



**Gamma Iota Sigma
Sigma Chapter
Temple University**



Alumni Newsletter

Thursday, June 11th, 2020

Spring 2020 in Review



Alumni Student Mentorship Program

See below for pictures from our kickoff event!



Life in Quarantine



2020 Online Commencement

See below for a recap of the event!



29th Annual Gamma Gala

See below for a recap of the event!

29th ANNUAL GAMMA GALA: ZOOM EDITION

On Friday, April 24th, 2020, Gamma Iota Sigma, Sigma Chapter, hosted the 29th annual Gamma Gala and the 1st virtual Gamma Gala. The 1st virtual Gamma Gala was held over Zoom with 183 students and faculty in attendance. The event was a celebration of the previous year of work at Temple and included recognition of new members, members with academic distinction, Sigma Chapter member(s) of the year, outstanding committee member of the year, outstanding professor of the year, and graduating seniors. The keynote speaker for the night was Dr. Ronald Anderson, Dean of the Fox School of Business. Dr. Anderson spoke about how COVID-19 has transformed the working environment in business in light of quarantine.

H. WAYNE SNIDER DISTINGUISHED GUEST LECTURER SERIES, CAREER DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING, AND WORKSHOP SPEAKERS



The Sigma Chapter would like to thank all the alumni speakers who gave their time to speak with Temple students during the 2019-2020 academic year. These speakers included: Jen McDonald (Merchant Insurance Solutions, Class of 2003), Ivan Karavitchev (Travelers, Class of 2017), Denise Hunter, (Zurich), Brian O'Malley (Willis Towers Watson, Class of 2001), Allison Russell, (Lincoln Financial Group, Class of 2014), Chris Mangeri, (Mercer, Class of 2017), Noel Sarachilli, (Zurich, Class of 2015), Melany Tower, (Aon), Carolyn Ellis (Willis Towers Watson, Class of 2016), Timothy Ellis (Aon, Class of 2017), Gabrielle Parkes (AIG, Class of 2015), Rajan Gandhi (Cigna, Class of 2019), Matt Hennessey (Cigna, Class of 2010), Allison Chismar (AIG, Class of 2018), Rachel Kudler (LTCG, Class of 2017), Matt Morton (LTCG), Brian Fritz (Allied World, Class of 2019), Jenny Wang (The Graham Company, Class of 2018), Colin Anderson (Liberty Mutual, Class of 2016), Carmela Robinson (PLM, Class of 2018), Angel Song (Sompo International, Class of 2019), Michael Christian (Risk Strategies Company), Brandon Billingsley (Brown & Brown, Class of 2014), Jonathan Kalman (Eos Venture Partners), Amos Odeleye-Ajakaye (TD Bank), Arielle Moody (AIG, Class of 2009), Martin Snow (Atidot), Anne Marie Towle (Hylant), Mary Jo Kannon (Everest Insurance), and Edward J. O'Malley RHU, CLU (Gallagher).

Our last three H. Wayne Snider speakers spoke in an online format due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Even in this time of major uncertainty, our speakers and members found ways to adapt. We continued connecting, learning, and networking. We'd like to extend a special thank you to those speakers who worked with us as we moved to an online format.



On Wednesday, February 12th, 2020, the Sigma Chapter hosted the kickoff event for the Spring 2020 Alumni Student Mentorship Program in the Fox School's MBA Commons. The event brought together alumni and students who were excited to meet their pairings! In total, the program saw 85 pairs across Risk Management & Insurance and Actuarial Science.

Throughout the semester, the pairings met to discuss various topics within their industries, allowing participants an invaluable networking opportunity as well as the opportunity to gain greater knowledge about their industry.

Midway through the semester, Sigma Chapter and the world experienced an unprecedented public health challenge as result of the coronavirus pandemic. In response to the pandemic, Sigma chapter redesigned the Alumni Student Mentorship Program to incorporate virtual meetings and communication between alumni and students to continue to provide alumni and students with the significant opportunities this program offers.

[Click here to see photos from the kickoff event!](#)

2020 COMMENCEMENT

On Thursday, May 7th, 2020, the Department of Risk Management, Healthcare, and Insurance was honored to celebrate the graduation of 195 actuarial science and risk management and insurance students. The Senior Celebration was held via Zoom. Families were given links to faculty meet and greets along with speeches from Dean Dr. Ronald Anderson, Dr. R.B Drennan, Dr. Krupa Viswanathan, Noelle Codispoti, and Varun Sivakumar. The Sigma Chapter is proud of our recent graduates and excited to see the great things they will achieve in the future!

CHARITY OF CHOICE: THE RYAN TREFZ MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Throughout the 2019-2020 academic year, the Sigma Chapter has raised money for the Ryan Trefz Memorial Scholarship Fund. Ryan was a junior risk management and insurance major and co-captain of the Temple Hockey Team who tragically passed away last summer. The money that the Sigma Chapter has raised thus far will be used to establish a scholarship fund in his honor.



As of the end of the Spring 2020 semester, the Sigma Chapter raised \$13,434 towards our goal of \$25,000. We are continuing to raise money throughout this year.

ZOOM HAPPY HOUR

Do you miss meeting up with your fellow Gamma Alums? Do you wish that you could see a face besides your own? Would you be interested in a Sigma Chapter Zoom Happy Hour? We are trying to stay connected through any means possible this summer. Fill out the Google Form below if you'd like to see this become a reality!

[Click here to sign up via the Google Form!](#)

THE QUEST FOR THE QUINTESSENTIAL QUARANTINE SETUP

We here at Sigma Chapter are wondering how our alums are getting by during these crazy times. We're so curious, that we're running a contest to find the alum with the wackiest workplace environment.

Submit your pictures by emailing alumniaffirsteam.gis@gmail.com and filling out an Alumni Update Form (see below).

Must have graduated in May 2020 or earlier. All submissions will be carefully reviewed by Dr. Drennan and the current Executive Team. A winner will be chosen later this summer!

[Fill Out a New and Improved Alumni Update Form!](#)

GOLF OUTING 2020



The Temple University Department of Risk, Insurance, and Healthcare Management will tentatively be hosting the Friends of Temple Risk Management Golf & Networking Outing on **Monday, September 21st, 2020!** The event will take place at North Hills Country Club in Glenside, PA.

To learn more about the event, please follow the link below!

[Find More Information Here](#)

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