NMSU STUDENTS ATTEND IIANM CONVENTION & JOIN THE INDUSTRY

Three NMSU students attended the fall IIANM convention, Jennifer Fletcher, Travis White, and Alberto Rios. Alberto was so inspired by the Gainsco racing car that he has joined Gainsco in Dallas. Travis White has joined Auto Owners Insurance in Phoenix. Jennifer will be graduating in May and plans on becoming an actuary.

We had three other students who completed the Minor in Insurance in the fall. One has started graduate school and the other two are working in other industries.
FALL INSURANCE CLASSES

We had a total of 93 students in four classes in insurance at NMSU during the last semester. These included two classes of Principles of Insurance and Risk Management, Business Risk Management, and Commercial Property and Casualty Insurance. One of the Principles of Insurance class was conducted online.

In addition to the usual academic work in these classes, students are also able to interact with members of the New Mexico Insurance Industry. During the fall semester this included:

- Quinn Lopez, General Counsel for New Mexico Mutual Group and Randy Mark, fraud investigator, made presentations to Al Berryman's and Tim Query's classes. The subjects were Current Issues in Insurance Regulation, and the economic forecasts for the economy and their impact on insurance companies.


- Karen Anderson, RN, Director of Risk Management for Mountain View Regional Medical Center, spoke to the Business Risk Management class.

- Tyrell Allaire, Risk Mgr for B & D Industries spoke to the Business Risk Management class.

- Gamma Iota Sigma held their last meeting of the semester in a joint session with the Finance Club. Daenon L. Gault-Vasconez, Regional College Recruiter at Geico was the guest speaker. Jennifer Fletcher, one of our students studying for a career as an actuary, was elected president for next semester.

SUMMER INTERNSHIPS NEEDED

We have 13 insurance students who are looking for summer work as interns. These will be juniors or seniors and most have some prior work experience. Our past experience has shown that students who work in our industry are highly likely to join us when they graduate. If you are interested in a summer intern please contact Al Berryman at alberry@nmsu.edu. If you have never had an intern in your company before we can provide you with tips and information on to make this a great experience.
INSURANCE ENDOWMENTS CONTINUE TO GROW

This is a very stressful time for higher education in America. New Mexico, like other states across the country, is reducing the amount of money going to education. One of the ways that universities typically respond is to reduce the number of specialty programs, such as insurance. We are very fortunate in New Mexico to have a permanent endowment that allows us to keep our program available to students.

In 2010 our endowment grew thanks to additional contributions by the following companies:

- New Mexico Mutual $50,000
- Lujan Insurance $10,000
- JDW Insurance $5,000

We appreciate the support that these companies have made to our program.

INSURANCE RESEARCH AT NMSU

Tim Query has continued his highly productive pace of presentations and publications including:


“Does Issuing Driver’s Licenses to Undocumented Immigrants Lower the Percentage of Uninsured Motorists?” (with Risa Kumazawa), presented at the Southern Risk and Insurance Association annual meeting, Charleston, WV (November 2010).

The Insurance and Financial Services Center at New Mexico State University continues to grow our program and to achieve our goals of recruiting college graduates into our industry, educating our students about insurance, and doing relevant insurance research. This program is made possible by our major donors:

Mountain States Insurance Group
New Mexico Mutual Group
Blue Cross & Blue Shield of New Mexico
Regulatory Consultants, Inc
Kemper Insurance Group
Independent Agents of New Mexico
Manual Lujan Agencies
JDW Insurance
State Farm Insurance

For more information on the Insurance Studies Program at NMSU contact:

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