

Gamma Iota Sigma

Knowledge-Brotherhood-Leadership-Professionalism-Community Involvement

Adventure Awaits New Pledges

Being Director of Recruitment and Ritual this semester has been exciting. I've had a blast planning recruitment week and I am looking forward to the new members joining our chapter. This semester's recruitment theme was "Gamma Goes Global" which ran from February 11th to February 16th! We had a week full of fun events, with friends, food, and prizes. To start the week of events, we had the Meet and Greet on Monday. We met many potential new members and had a great time getting to know them and talking about our favorite things about Gamma Iota Sigma. On Wednesday, we had our International Game Night. This event consisted of many activities to compete against each other, such as a paper airplane toss, a flag guessing game, a chopsticks challenge, a language guessing game, and much more! There was also a variety of international food such as "spicy" noodles, brownies with the Gamma Iota Sigma symbol on them, and international soda candy. Our final event was playing Glow in the Dark Golf on Thursday, where members, new and old, played 18 holes of mini-golf then ate homemade Rice Krispie treats and chips in the party room. All of our current and potential members seemed to love our recruitment events for the week!

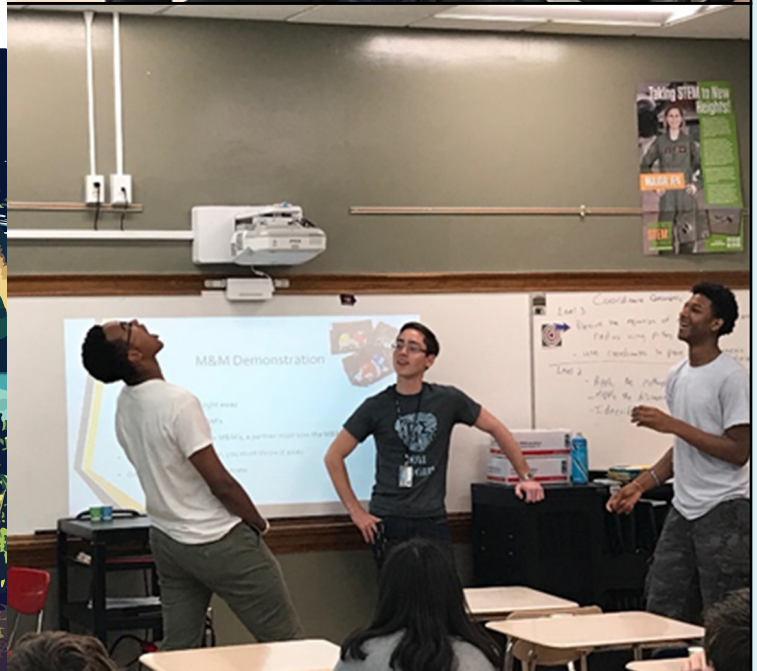
With all of the success of recruitment week, I am happy to announce that we had three amazing pledges to be activated this semester in the Nu class! The Incredibles has Jacob Pearson; the Actuarial Models has Lee Kai Yee; and Risky Business has Eddie Kwek. The pledge class president this semester is Jacob Pearson and he is in the process of planning a cook off between the pledges with different courses and EC as the judges. Everyone is already very active in Gamma in attending events, completing requirements, participating in the Big Little Scavenger Hunt, and overall bonding with the current members. I'm excited to see everything the Nu class will do in Gamma.

Noah Osorio



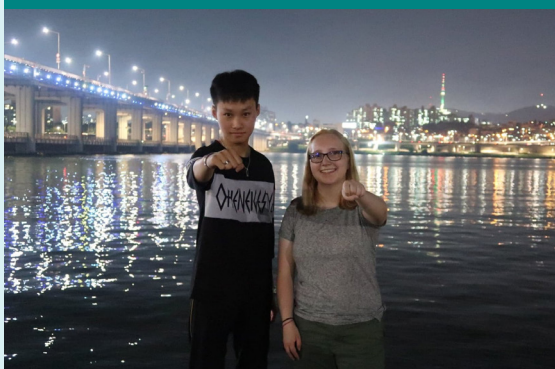
Helping Students See A New World

Grand Chapter has supported a program called the GIS Ambassador Program. In this program, members of GIS present to local high school students on both studying a risk management, insurance, or actuarial science related field. The goal of this program is to help students find a meaningful career path that they otherwise would not have known about and to increase knowledge of the insurance industry and the actuarial field as a whole. The Chi chapter has conducted ambassador visits to 5 high schools speaking with over 600 students! We hope to continue this great step towards supporting the mission of both grand chapter and the industry. In order to do this, we have created a how-to guide to make it easier for members to partake in the program. This includes an email, presentation template and guidelines on how to prepare. Another great opportunity that is related to the Ambassador program is a new competition created by the Actuarial Foundation called the Model the Future Challenge. This is a real-world data analytics, mathematical modeling, and actuarial science competition for high school students. Members of the Chi chapter had the opportunity to help students at Waukee High School during the first year of the competition. If you would like to support or take part in the GIS Ambassador Program please reach out to gammaiota@drake.edu.





#GammaGoesGlobal



For those who don't know me I am Marissa Owens and this past summer I got the best experience of my life by going to South Korea to study at Korea University for 6 weeks. To start off, the people in my program were amazing. The TEAN Network provided amazing support through the whole trip and took us to a few places along the way. My first full day in Seoul, I got to go into the Gyeongbokgung Place which is in the heart of Seoul! This was where Hangul, the language of Korea was written. We also went to Lotte World (an inside and outdoor amusement park in Seoul), taekwondo lessons, of course a KPOP flash mob, playing basketball with the KU team, skating with the KU hockey team and many more. The first thing they did with us was getting authentic Korean BBQ nearby campus and telling us what there is to do in Seoul. We also got to have a talk with a North Korean escapee. His story was very depressing but filled with hope. My roommate in Korea has a grandfather who had escaped from North Korea and that story was close to her heart. Honestly, I can go on and on about all I did this summer. If you want to know more feel free to reach out to me at marissa.owens@drake.edu or find me on Facebook



Vacation plans fall through? Donate that money to Gamma Iota Sigma

Ever since I was little, I have dreamt of studying abroad in some far off land. What I never dreamed was that it would be in Salzburg, Austria. Quite frankly, I was unaware it existed until stumbling upon it in my program search. During this trip, I have experienced something different from what I have been used to in my actuarial studies. Instead of struggling with math problems, I have been struggling to adapt to the culture and learn a new language. Despite the lack of sufficient WiFi, I have fallen in love with this country and all it has to offer. Its location is pretty central in Europe, so I have been able to travel all around. My program had a weekend excursion to Vienna. My favorite part of that trip was attending a Mozart and Strauss concert. The Wiener Schnitzel was yummy and all, but Vienna is nothing without classical music from the plethora of Austrian composers. I went to Temple Bar in Dublin with some girls from my program back in October which, to my delight, was already decorated for Christmas. Studying abroad has been the best decision of my life. It has really opened my eyes to what is out there. Before this semester, I had never left the US and Canada, so everything has been new to me. As Arnold Schwarzenegger says "I'll be back..."

-Lily Hull



Gamma Goes Into the World

I can't believe how fast time goes by. Just a year ago I had graduated from Drake University and was bored while waiting to start full-time at Travelers. Now, I'm trying to keep up with work, studying and wedding planning. The past year has been filled with so many exciting opportunities. I served as the International Student Representative for GIS from Oct 2017-Oct 2018 and I'd love to share how I was involved. First, it was great to getting to know the GIS grand chapter staff better. These women work very hard to make GIS run smoothly and you may not even notice it as a member or as an alumnus. I also got to know the GIS Board of Trustees and Executive Council. These groups are made up of leaders from well-known insurance companies, consulting companies, insurance education, and other organizations. We met two times last year to discuss new initiatives, marketing, funding, regional conferences, etc. As ISR I was involved with helping wherever grand chapter needed me. Before my term ended, I got to assist grand chapter at the International Conference in Chicago. I was so happy to see other alumnus there as well! Next year's conference is in Dallas so I hope that those of you in the area will attend. Throughout my time as ISR, I gained a great appreciation for all of the work that is done behind the scenes to give GIS such a great reputation in the insurance industry. I hope to see you all around in the future, whether that be at the Drake Actuarial Career Fair, future GIS events, or anywhere else.



My name is Ty Albrecht, and I work as an Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) Analyst for American Equity Investment Life Insurance Company. In this role, I assist with risk governance, which includes managing the risk registry. The registry groups similar risks into categories named 'risk pillars', lists strategies for mitigating these risks, and includes ratings for likelihood and impact. From these ratings we can produce reports/dashboards for management that describe the status of the risks in each risk pillar. I have also been learning about best practices for Model Risk Management, including validating that our models are functioning in the way they were designed and being interpreted correctly. In the next few months I will be assisting with stress testing under various potential economic scenarios. Although I'm not working in a traditional entry-level actuarial role, I still have the opportunity to continue sitting for actuarial exams. It's been eye-opening to see rating agencies adapt their standards for evaluating a company's ERM even within the first 3 months I've been on the job – things change very quickly and there is always something new to learn every day.