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President's Message

I am excited to tell you about something new with Gamma Iota Sigma.

As you may be aware, we have moved our offices. Gamma Iota Sigma will now have a relationship with Accent on Management or AOM. The new contact information is:

Melinda Vance
Gamma Iota Sigma
17 S. High Street, Suite 200
Columbus, OH 43215
614-221-1900 x-224
614-221-1989 Fax
grand@gammaiotasigma.org

This is already in affect so please feel free to use this contact information immediately.

This opportunity of change, while exciting, is sad in a way as we are saying goodbye to G.A. Gummer & Assoc. as a company. We want to thank George, Paula and everyone at G.A. Gummer & Assoc. for the many years of service that they provided our organization.

It is without question that if they had not been around during the early years, we would not be here today. When our organization was in its infancy, G.A. Gummer & Assoc. provided us with the tools needed to keep ourselves viable even when we didn't have the dollars to pay for those services.

We all owe everyone at G.A. Gummer & Assoc. a thank you, and I encourage you to let them know how much you appreciate what they have given us if and when you can.

The good news is that George Gummer plans to remain on our Executive Committee as Treasurer, and we look forward to him continuing on our Executive Committee for many years to come.

The move to Accent on Management provides us with the ability to provide everyone within Gamma Iota Sigma with addi-

tional tools to develop and strengthen our local chapters at the same time we are doing so at the international level. Melinda Vance will still be your point of contact and is excited to be working with all of us in this new capacity. In the coming months, we look forward to sharing with you some of the changes that we will be implementing with the help of Accent on Management.

Our organization must find additional ways to keep in touch with our members, and we must do a better job of letting our alumni know what we are doing. We look forward to being able to learn from the experience of Accent on Management as they have been working with other organizations along these same lines.

I know many of our students are quickly coming to the time when they must make decisions and embrace change as well. I am sure many of our seniors are interviewing or have found a job for after they graduate. Our sophomores and juniors are also faced with many decisions as they close in on an area of interest for a future career. These are also exciting times and one which I encourage you to embrace and not allow the fear of change to hold you back.

To the graduating seniors, you have prepared yourself through school and by being involved with Gamma Iota Sigma and I know you are going to find much success in the business world. I encourage you to remember all that Gamma Iota Sigma has brought you and consider in the not to distant future getting involved again with Gamma Iota Sigma but now as an alumni. The influence and opportunity you will bring to our organization will help those who will soon be in the same place you have been and are looking for the guidance and leadership you can now give them.

In closing, I would like to provide you with a quote from writer James Dillet Freeman. He said, "We have the power, knowledge, and equipment to build a world beyond our wonder. Only loss of nerve can defeat us."

I wish everyone the best of luck for the remainder of the school year and beyond.

Fraternally Yours,

Alan F. Hoffmann, CIC, LUTCF
Grand Chapter President

New Bradley University Chapter Chartered

Grand Chapter, with the assistance of Omega Collegiate Chapter and Sigma Collegiate Chapter chartered Alpha Chi Collegiate Chapter on October 2, 2004. Impressive Baker Hall on the Peoria, Illinois Bradley University campus was the setting for the chartering ceremony. Following the presentation of the charter to Bradley University and the initiation of the charter members, a delightful reception was held at the very popular Gorman's Pub on campus.

Alpha Chi Chapter was chartered with 21 charter members. Seven members of the new Alpha Chi Chapter attended the October 14-16 Gamma Iota Sigma Annual Management Conference in London, Ontario.

Grand Chapter President Alan F. Hoffmann offered the following challenge to the leadership of the new chapter: "Take the time now at the infancy of your chapter to build (Continued on page 3)

Alumni Spotlight



Chris Place
FSA, EA, MAA

Past officer of Nu Chapter, Central Michigan University, Chris Place is a consulting actuary with Watson Wyatt World-wide in Southfield,

Michigan, and a current Vice President of Gamma Iota Sigma. His area of practice involves consulting with private sector employers regarding pension and retiree health care benefits.

After an internship with Watson Wyatt in the summer of 1995, Chris joined the company in June, 1996, as an actuarial analyst.

His initial responsibilities included pricing the liabilities of benefit plans and preparing annual valuation reports and government filings on behalf of his clients.

Over time, Chris' focus has shifted to strategic consulting and client relationship management. He works with his clients to consult on a variety of topics affecting their benefit plans, including plan design, financial management, regulatory and legal compliance, and employee communications, helping to ensure that the benefit programs align with the client's human resources philosophy and goals.

Chris is also director of new hire training for the Michigan Retirement Practice of Watson Wyatt. In this capacity, he led the development of an intensive training program intended to quickly develop collegiate hires into productive associates.

Chris became an Associate of the Society

of Actuaries in 1999, an Enrolled Actuary in 2000, and a Fellow of the Society of Actuaries in 2001. He is also a Member of the American Academy of Actuaries.

While at CMU, Chris was an active member of the Nu Chapter of GIS, and served as its Treasurer for one year. He was nominated to a three-year term on the GIS Board of Trustees in 2002, a nomination which was gladly accepted as a result of his positive experiences with GIS as an undergrad. In 2004, Chris increased his involvement with GIS by accepting a position on the Executive Board as Vice President - Actuarial, charged with the development and enhancement of the actuarial side of GIS.

Chris graduated Summa Cum Laude from Central Michigan University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Actuarial Science and Mathematics. He currently lives in Washington, MI with his wife Jennifer and 9-month-old daughter Mallory.



Faculty Advisor Spotlight: Andrew P. Liebenberg, Ph.D.



Andre Liebenberg is advisor for the Alpha Phi Chapter of Gamma Iota Sigma and assistant professor of finance at Old Dominion University. His responsibilities include teaching, research, and developing and maintaining industry relations. Andre teaches the following courses: Principles of Risk Management and Insurance, Property-Liability Insurer Operations and Accounting, and a capstone seminar on Advance Topics in Insurance and Risk Management.

Andre serves on the board of the Insurance and Financial Services Center—a center funded and advised by local insurance professionals for the purpose of supporting and growing the Insurance and Risk Management program at Old Dominion University. He also serves on the Virginia Insurance Continuing Education Board. His research interests include enterprise risk management, insurance company diversification, and insurer financial performance.

Andre was raised in Johannesburg, South Africa. He completed a Bachelor of Commerce degree, majoring in economics, from the University of the Witwatersrand (Wits) in 1994. The following year he completed his honors degree, majoring in insurance, and spent his summer holiday working for a local reinsurance broker.

In 1996 he enrolled in the Insurance Masters program and began teaching insurance classes at Wits. At that time he began a four-year consulting relationship with a large reinsurance company that facilitated academic and professional publications and culminated in the publication of a monograph on the South African auto insurance market.

In 1998 he traveled to Williamsburg, Virginia to present his research at the annual meeting of the Southern Risk and Insurance Association. Following discussions with US faculty and graduate students, he decided to pursue a doctoral degree in insurance and risk management. In 2000 he was accepted into the insurance doctoral program at the University of Georgia and moved to Athens, GA. His dissertation on the determinants and effects of insurer diversifica-

tion was completed in 2004.

Andre began working at Old Dominion University in August 2004 and assumed the role of advisor to the Alpha Phi Chapter. The Chapter recently hosted a visit by five officers from the Sigma Chapter who kindly assisted with the swearing-in of Alpha Phi Chapter's new President and Vice-President. In April, several Alpha Phi officers will be attending the RIMS conference in Philadelphia.

Andre's wife, Ivonne, is currently completing her doctoral dissertation in finance at the University of Georgia. Together with their dog, Pareto, they live near the ocean in Virginia Beach, VA. In his spare time, Andre likes to travel, play golf, and follow the progress of the South African cricket and rugby teams.

Editor's Note...

Letters to the Editor or other comments may be directed to:
Karen Hunter, CPCU, Editor
1440 Granville Road, Newark OH 43055



Report of the International Student Representative



Noelle L. Salamone

I have had the opportunity to watch some of the most charismatic and inspiring people serve in the capacity of International Student Representative so for me, it was truly an honor to be elected to this position.

Since I was a freshman in the Fall of 2000, Gamma Iota Sigma has added seven chapters, nearly a twenty percent increase over five years. Talk about growth!

As an organization, we are definitely an expanded community. We extend north into Canada, as far south as Florida, out west to California, and as far east as Virginia Beach. But that creation as a community is only one aspect of our existence as an organization. The other is cohesion.

Cohesion is a strong word. It's a unity, a bond, and the spring semester has undoubtedly shown its power. As students, we organized the First Annual International Walk-A-Thon to benefit the International Red Cross. Many of our individual chapters held walks on their local campuses, raising donations from family, friends, and corporate supporters.

Some of our other chapters, unable to host a walk, still continued to be a driving force in the success of the Walk-A-Thon. They supported walking chapters by sending donations and purchasing commemorative T-shirts.

Over 200 students participated in the Walk-A-Thon and donations topping \$2,000 were raised.

For me, being the International Student Representative is about community and cohesion. With the dedication of the Grand Chapter and past Representatives, we have certainly established GIS as a large community.

It is my goal to continue to support the expansion of our organization into new colleges and universities. But more importantly, my goal this year and in years to come when I am an alumna is to build the sense of cohesion. As a fraternity, we can come together to support each other, and as we have seen this spring semester, to support individuals around the world!

Personal Profile:

Name: Noelle L. Salamone
 Majors: Actuarial Science and Risk Management
 Graduation Date: May 2005
 Internships:
 Summer 2001, Doyle Consulting;
 Summer 2002, Prudential Financial;
 Summer 2003, ACE International Finance;
 Summer 2004, ACE USA Professional Risk
 Hometown: Norristown, Pennsylvania
 Chapter: Sigma Chapter, Temple University

New Bradley University Chapter

(Continued from page 1)

a strong foundation. Tap into the endless resources at your fingertips within our organization. Future members of Gamma Iota Sigma at Bradley will be the beneficiaries."

Officers for Alpha Phi Chapter are: David J. Printz, President; Chase Morgan, Vice President; Mark C. O'Connor, Secretary; Mathew J. Libby, Treasurer.

Faculty Advisor for Alpha Chi Chapter is Bradley University Professor Lisa Gardner.

Participating in the Alpha Chi Collegiate Chapter chartering ceremony were Middle Tennessee State University Omega Chapter President Paige Shipp and Vice President of Programs Rebecca Newell.

Participating from Temple University Sigma Chapter were President Noelle Salamone, Vice President of Membership Development Sohan Patel, Director of Professional Development Brian Flasiniski, and Director of Membership

Development Dan Reinert.

Representing Grand Chapter were Executive Vice President Dr. Alan C. Williams and Grand Chapter Student Representative Kristen Hachtmann.

Warren L. Weeks, Founder of Gamma Iota Sigma

It is important for each of us to know the history of the fraternity, and we are pleased to present you with some facts about our founder, Warren L. Weeks, CPCU.

As an instructor of multiple line insurance classes in the early 1960's at The Ohio State University, Warren presented the idea of a national insurance fraternity to the students of the OSU Insurance Society. The idea was greeted enthusiastically and after the groundwork was completed, the Alpha Chapter was chartered in 1966.

As a principal in the Weeks-Finneran Insurance Agency of Columbus, Ohio, Warren was very active in the insurance community. In addition to his teaching duties at OSU, he served on the board of directors of the Ohio Casualty and Surety Managers.

He authored articles that appeared in industry publications. He strongly believed that the student members of Gamma Iota Sigma should continue to support professionalism in the insurance industry. He encouraged his students to make it a goal to obtain both the CPCU and CLU designations.

Until his death in 1973, Warren was a driving force behind Gamma Iota Sigma. The fraternity would not have become a reality without his extraordinary dedication and devotion to Gamma Iota Sigma in its formative years. We owe him a huge debt of gratitude.

Pack your walking shoes, Gamma Campers! The 2005 Conference is October 20-23! See page 4.



Don't step in the street fudge: Lessons for your chapter and life!

By Gabe Pringle, Chair, 2005 Conference Planning Committee

Pack your walking shoes, Gamma Campers! And prepare for another great conference hosted by the Alpha Alpha Chapter of Gamma Iota Sigma at Olivet College.



The conference will take place on historic Mackinac Island in northern Michigan, October 20-23, 2005, at the beautiful Mission Point Resort. You'll need walking shoes be-



cause no vehicles are permitted on the island—mass transit consists of bicycles or taxis (horse drawn wagons).

The conference will once again feature great speakers and industry networking, an employer fair, chapter leadership workshops, and the annual awards banquet. We'll try to work in a little fun, too! A scavenger hunt, bonfire and bike ride around the island are currently scheduled.

So shed the transit tickets, leave the bus exhaust behind, and step back in time with us to get back to the basics—in life as well as learning what it takes to lead a great chapter. Make your travel plans now, and don't miss the last boat to the island!

Let us know when you plan to arrive—if a large enough group comes in late, we'll arrange a late boat.

Just don't step in the street fudge!



Gamma Iota Sigma Active Chapter Listing



- Alpha, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH
- Epsilon, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL
- Zeta, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA
- Eta, University of Georgia, Athens, GA
- Theta, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA
- Iota, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL
- Lambda, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC
- Mu, University of Mississippi, University, MS
- Nu, Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, MI
- Xi, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT
- Omicron, Arkansas State University, State University, AR
- Pi, Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS
- Rho, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC
- Sigma, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA
- Tau, Howard University, Washington, DC
- Upsilon, Ferris State University, Big Rapids, MI
- Phi, Ball State University, Muncie, IN
- Psi, Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, KY
- Omega, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN
- Alpha Alpha, Olivet College, Olivet, MI
- Alpha Beta, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA

- Alpha Gamma, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
- Alpha Delta, LaSalle University, Philadelphia, PA
- Alpha Epsilon, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN
- Alpha Zeta, University of Memphis, Memphis, TN
- Alpha Eta, California State University, Sacramento, CA
- Alpha Theta, St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN
- Alpha Iota, St. John's University, New York, NY
- Alpha Kappa, Illinois State University, Normal, IL
- Alpha Lambda, Southwest Missouri State University, Springfield, MO
- Alpha Mu, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA
- Alpha Nu, Ohio University, Athens, OH
- Alpha Xi, Morgan State University, Baltimore, MD
- Alpha Omicron, The University of Hartford, CT
- Alpha Pi, Baylor University, Waco, TX
- Alpha Rho, Fanshawe College, London, Ontario, Canada
- Alpha Sigma, University of Louisiana at Monroe, Monroe, LA
- Alpha Tau, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Charlotte, NC
- Alpha Upsilon, University of Houston, Houston, TX
- Alpha Phi, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA
- Alpha Chi, Bradley University, Peoria, IL



Gamma Iota Sigma

