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## Upcoming Events

**March 5**

[A Tornado of Activity: Did Chicago-Area Spinoffs Enhance Value?](#)

[Register](#)

**April 2**

[NIRI in Your Neighborhood North Suburban Breakfast](#)

[Register](#)

**April 9**

[Winds of Change: Compliance, Disclosure & Accountability in Today's 24/7 World](#)

[Register](#)

### Save the Date

**June 19**

NIRI-Chicago Annual Meeting and Social  
Vertigo Sky Lounge

**September 19**

NIRI-Chicago IR Workshop

**Check Out NIRI-Chicago's Mobile App**

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## From the President



Given January's poor equity performance, who would have guessed that February would see a rebound of the S&P 500 -- or that within just a week of the Sochi Olympics closing ceremonies, the news from Russia would take such a major detour from the international goodwill the games were intended to promote? It's clear that we are in for more rollercoaster-type volatility as the latest developments of the Ukrainian-Russian conflict unfold and the uncertainty spills over to the financial markets.

Fast-moving global news, volatile markets, the latest Carl Icahn missile, a major new investor in your stock, earnings exceeding or missing guidance and having an effect on an entire market sector, not just your stock. Do you ever feel as if you might miss something if you just blink?

That's why your chapter works hard to develop interesting educational programs to keep you abreast of IR trends and best practices -- while offering opportunities to network with fellow IR professionals and colleagues.

From 5 to 6 p.m. on [Wednesday, March 5](#), we'll hear from activist investor Jake Welch of ValueAct Capital, Shep Dunlap of Motorola Solutions and Brian Lantz of Fortune Brands Home & Security on corporate spinoffs to enhance value. I hope you'll join Jeff Bailey, Y Charts editor and former *Wall Street Journal* editor and reporter, in asking our panelists about their experiences and predictions. We'll enjoy a reception following the discussion.

With this newsletter, NIRI-Chicago also welcomes a new platinum sponsor, SNL IR Solutions. We hope you'll take the time to learn more about SNL's website management and other online investor relations services, as well as to click through to the "[valued partners](#)" section of our website.

As we begin planning for next year's programs, we ask that you

## Photo of the Month



Join our volunteers  
(pictured: 2013 IR Workshop  
Committee)

participate in the survey that Rivel will conduct for us later this month. Let me also invite you to become more involved with your chapter -- for example, as a volunteer for our fall IR Workshop and other programs.

Finally, don't forget to register for the NIRI Annual Conference at the Bellagio Hotel in Las Vegas from June 8 to 11. Chicago Chapter Board members Ruth Venning of Hospira and Elizabeth Allen of FedEx are serving on the 2014 Annual Conference Committee this year, so we can expect interesting and informative programming for senior IROs, newbies and everyone in between. (Don't forget, "What happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas.")

In the meantime, think spring.

Best regards,  
[Elizabeth Higashi](#)  
President, NIRI-Chicago

## Our Sponsors

### Platinum



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### Silver



## In the News

- Underperforming companies attempt to [appease](#) executive compensation critics.
- How big a deal are "[stealth IPOs](#)"?
- [Survey](#): CFOs pursue M&A despite poor results. (63% of respondents said their companies pursued three or more deals in the past two years, but 51% said they fell somewhat or significantly below their desired rates of return on completed deals.)
- [Slate's](#) "inside" view of the Comcast-Time Warner deal.
- [Wealth addiction](#) and another road [not traveled](#).
- A [cheat sheet](#) on how to read President Obama's new budget

## NIRI-Chicago Member News

[Share](#) your news (job changes, awards, interesting articles) -- and thanks for reading the MEMBER CONNECTION.

**Maryellen Thielen**  
Vice President, Communications  
NIRI-Chicago



Special thanks to  
[Paragraphs Design](#)  
for the creation of our Member  
Connection masthead and  
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