

NMSU Student Selected for NAPSLO Summer Internship

Approximately 14 students nationwide are selected each year by the National Association of Professional Surplus Lines Offices (NAPSLO) to participate in the Association's 2015 Summer Internship Program.

Selected interns spend five weeks with a NAPSLO member surplus lines insurance company and four weeks with a NAPSLO member wholesale broker; both locations provide a rigorous, hands-on view of the entire operation of the host firms.

Linsey Tabor of New Mexico State University is one of the students selected for this highly competitive internship.



Linsey Tabor

Lindsey is from El Paso, TX, and is pursuing a double major in Finance and Human Resource Management and a minor in Risk Management and Insurance.

In addition to covering travel and housing costs, NAPSLO provides the intern a stipend and the host firms pay a competitive weekly salary.

At the end of the program, several interns will be invited to attend the 2015 NAPSLO Annual Convention in Atlanta. Based on interviews with the members of the Career Awareness & Internship Committee, two interns will be selected as the J.H. Blades Scholar and Bermuda Scholar and will travel to London or Bermuda for three weeks in 2015 to learn more about those unique markets.

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NMSU Student Selected for Anita Benedetti Student Involvement Program



Elizabeth Solomon

Each year the Risk and Insurance Management Society (RIMS) sponsors a group of outstanding students studying risk and insurance management to attend the RIMS Annual Conference & Exhibition.

RIMS provides airfare, hotel expenses, registration, and a small stipend for these students. In 2015, RIMS will sponsor 30 students to attend the RIMS Annual Conference & Exposition in New Orleans.

Elizabeth Solomon has been chosen as one of 30 students nationwide to participate in the Anita Benedetti Student Involvement Program and will attend the RIMS 2015 Annual Conference in New Orleans, LA, in late April.

The RIMS Student Advisory Council received many applications from qualified students, and the selection process was very competitive.

Elizabeth is from Huntingdon Valley, PA, which is a suburb of Philadelphia.

She is majoring in finance and is also pursuing minors in Risk Management & Insurance and Banking. Elizabeth is also a member of the NMSU Equestrian Team.

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RMI Students and Faculty from NMSU Attend Independent Insurance Agents of New Mexico Convention



Students and faculty from NMSU were able to learn more about the insurance industry in New Mexico by experiencing the IIANM annual convention.

NMSU also participated in the vendor trade show with an informational booth at the event. As usual, the students who attended were very impressed by the experience and found it worthwhile.

NMSU Student Attends Western Regional RIMS Conference

Thanks to the generous sponsorship of the Rocky Mountain RIMS Chapter, Fahad Alsebaie was able to attend the 58th Annual Western Regional RIMS Conference in San Diego, CA, this fall. Fahad is from Springfield, IL, and graduated in December of 2014.

Events such as these help immensely in “making the textbook come alive” when discussing risk management and insurance in the classroom. Students are also able to make contacts in the industry and, in some cases, meet other college students who have an interest in risk management and insurance.

For more information on providing support for NMSU students to attend industry or RMI student conferences, please contact Mike McGonigle at 575-646-4091 or mikemc@nmsu.edu.

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Guest Speakers

We had a number of insurance and risk management professionals visiting with RMI students and faculty on campus this past fall. If you have an interest in speaking to students in our RMI courses and/or Gamma Iota Sigma, please contact Mike McGonigle (mikemc@nmsu.edu) or Tim Query (tquery@nmsu.edu).



Tony Martinez, Gina Ortiz, and Kris Sweeney share industry and career advice with students

Speakers included:

- ❖ Ronda Loftin, Risk Placement Services
- ❖ Terri Moran, Vela Insurance Services
- ❖ Tom Kellner, Blue Cross & Blue Shield of NM
- ❖ Ken Miyagishima, Farmers
- ❖ Tony Martinez, Molina Healthcare
- ❖ Kris Sweeney & Gina Ortiz, State Farm
- ❖ Norm Becker & Cindy Mohler, New Mexico Mutual
- ❖ Angela Alverado & Shelaine Ponce, GEICO
- ❖ Chris Behymer, Markel/NAPSLO
- ❖ Michael Villa, Doña Ana County Office of Emergency Management

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Risk Manager in Residence



The Risk Management and Insurance Studies program at NMSU received a grant from the Spencer Educational Foundation to bring an experienced risk manager on campus to visit with our RMI students. This fall we had Gerrie Santos, Vice President of Corporate Risk Management for Parsons Corporation as our “Risk Manager in Residence.”



Gerrie Santos has also worked in engineering and risk management roles for such organizations as the U.S. Navy, Walt Disney Imagineering, and Universal Studios-Orlando. While in Las Cruces she also led RMI students on a “risk walk” around the Mesilla Valley Maze, a very popular attraction in the area. Students learned about steps taken to mitigate risk exposures.

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Academic Activities, Publications & Reviews



July 2014

Tim Query attended the Asia-Pacific Risk and Insurance Association conference at Moscow State University in Moscow, Russia.

Query is a member of the Board of Governors for the APRIA organization.

- Query, J. Tim, 2014, "Diversity in Risk Management Education," *Risk Management* (September) 2014.
- Tim Query reviewed academic articles submitted to the *Financial Services Review* and the *British Journal of Economics, Management & Trade*.

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Kecia (Bradley) Hopper

RMI Alum Focus

Kecia (Bradley) Hopper was born and raised in Clovis, NM.

She attended New Mexico State University and graduated in May 2007 with a Bachelor's degree in Agricultural Economics, Agricultural Business with a minor in Risk Management and Insurance.

Kecia interned with an independent agent during college.

She married her husband Clint and moved to Roswell, NM, after graduating.

Her professor, Al Berryman, introduced her to Larry Marshall, a veteran agent with Farm Bureau Financial Services.

She began working with Larry and his team in June 2007 where they offer multi-line products to help clients manage the everyday risks of life.

Kecia started with personal lines in property and casualty, and now works primarily with life, retirement, and health insurance. She feels blessed to be working with an amazing mentor.



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The major supporters who have made this unique program possible include:

Mountain States Insurance Group
New Mexico Mutual
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of New Mexico
Regulatory Consultants, Inc.
Kemper Insurance Group
Independent Insurance Agents of New Mexico
Manuel Lujan Agencies - now HUB International
JDW Insurance - now HUB International
State Farm Insurance

Memorial and Honor Gifts

Is there someone at your agency or company that you would like to honor or memorialize?
Someone who is/was:

- Critical to the success and growth of your organization.
- Demonstrated integrity and professionalism when dealing with employees or customers.
- Interested in mentoring and providing opportunities for young people.

Consider providing a memorial or honor/legacy gift to celebrate the life and accomplishments of someone important to you. Your tax-deductible donation will support quality education for students in insurance and risk management programs.

For more information, please contact

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