At the spring graduation ceremonies eleven more students will graduate with a Minor in Insurance. They will join over 100 other students who have earned that distinction since the program began in 2006.

We now have graduates in every part of the industry, including claims, actuarial science, marketing risk management, sales and underwriting. They work for independent agencies and companies, direct writers, and even in the New Mexico Department of Insurance.

Recent additions to the insurance industry from NMSU include:

- Rahwa Asghedom, Association of Counties, Santa Fe
- Kyle Mathewson, Kysar Insurance, Farmington
- Aide Salinas, New York Life, El Paso
- Corina Soto, Liberty Mutual, El Paso
- Alex Andrews, Molina Healthcare, Las Cruces

Carin Bennett began as an intern at Pat Campbell Insurance the summer of 2006 and moved into a part-time position while completing her last semester at NMSU. During her last semester she was also able to take an Independent Study course and get college credit for passing her licensing exam while also fulfilling a job requirement.

Carin graduated with a degree in Business Administration in Finance with a minor in Insurance in December 2006 and was offered a full-time position as a Commercial Lines Account Manager starting January of 2007.

Carin was moved to a Team Leader position in March of 2007 and promoted to Commercial Lines Department Manager in September of 2010.
STUDENTS ATTEND RIMS CONFERENCE

Seven NMSU Risk Management and Insurance students attended the Risk and Insurance Management Society (RIMS) meeting in Los Angeles in late April. One of our students, Alexander Andrews, was one of only about 30 students nationwide to receive the Anita Benedetti Student Involvement Award. This is the 6th year in a row that at least one NMSU student has received this recognition. Funding for students to attend the RIMS conference is generously provided by the Rocky Mountain and Arizona Central RIMS Chapters. Pictured above are students and faculty from NMSU along with some other RMI students and faculty from St. Joseph’s University at the opening reception.

THREE STUDENTS EARN RISK MANAGEMENT DESIGNATIONS

Three students, Florence Kone, Samantha Romero, and Sharon Suhr, have earned the University Associate Certified Risk Manager (UACRM) designation from the National Alliance for Insurance Education & Research, by passing both the national exam from the Alliance and the Business Risk Management class at NMSU.

The students earned credit toward two parts of the distinguished Certified Risk Manager (CRM) designation offered by the Alliance.
The students in the national insurance and risk management fraternity (GIS) at NMSU have had an active year. In addition to having insurance speakers attend their monthly meetings to describe the opportunities in the industry, they also assisted with the 5th annual “Buddy Walk” for the Southern New Mexico Down Syndrome Families and the American Cancer Society “Walk for Life”.

If you would like to visit with students who are interested in our industry please contact Tim Query. Also, if you would be interested in hosting a student for a day or two of job shadowing, to give them a better view of what various careers in the insurance profession encounter on a typical day, please contact us.

Tim Query attended the Southwestern Finance Association meeting in Albuquerque in March. He was a discussant on one paper and also presented a co-authored paper titled "Agency Problems and Lobbying Activity by Insurer Groups."

Tim Query has a paper proposal submitted to the Asia-Pacific Risk and Insurance Association meeting, which will be held in New York City in late July.

Each year the Insurance Center gives an award to the outstanding insurance graduate. The award is based upon both scholarship and involvement in the insurance industry. This year’s recipient is Jamie Snapp from Farmington, New Mexico. Jamie is the president of Gamma Iota Sigma and completed an internship with Northwestern Mutual. She recently passed the first examination toward the Associate in Risk Management designation.
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
- JDW Insurance
- State Farm Insurance

Special thank you for our latest insurance scholarship from Mountain States Insurance Group!!!