesting,” you have created your market.

**Responses to #3 Professional Development (CPD):**

**P. Chandrasekar** (Unilever): **Book:** Dale Carnegie’s “How to Win Friends and Influence People.” This is more relevant than ever before given our digital-based/driver lifestyle that has the unintended consequence of youngsters losing out on opportunities to develop people skills.

the College of Business Administration; prior to that, she was with California State University-Fullerton.

**Andreas Richter** (Ludwig-Maximilians-University) is pleased to share a photo of his baby daughter, Antonia Rose, who was born on May 31, 2013. At that time, she weighed 3,190 grams (7 lbs.) and was 49 cm (or 19.3 inches) long.

Congratulations to **Terri Vaughan**, who was chosen by the Association of Professional Insurance Women as the Insurance Woman of the Year 2014. This award recognizes Terri’s outstanding achievements and leadership within the industry, as well as her commitment to the advancement of women in insurance.

**Joël Wagner**, currently assistant professor of risk management and insurance at the University of St. Gallen, has been appointed full professor in actuarial science at the Faculty of Business and Economics (HEC) of the University of Lausanne starting July 2014.

Congratulations to **Brenda Wells** (East Carolina University), who has been named the Robert F. Bird Distinguished Scholar in Risk & Insurance. Mr. Bird is a beloved and respected member of the North Carolina insurance community and a past chief executive officer of the Independent Insurance Agents of North Carolina (IIANC). The IIANC funded the professorship in his honor.

ARIA Members’ Advice and Book and Movie Selections

ARIA Members and Friends in the News, continued
Movie: “A Few Good Men,” a moving tale of how power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely.

Richard Corbett (retired, Florida State University): Book: “The Bible for Dummies,” which explains all the “begats” so you can keep track of the characters.

Movie: “Field of Dreams,” which has so many messages. It’s about fathers and sons, it’s about the magic of baseball, it’s about the power of faith. Easy to love.

Richard Derrig (OPAL Consulting): Book: “Book of Love” (which is actually a song), by Stephin Merritt.

Movie: “The Commitments” (1991), which is about an Irish group of songsters.

Alberto Dreassi (University of Udine): Book: Being alone on an island made me think of “One Hundred Years of Solitude,” by Gabriel García Márquez.

Movie: Having a lot of time, I’ll try to finally understand the jokes that I am missing in “Monty Python and the Holy Grail,” by Terry Gilliam and Terry Jones.

Lisa Gardner (Drake University): Book: I would like to have the work of a great, funny author with me, someone who wrote about having wild adventures and lived to tell about them through their stories, because being alone on a desert island does seem like a wild adventure to me! A book like Mark Twain’s “The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn” might fit the bill.

Movie: Of course, being alone, I would get lonely, and I would like to have a fun cast of characters to accompany me, some folks with whom I could sing and whose dance steps I could mimic on the beach. A musical like “Singing in the Rain” or “Mary Poppins” might help pass the time.

Martin Kocher (University of Munich): Book: “Ulysses” by James Joyce, because it is complex and multi-faceted. It would keep me busy for a long time.

Movie: I am tempted to say “Cast Away” just for the pun, but it should be something that I want to watch over and over again; hence, “The Big Lebowski.”

Diana Lee (Property Casualty Insurers Association of America): Book: “1,000 Places to See Before You Die,” this will help me plan my future trips when I do get off the island.

Movie: “Amadeus,” an intriguing plot and magnificent music, very cleverly woven together.

Giovanni Millo (Assicurazioni Generali SpA): Book: Louis-Ferdinand Céline’s “Voyage au bout de la nuit” (i.e., “Journey to the end of the night”).

Movie: It is a close contest between Coppola’s “Apocalypse Now” and Dino Risi’s “Una vita difficile” (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/A_Difficult_Life). I don’t think this is very well known in the U.S., which is a pity. If I had to name one movie only, then let it be the second; surely there will be somebody else around with a copy of “Apocalypse Now” on nearby islands.

Sojung Carol Park (Seoul National University): Book: “Lean In: Women, Work, and the Will to Lead,” by Sheryl Sandberg, is on the first line of my reading list these days.

Movie: I would like to watch Woody Allen’s “To Rome with Love.”


Movie: “A Man For All Seasons;” it helps you think about how to respond when you are faced with really important choices in life.

Willie Dion Reddic (Syracuse University): Book: “Wrinkle in Time” by Madeleine L’Engle, based on my childhood experience (fond memories).

Movie: “Braveheart” is my all-time favorite. I can watch that movie over and over again and still never get bored; this will be to my advantage since I will be on an island.

Harris Schlesinger (University of Alabama): First of all, it would be a mountain summit and not an island. Book: I think that I would bring the book “The Kite Runner” by Khaled Hosseini. I never read it, but my son read it for school last year and liked it. I saw the movie, which is said to be true to the book. It is a fairly intense story, but it was the best new movie that I have seen in the past decade. So I keep meaning to read the book.

Movie: There are a handful of movies I would be happy with. But to choose just one, it would probably be “Gladiator.” I love it. We even named our new kitten after Russell Crowe’s character: Maximus Decimus Meridius ... although we just call him “Max.”

Kim Staking (California State University-Sacramento): Book: The complete works of Shakespeare. If I had a second choice I would pick Cervantes’ “Don Quixote” (in the original Spanish – it is lyrically beautiful).

Movie: For movies, I would pick “Across the Universe” directed by Julie Taymor (but it would be for the music and visuals more than the story).

Peter Zweifel (University of Zurich): Book: I’d try to read Homer again in his original language (50 years ago, I knew enough classical Greek to be able to do that).

Movie: “Dr. Zhivago.” Apart from its beautiful actors, it is rooted in classical Russian literature, which must be extremely expressive when read in its original language. On this, I have a story: In the 1980s, I worked with Dr. Edward Kofler (who invented Linear Partial Information). Dr. Kofler was a Polish refugee who had survived deportation to North Karelia (where people were dying like the flies, mainly of hunger) in 1939, followed by five years in a prisoners’ camp in Siberia. He had every reason to hate Stalin and the Russians, yet he always had a Polish-Russian dictionary on his desk. When I asked him why, he responded, “Reading Russian literature in original language is an incomparable experience.”
The risk management and insurance discipline is thriving. After witnessing the consequences of neglecting this vital business function, organizations around the globe are more risk aware and realize investing in sound risk management capabilities is no longer just an option. And, organizations are now turning to their risk practitioners to not only protect company assets but to also create value by identifying new opportunities to achieve strategic objectives.

With a deep understanding of the increased role risk professionals are playing within their organizations, RIMS, the risk management society, continues to offer networking, professional development and education opportunities to its flourishing global membership. In addition to delivering the resources and thought-leading content they need to advance their programs, the Society is also committed to providing opportunities for the next generation of risk professionals...today's students and tomorrow's leaders.

In fact, RIMS current President Carolyn Snow centered one of her presidential goals on this group for the duration of her presidency. She said, "It is no secret that the future of the profession depends on this group's abilities, knowledge and experiences. It is our responsibility to develop relevant and insightful content to support their promising careers."

Carolyn Snow, RIMS Board of Directors, the Society's staff, along with the support from volunteer members and leading industry partners, will focus on bolstering RIMS' already strong resources for these emerging risk leaders.

To better serve this demographic, RIMS leadership knew it needed an individual on staff who understood the challenges students face, as well as the resources and opportunities that were missing, impeding their entrance into the risk management field.

To that extent, earlier this year, RIMS announced the addition of Deborah Little, a former risk practitioner and academic advisor with more than 17 years of professional experience, to oversee the Society's initiatives created for this important group.

Ms. Little has stepped in and utilized her expertise to ensure that RIMS' Rising Risk Professionals group and the Anita Benedetti Student Involvement Program (ABSIP) continue to serve the needs of students studying risk and insurance.

The ABSIP has a long history of providing aspiring students with airfare, hotel accommodations, meals and registration to attend RIMS Annual Conference & Exhibition, the industry's premier conference that attracts more than 9,000 attendees annually.

Ms. Little was herself an ABSIP participant back in the 1990s and recalls the impact it had on her career, "I heard of risk management and was intrigued so I took a few courses. The opportunities presented by the student involvement program were immense. Not only were the educational sessions at my first RIMS conference eye-opening, the opportunity to sit next to some of the most accomplished risk management professionals from around the world really opened the door for me and, actually, led me to my first job in the field. As RIMS' new Senior Program Manager I want to make sure that today's students have the same opportunities that I did."

The ABSIP program is named after the late Deputy Executive Director of RIMS and President of the Spencer Educational Foundation: Anita Benedetti. It provides funding for 30 students to attend the conference, take part in a specially designed educational track and network with leading risk professionals from the world's most recognized organizations. Since 1978, more than 1,000 students have attended the RIMS Annual Conference & Exhibition through this program.

The Spencer Educational Foundation, RIMS' charitable partner, provides students studying risk management and insurance with scholarships and grants. Additionally, the nonprofit coordinates and provides funding for a robust internship program. The opportunities offered by Spencer allow students to concentrate on their studies as opposed to their personal finances, further enabling them to pursue rewarding risk management careers.

While providing scholarship and internship opportunities is one way to get students excited about the profession, another way is to challenge their minds.

This year, RIMS launched its first ever Spencer-RIMS Risk Management Challenge. Twenty university teams from across the United States and Canada were selected to participate in this three-month competition. The teams, comprised of undergraduate students already engaged in their university's risk management and insurance educational programming, were given a case study and challenged to develop the best and most comprehensive risk management program to address the issue. The field of 20 was narrowed down to 10, and these 10 remaining university teams competed at RIMS' 2014 Annual Conference & Exhibition in Denver on April 27-30.

During the conference, the teams presented their findings in front of a panel of judges. Three finalists were chosen to compete for a cash prize (1st $4,000, 2nd $3,000, 3rd $2,000 presented to the university). The Risk Challenge culminated with a presentation in front of a room of established risk management professionals, the actual risk practitioner who successfully managed the case study for his or her organization, and other potential employers. Congratulations to the three finalists: 3rd place: Virginia

RIMS: Funding Tomorrow’s Risk and Insurance Leaders

by Mary Roth, RIMS Executive Director
Gamma Iota Sigma Announces 43rd Annual International Conference

Gamma Iota Sigma, the international risk management, insurance and actuarial science fraternity, announces the 43rd Annual International Conference and Career Fair, taking place October 2-4, 2014 in Dallas, Texas and co-hosted by the Beta Zeta Chapter of the University of North Texas. Gamma Iota Sigma functions as a talent catalyst and counts the Annual International Conference as its hallmark program to connect its members to the insurance industry.

The Conference is the premier event for the insurance industry to engage the next generation, and the most comprehensive event for students to develop professionally and expand on their industry exposure and knowledge. The agenda includes a career fair, educational sessions and keynote addresses, in addition to leadership seminars and ample networking opportunities.

In 2013, Gamma Iota Sigma’s International Conference drew 405 students from 38 colleges and universities throughout North America, plus 71 sponsors, 60 exhibitors and 180 industry representatives. Those numbers are expected to continue its commitment to this aspirational chapter of Gamma Iota Sigma, visit www.gammaiotasigma.org/about/forming-a-new‐chapter/

The Griffith Insurance Education Foundation Relocation

As of April 15, 2015, The Griffith Insurance Education Foundation relocated its office from Columbus, Ohio to Malvern, Penn. For more information about The Griffith Foundation’s new location, please go to: <http://www.prweb.com/releases/2014/04/prweb11762486.htm>.

Gamma Iota Sigma Approves New Charters to Three Universities

Gamma Iota Sigma announces the addition of three new university affiliations. At its January 25 meeting in Cleveland, Ohio, Gamma Iota Sigma’s Executive Committee approved charters for three applicant schools:

- University of Houston-Downtown – Houston, Texas
- Butler University – Indianapolis, Indiana
- University of Colorado at Denver – Denver, Colorado

The new chapters are expected to become official in chartering ceremonies over the coming months, bringing the number of colleges and universities to which Gamma Iota Sigma has granted chapters to 60. The three schools follow a recent spate of new and reactivated chapters, including Troy University, East Carolina University, Florida State University, Drake University and the University of South Carolina. This growth directly aligns with Gamma Iota Sigma’s mission of promoting, encouraging and sustaining student interest in insurance, risk management, and actuarial science as professions, and the organization continues to receive inquiries from interested students and faculty at prospective chapters.

In order to charter a chapter of Gamma Iota Sigma, a college or university must have a means for students to study insurance or actuarial science related curriculum, whether through a particular course or major or minor field of study. Students must only be interested in pursuing a career in the industry.

For more information about chartering a chapter of Gamma Iota Sigma, visit www.gammaiotasigma.org/about/forming-a-new‐chapter/.

About Gamma Iota Sigma: Gamma Iota Sigma was incorporated in 1965 and has chartered 57 chapters at colleges and universities throughout North America. It boasts an annual membership of over 1800 students and a network of over 17,000 alumni. The purpose of Gamma Iota Sigma is to promote, encourage, and sustain student interest in insurance, risk management, and actuarial science as professions; to encourage the high moral and scholastic attainments of its members; and to facilitate interaction of educational institutions and industry through networking and by fostering research activities, scholarship, and improved public relations. For more information, visit www.gammaiotasigma.org or contact (484) 991-4471.

RIMS: Funding Tomorrow’s Risk and Insurance Leaders, continued

Commonwealth University; 2nd place: Florida State University; and 1st place: Temple University.

The future of risk management hinges on the next generation. RIMS is proud to continue its commitment to this aspiring group by granting them access to the Society’s invaluable collection of risk management and insurance knowledge, its member network of more than 11,000 risk professionals from around the world and, also, its re‐energized commitment to scholarships, grants, internship programs, competitions and other initiatives specifically designed to support future risk management and insurance industry leaders.

If you would like to learn more about the opportunities available for your university and your students, please contact Deborah Little at dlittle@RIMS.org or visit www.RIMS.org or www.spencered.org.

ARIA News • Spring 2014
Alabama Center for Insurance Information and Research Established at The University of Alabama’s Culverhouse College of Commerce

by William Rabel and Harris Schlesinger

On Oct. 23, 2013 Governor Robert Bentley gave the keynote address at Alabama Insurance Day in which he described the need for an Alabama Center for Insurance Information and Research (ACIIR). Then, to the delight of the audience, the governor stepped to a table at the center of the stage and signed an executive order establishing the center at The University of Alabama’s Culverhouse College of Commerce. Governor Bentley said, “We want to see the state be as objective as possible, “he said. “The governor wants the center to enlist contributions from the best minds on issues impacting our state and provide information that can be trusted.”

Many of the intellectual and support resources the center needs are already located at The University of Alabama and the state is providing funds for the center’s establishment and operation. In addition to having a strong program in risk management & insurance, the Culverhouse College of Commerce is highly ranked overall and in specific fields such as accounting and statistics. The University also has a creative faculty in engineering and the law school is ranked in the top 20 nationally. These fields all have much to add to the analysis and management of risks. Furthermore, The University has a long history of working collaboratively with other organizations and individuals to achieve important goals, a trait that will be essential if the center is to fulfill its goals.

According to Rabel, the first order of business is to hire a director for the center. “The director will have a lot of flexibility in designing the center’s organization and structure and hiring the staff. Harris and I see this as a great job for a highly qualified person who enjoys variety and wants to have a significant impact on society. As head of the center, the director will manage research by the staff and graduate students, distribute RFPs for research on critical issues, and broadcast the center’s findings.”

In addition to conducting research the center will serve as a repository of information developed elsewhere. Taking useful findings from other sources and getting them out to those who can benefit from them will be an important part of ACIIR’s mission, requiring a capable communications function. It will also be necessary to have the infrastructure to support storage and access to data. Fortunately, most of the resources required now reside on campus and it is mostly a matter of finding the right person to put them all together and go to work.

Ideas have also been explored for providing information to individual and business consumers of insurance who must manage their own risks every day. The Alabama Insurance Department has excellent consumer information on its website and one approach being considered is for ACIIR and...
Alabama Center for Insurance Information and Research, continued

the department to collaborate. In addition, tentative discussions have taken place with professional education organizations such as The Institutes, Insurance Information Institute, and LOMA with the thought that their materials might be repurposed or refocused and presented in a consumer-friendly form. Finally, there is potential for the center to enhance the availability of financial literacy programs in secondary schools. For example, InVEST is engaged in more than 500 high schools and colleges throughout the nation, including six high schools in Alabama. Alabama graduate students and even undergrads might help expand the InVEST footprint in Alabama with the center funding compensation for their teaching.

While many members of the public may think of the center as solely focused on solving their insurance problems, in fact its mission includes the broadest concept of risk management with insurance being an important component of that function. In many cat-prone areas loss control is the best way to mitigate the impact of perils so that loss transfer can become a reasonable option. This may entail changes in building codes, planning and zoning, infrastructure, and more effective responses to disasters. The mission of the center is very broad and encompasses virtually anything that can help make Alabamians more secure.

One indication of the importance that Gov. Bentley places on the center is the fact that he will personally serve as the first chairman of the ACIIIR Advisory Board. The board is comprised of leaders from business and the professions including insurance, banking, real estate and other fields. In addition four academics will serve on the board, ex officio, including Rabel, Schlesinger, Ed Duett, Troy University RMI program director, and Don Epley, a University of South Alabama real estate professor.

If the center can lower the cost of risk for the state, the return will be manifold. Everyone involved has high hopes that the inaugural director will be an outstanding leader who will elevate the center to the highest level of effectiveness and will set the future direction for the workings of the center.

Access to financial services has been recognized as an important tool in reducing poverty. In recent years, microinsurance – insurance for low-income populations – has come to be seen as a promising means of managing risk for these populations by both academics and practitioners. Because of limited resources, people in the developing world are highly vulnerable to a variety of shocks such as illnesses, natural disasters, unemployment, and accidents. While many rely on informal transfers from friends and relatives, such transfers often provide insufficient protection.

Microinsurance holds the promise to help billions of low-income individuals in managing risks more efficiently. The market in its current state, however, is still lagging behind expectations owing to low demand and supply-side constraints. In the fall of 2013, our research team from the Institute of Insurance Economics of the University of St. Gallen (Switzerland) and the University of Mannheim (Germany) conducted a research project in the Republic of the Philippines to further understand some of the demand and supply-side constraints for microinsurance. Using novel experimental field lab approaches, we assessed the demand for microinsurance for a large variety of product specifications, tested for the impact of information asymmetries on risk-taking behaviour, and analyzed risk and ambiguity aversion. More than 2,300 rural villagers participated in our experimental field labs.

Risk-Taking and Insurance – Does the Moral Hazard Story Hold?

One main aspect we focus on in this research project is whether risk-taking by insured individuals is different from risk-taking by uninsured individuals. Economic theory suggests that with increasing insurance coverage incentives for investing in self-protection to reduce the likelihood of a loss are reduced; i.e., individuals are less careful to avoid insured losses.

First studies in the microinsurance field suggest that this so-called ex-ante moral hazard behavior poses a significant threat to the development of the infant microinsurance market. There has been significant research on moral hazard in developed insurance markets and the results are generally mixed depending on the line of insurance. Automobile insurance and workers compensation insurance are most prominently found to be prone to moral hazard, whereas the results for health insurance are rather mixed. Besides obvious differences in the kinds of risks insured in the various insurance lines, there is an identification problem when working with empirical real-world data. The predicted positive relation between the level of insurance coverage and risk-taking may not only be driven by changes in behavior resulting from the coverage but also from the fact that more risky individuals demand higher coverage levels giving rise to adverse selection.

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Field-lab Experiments on Microinsurance in the Philippines

by Christian Biener, Martin Eling, Shailee Pradhan, University of St. Gallen, Institute of Insurance Economics
Our experimental approach allows us to precisely focus on the moral hazard effect and tackle the problems found in empirical data. Another innovative feature of this study is that we test the effectiveness of insurance deductibles as well as social ties and peer monitoring within a group-based insurance scheme to tackle moral hazard.

Default Risk and Ambiguity – Do People Care?
This aspect of our research looks into the impact of default risk – the risk of an insurance not paying a valid claim – on insurance demand and risk perceptions when probabilities for risk of loss and default are unknown. Default risk can arise out of an insurer’s inability to pay, an insurer’s unwillingness to pay, or simply fraud on the insurer’s part. Research in developed insurance markets has shown that even slight increases in default risk lead to extreme decreases in the willingness to pay for insurance policies. In the microinsurance context where individuals are observed to have limited trust in insurance, default risk might lead to significant additional erosions of trust that threatens the development of the market. We examined this issue for a variety of different framings.

Additionally, we analyzed microinsurance demand and risk perceptions when probabilities for insurance default and shocks are ambiguous. Most of the research on insurance explains demand using standard economic utility models with a known loss distribution and it is not clear how ambiguity about probabilities enters into the risk assessment process. This is relevant particularly in a low-income population context where several factors such as poor infrastructure and hygiene, and weak economic, political, and legal environment cause uncertainty about loss probabilities.

Risky Choice – How Strategic are Choices Under Risk?
A central question in judgment and decision-making research is how people proceed when choosing between risky outcomes. To explain these risky choices, numerous decision strategies have been proposed and tested for their descriptive adequacy. However, most studies have based their conclusions entirely on samples from western, educated, industrialized, rich, and democratic (WEIRD) societies. Given that substantial variability in experimental results between WEIRD and non-WEIRD populations has been found for an assortment of cognitive domains, it remains unclear what risky choice strategies might be used in non-WEIRD populations. To answer this question, we conducted a strategy comparison study in the context of our field-lab experiments. Based on a large set of lottery choices, participants were classified as users of one of thirteen different risky choice strategies. In addition, we explored if strategy usage in this basic risky choice paradigm affected participants’ decisions in the previously described field experiments. Thereby, we investigated if general process differences when dealing with decisions under risk play a role for microinsurance decisions.
Experiences in the Field

The experiments were conducted in rural villages of the Iloilo and Guimaras provinces of the Republic of the Philippines. Contrary to most economic lab experiments we neither restricted our sample to students, nor did we make groups anonymous, thus positioning our research closer to real-life scenarios. Consequently our approach required significant logistic efforts including long trips to reach out to remote and rural areas as well as a large team of about 30 local research assistants helping in conducting the experiments in the local language. To organize the data collection consisting of detailed questionnaires as well as the results from the economic games most efficiently, we relied on state-of-the-art technology. Every reply to a questionnaire item and every decision in and result from a game were recorded using tablet PCs. This approach assured immediate availability of the data through daily server uploads as well as data security through regular backups of the server.

The economic games were structured such that participants took several decisions on risk-taking and insurance. While the games were played with play-money, participants had the opportunity to win real money at the end of the experiment to ensure that they took game decisions seriously. The games all involved modeling of risk and uncertainty. For this, we relied on a broad set of randomization devices such as opaque bags with a specified number of balls in different colors or with different numbers, dices, or even computer-based random number generators. In addition to the economic games, we conducted detailed questionnaires to assess basic socio-demographic characteristics as well as other characteristics such as intellectual capabilities, risk- and ambiguity aversion, and experience with insurance. Our experience in the field showed that participants took deep interest in the experiments and many of them stressed the closeness to real-life decision-making and a positive impact on learning. Some of the research sites were affected by the severe typhoon Haiyan. Fortunately our field areas were only moderately affected, such that we could finish the data collection and beyond that it allowed for the collection of a rich set of information regarding the damages resulting from the typhoon that could be incorporated into the analysis.

Outlook

The results of the studies conducted on the Philippines will shed light on some very pressing questions recently discussed in the development of the infant microinsurance market. We hope that new ideas to improve the insurance and risk-management products available to low-income populations can be generated from insights of our research. However, the relevance is not limited to the low-income insurance context, but extends to a more general understanding of information asymmetries in insurance, risk- and ambiguity preferences, and the use of decision strategies.

Indiana State University Scott College of Business Insurance and Risk Management Program Celebrates 25 Years of Success

Congratulations to Indiana State University (ISU, in Terre Haute, Ind.) whose Insurance and Risk Management (IRM) Program was established a quarter of a century ago. This premier undergraduate program began in 1988 through the development of a rigorous curriculum, significant partnerships with industry leaders and a strong commitment to experiential learning beyond the classroom. In April 2014, ISU hosted a gala dinner to celebrate the achievements and people who were instrumental in leading the university to a nationally prominent program in insurance, risk management, and financial services education.

Among those honored is former ARIA member, Mary Ann Boose (Kent), retired coordinator and professor of the IRM program. She served as the program’s second coordinator from 1995 to 2008. According to Brien Smith, dean of ISU’s Scott College of Business, “Under Dr. Boose’s leadership, the insurance program continued to grow and flourish, increasing both enrollment and industry participation. She is credited with starting the insurance and risk management golf outing, which today raises more than $25,000 annually for student professional development initiatives. She was instrumental in advocating for the insurance and risk management program to be named a Program of National Distinction by Indiana State in 2007.”

One student, Brandon Nettrouer (now a sophomore), says this about ISU’s IRM program: “I realize that the opportunities that I, along with so many other students in this program have had, have been life changing. The networking, the connections, the mentors, the internship opportunities, the education all have given our scholars a priceless knowledge of the insurance and risk management industry. We have value in this program; we have a close connection with industry professionals and an even closer connection with our professors. We are given the tools to succeed not only in college, but in the working world as well. We get the experience of the unknown working world before we are forced to enter it. As Sycamore insurance students, we have a leg up on our competition.”

The Scott College of Business at Indiana State University is grateful to all of its sponsors for supporting the IRM program, and looks forward to the next 25 years!
Executive Director Report at ARIA’s 2014 Winter Board Meeting

by Anthony Biacchi, ARIA Executive Director

Summary
The following article offers some highlights from the ARIA Executive Director’s report in early January 2014. Significant events since the August 2013 Board meeting follow.

- The annual meeting in Washington D.C. was attended by 210 individuals, including 20 non-members. While attendance was the highest in recent memory, the large number of individuals and the high costs and fees associated with the venue resulted in a meeting loss of approximately $47,500.

- Association membership at the end of December 2013 totaled 564, a year over year increase of 20 members. Student membership remains down compared to two years ago and the number of retirees continues to increase.

- The membership fee for 2014 will remain constant.

- The Institutes hired a certified meeting planner who will assist ARIA in negotiating and arranging future meetings. ARIA’s 2016 annual meeting (August 7-10) will be held at the Royal Sonesta Hotel in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The room rate will be $189 per night, with free in-room internet service.

- The Executive Office’s rental and service fees payable to the Institutes will increase to approximately $46,000 in 2014, based on a factor equal to the CPI-U (this year, 1.7%).

- Wiley-Blackwell’s payment to ARIA for royalties earned in 2013 and payable in April 2014 could approximate $110,000.

- JRI support staff, Lisa Ford, exhaustively reviewed email records to ascertain whether JRI manuscripts were lost after Nexpoint Technologies’ web hosting services dissolved. Editor Keith Crocker reported that all manuscripts have been accounted for.

- Wiley’s November interim reports reveals the number of full-rate subscriptions continues to move downward as subscribers shift away from print. Online licensed subscriptions remain stable.

- The JRI impact factor for 2012 is 1.237 and the five-year factor is 1.390.

- The JRI ranks 24 out of 89 journals in Wiley’s Business, Finance category, and 103 of 333 journals in Economics.

Finances
Since Wiley royalty payments are made on an accrual basis, ARIAs financials at the end of November, 2013 showed a negative balance of $57,130. Wiley typically makes payment at the end of the first quarter of the subsequent year; hence, after deducting the 2013 stipends to the JRI editor (~$37,157) and RMIR editor (~$12,364), Wiley’s payment to ARIA should equal the $110,000 during the previous two years. Consequently, ARIA’s 2013 year-end financial statement should show positive net earnings once the April 2014 royalty payment is received.

Direct and support expenses for the annual meeting totaled $135,670. Additional expenses (e.g., speakers’ gift cards, office supplies, and contracted services for online meeting registration) were slightly less than $5,000. The annual meeting lost $47,500 which was $12,000 more than projected. Once all sponsorship payments are made, registration and sponsorship income for the annual meeting will total $93,468.

A preliminary budget was prepared for calendar year 2014. While a balanced budget is projected, the primary factors affecting the financial results on the income side are: royalties from Wiley and annual meeting sponsorship and annual meeting costs on the expense side.

Contracted expenses continue to increase. In addition to fees for the Executive Director’s services and the annual meeting’s web-based attendee registration, ARIA incurs contracted costs for the webmaster and provides editorial subsidies to both The JRI and RMIR editors beyond those provided by Wiley. Another contracted service is the new call for papers submission management system for the annual meeting.

Investments
ARIA and ARIA-managed funds are allocated into three categories: restricted (to honor award winners); custodial (a money market fund managed on behalf of the Risk Theory Society); and non-restricted (unobligated) money. The value of ARIA’s total investment portfolio at the end of 2013 amounted to $610,857.80, compared to $544,642.36 in 2012 and $465,853.60 in 2011.

- Restricted funds: $127,650.14 (after withdrawal of $2,976 for awards; the value was $120,486.91 in 2012)
- Custodial funds: $6,394.50 (after paying travel expenses of $418.59)
- Non-restricted funds: $476,813.16 (compared to $417,343.57 in 2012)
Executive Director Report at ARIA’s 2014 Winter Board Meeting, continued

Membership
Approximately 54% of the members (336) reside in North America. Countries with the largest representation are: U.S. (305); Germany (43); Canada (31); Taiwan (30); England (19); France (15); Switzerland (15); and Australia (14).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Type</th>
<th>2013 Count</th>
<th>2012 Count</th>
<th>2011 Count</th>
<th>Three-year Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regular</td>
<td>486</td>
<td>471</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>+14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retired</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>+7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>564</td>
<td>544</td>
<td>560</td>
<td>+4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Wiley Publishing
As of October 2013, the JRI/RMIR subscription bundle had 449 full-rate subscriptions. Renewals continue to fall. The chart below shows the shifts away from print.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subscription Type</th>
<th>2013 (through Oct.)</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Licensed</td>
<td>312</td>
<td>314</td>
<td>314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Print</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Print and Online</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>449</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Wiley’s ARIA-generated revenue through the end of October 2013 totals $301,644. The ARIA Executive Office is optimistic that revenues will approximate last year’s $112,000 and is projecting royalties of $110,000 payable in April 2014. A $42,000 check in anticipation of membership revenue will be payable to ARIA in mid-January, 2014.

Full text downloads of JRI articles continues to remain strong. Totals through October 2013 suggest downloads could be slightly lower than last year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JRI</td>
<td>41,017</td>
<td>53,910</td>
<td>45,570</td>
<td>28,012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RMIR</td>
<td>11,034</td>
<td>14,682</td>
<td>14,501</td>
<td>10,836</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Charlotte Ching, production manager for ARIAs two journals submitted her resignation from Wiley, effective December 24, 2013. Haider Sahle, Charlotte’s assistant, will serve as her temporary replacement. Haider, who is located in Singapore, has four years of experience working for Wiley.

The JRI Editor’s Report
The JRI continues to receive a large number of submissions. The current backlog of accepted papers is 52. Submissions are processed through the ScholarOne portal. Year-to-date new submissions received total 185. Six articles were accepted for publication; 93 were rejected; and the remaining submissions are in various stages of review. Specifically:

Continued on page 22

Risk Management and Insurance Positions
Below is a list of organizations with academic, government, and industry job openings that ARIA has received since November 2013, presented in chronological order of final posting on ARIA’s website. Positions whose explicit application deadlines are past are not included below. Please visit the ARIA website (www.aria.org) or contact these organizations for additional information.

November
Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago
Economic Research Department
Entry-level or Senior Economist

December
University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa)
Culverhouse College of Commerce
Director of the Alabama Center for Insurance Information & Research (ACIIR)

University of Connecticut (main campus in Storrs)
School of Business, Department of Finance Programs in Healthcare Management & Insurance Studies
Assistant Professor, Insurance and Risk Management

January
Carroll University (Waukesha, Wisc.)
Department of Business, Accounting & Economics
Executive Director

Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services (Salem)
Insurance Division
Rates and Forms Manager

Risk Management and Insurance Review Editor

University of Georgia (Athens)
Terry College of Business
Assistant Professor of RMI

March
Swiss Re (Beijing office)
Economist

University of Cape Town (South Africa)
Faculty of Commerce
African Institute of Financial Markets and Risk Management (AIFMRM)
Professor/associate professor/senior lecturer

Continued on page 22
The status of papers submitted during the previous two years follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Accepted</th>
<th>Rejected</th>
<th>Active</th>
<th>Withdrawn</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In his report to the Board, Keith Crocker, The JRI editor, stated that “each of the coeditors have done a terrific job with the manuscripts assigned, and in a timely manner.” Coeditors for The JRI who deserve our appreciation are: Richard Butler, Scott Harrington, Richard Phillips, Harris Schlesinger, Arthur Snow, and Mary Weiss.

The JRI has been asked to publish papers from the 10th Longevity Conference to be held in Chile next year. They would be printed in 2016 as either an additional special issue of The JRI or presented in one of its four scheduled issues. A special issue will cost about $8,182 with the guest editors Richard MacMinn (Illinois State University) and David Blake (Cass Business School, London) pledging $5,000 to defray the additional cost. Given this contribution, Wiley does not project a substantial impact on the 2016 subscription rate. The decision for a fifth, one-time special issue of The JRI would be determined by the backlog of accepted articles.

RMIR Editor’s Report

The fall 2013 issue of RMIR contained seven articles: one invited, two feature, two perspectives, and two educational insights. The spring 2014 issue is underway with 10 articles: three invited, four features, two perspectives, and one educational insight. Submissions over the last four years follow:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Calendar Year</th>
<th>New Submissions</th>
<th>Resubmissions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The current backlog of articles totals nine, including one feature article and three perspective articles.

RMIR now uses ScholarOne to manage its article submission. The transition from a manual system has gone well.

The ARIA executive director and the RMIR editor discussed the two RMIR awards. Understanding that the number of articles eligible for the journal’s best perspectives article and best feature articles could be small, the editor suggested combining the two award categories into one, and awarding a best RMIR article. The editor does not support the elimination of both awards.

### Risk Management and Insurance Positions, continued

**University of Georgia (Athens)**
- Terry College of Business
- Two non-tenure-track faculty positions in business analytics (Lecturer rank)

**University of Nebraska-Lincoln**
- College of Business Administration – Actuarial Science Program
- Assistant, associate or full Professor of Practice (non-tenure track)

**April**

**University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia)**
- Wharton Risk Management and Decision Processes Center
- Postdoctoral fellowship position in decision making, RMI (flood risk and resilience)

**University of South Carolina (Columbia)**
- Darla Moore School of Business
- Clinical Faculty (full-time) to teach RMI and Finance

**May**

**Colorado State University (Fort Collins)**
- College of Business
- Department Chair of Finance and Real Estate

**Lingnan University (Hong Kong)**
- Department of Finance and Insurance
- Professor/associate professor

### St. John’s University to Relocate Manhattan Campus

Beginning in the Fall 2014 semester, St. John’s University will relocate its Manhattan (New York City) Campus to 51 Astor Place, two miles northeast of its present site. The new facility will house the School of Risk Management, a key division of The Peter J. Tobin College of Business at St. John’s. The School includes the Kathryn and Shelby Cullom Davis Library, containing the world’s largest collection of risk and insurance literature, policies, and related documents. It serves as a center for study and research for students of risk management, insurance, and actuarial science from around the world. St. John’s will continue to operate at its current location, 101 Murray Street, New York City, through the 2013-14 academic year.
Insurance Research Council: New Study on Auto Injury Claims

Medical expenses reported by auto injury claimants continue to increase faster than the rate of inflation, in spite of the fact that the severity of the injuries themselves remain on a downward trend. A new study by the Insurance Research Council (IRC) found that from 2007 to 2012, average claimed economic losses (which include expenses for medical care, lost wages and other out-of-pocket expenditures) grew 8 percent annualized among personal injury protection (PIP) claimants, reaching $14,207 per claimant in 2012. Among bodily injury (BI) claimants, average claimed losses grew 4 percent, reaching $10,541 in 2012. Over the same period, measures such as the percentage of claimants who had no visible injuries at the accident scene or who had fewer than 10 days in which they were unable to perform their usual daily activities provided evidence of a continuing decline in the severity of injuries.

The study examines several factors in the growth in medical care costs, including the shift toward more expensive treatment and diagnostic alternatives as well as dramatic increases in billed charges for visits to many types of medical providers. The use of pain clinics, attorney involvement, and claim abuse were found to exacerbate the increases in medical care expenses.

"Medical care costs continue to escalate, especially among first-party claimants," said ARIA member, Elizabeth Sprinkel (senior vice president of the IRC). "Looking forward, the industry will need to continue its vigilance in contending with these expanding costs, particularly as it monitors the possible spillover effects from general healthcare reform."

The study, Auto Injury Insurance Claims: Countrywide Patterns in Treatment, Cost and Compensation, 2014 Edition, is the seventh of its kind conducted by the IRC collected data on more than 35,000 auto injury claims closed with payment under the five principal private passenger coverages. Twelve insurers, representing 52 percent of the private passenger auto insurance market in the United States, participated in the study. The report shows results on injury, medical treatment, claimed losses and total payments, attorney involvement, and the appearance of fraud and buildup.

For more detailed information on the study’s methodology and findings, contact IRC vice president, David Corum at (484) 831-9046 or by email at irc@TheInstitutes.org. Copies of the study are available for $300 for an electronic version, or $400 for a printed copy. Visit IRC’s website at www.insurance-research.org for more information.

Sharon Tennyson to Lead Cornell Institute for Public Affairs

Congratulations to Sharon Tennyson (Cornell University), who will become director of the Cornell Institute for Public Affairs (CIPA), effective July 1. CIPA will become part of the College of Human Ecology to be better integrated with the Department of Policy Analysis and Management’s undergraduate and graduate programs, including the Sloan Program in Health Administration. Sharon says, “The institute’s move into Human Ecology creates many opportunities for enhancement – e.g., in course offerings, student support services and outreach to alumni and the broader public policy community. I am excited to play an active role in these initiatives and to continue the program’s forward momentum.” Formed in 1946, CIPA offers a two-year Master of Public Administration degree, enrolling about 240 students per year taught by 14 core faculty members and more than 100 affiliates.

Sharon joined Cornell in 1998 from the University of Pennsylvania. She is editor of the Journal of Consumer Affairs and a senior research fellow at Indiana State University’s Networks Financial Institute.
### Activities of Related Associations and Affiliates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Association/Conference</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **International Insurance Society** | 2014 Seminar (50th annual)  
June 22-25  
Park Plaza Westminster Bridge Hotel  
London, U.K.  
http://www.iisonline.org |
| **Insurance Risk Research Conference** | 2014 Conference (3rd annual)  
June 26  
Insurance Risk and Finance Research Centre  
Nanyang Business School, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore  
http://www.irfrc.com  
Keynote speakers: Andrew Cairns, Heriot Watt-University and Morton Lane, Lane Financial LLC |
| **China International Conference on Insurance and Risk Management** | 2014 Conference (5th annual)  
Co-sponsored by Tsinghua University's China Center for IRM & Cass Business School of City University, London  
July 23-26  
Ping An School of Financial Service  
Shenzhen, Guangdong Province, China  
http://www.ccirm.org/conference/2014  
Keynote speakers: Georges Dionne, HEC Montreal, and Christian Gollier, Toulouse School of Economics |
| **Asia Pacific Risk and Insurance Association** | 2014 Conference (18th annual)  
July 27-30  
Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia  
Contacts: APRIA Secretariat, apria@scidomain.org.sg, or APRIA VP – Program, Soon-Jae Lee, Sejong University, sjlee@sejong.ac.kr  
http://www.apria.org |
| **Conference on Global Insurance Supervision** | 2014 Conference (3rd annual)  
Jointly organized by the International Center for Insurance Regulation, the European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority, the Center for the Study of Insurance Regulation of the School of Risk Management, St. John's University and the World Bank  
September 9-10  
Goethe University (Campus Westend)  
Frankfurt, Germany  
| **European Group of Risk and Insurance Economists** | 2014 Seminar (41st annual)  
September 15-17  
St. Gallen, Switzerland  
Local organizer: Hato Schmeiser (hato.schmeiser@unisg.ch)  
http://www.egrie.org/Meetings.htm  
Geneva Risk Economics Lecture delivered by Harris Schlesinger, University of Alabama |
| **Southern Risk and Insurance Association** | 2014 Annual Meeting (46th annual)  
November 23-25  
Francis Marion Hotel  
Charleston, South Carolina  
http://www.southernrisk.org |
| **Western Risk and Insurance Association** | 2015 Annual Meeting (49th annual)  
January 4-7, 2015  
Doubletree Resort – Paradise Valley  
Scottsdale, Arizona  
http://www.wria.org |