

NEWS RELEASE



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NIRI-Chicago Elects 2018-2019 Officers and Directors

CHICAGO – June 27, 2018 – The Chicago Chapter of the National Investor Relations Institute (NIRI-Chicago) has elected 12 officers and directors to its board for the 2018-2019 term, effective July 1.

“Our chapter provides a wide range of professional development and networking opportunities to help investor relations professionals stay abreast of trends and effectively represent their companies to institutional investors and other stakeholders,” said Elizabeth Allen, incoming chapter president. “We look forward to providing a dynamic year of programs, including our full-day Investor Relations Workshop to be held on Friday, Sept. 28.”

The NIRI-Chicago Chapter board members for 2018-2019:

Officers

President: Elizabeth R. Allen, CFA, staff director, investor relations, FedEx Corp. (NYSE: FDX). Allen earlier was the chapter’s executive vice president and vice president of membership, and a member of the NIRI Annual Conference committee for three years. She is a member of the NIRI Senior Roundtable.

Executive Vice President: Leslie H. Kratcoski, IRC, vice president, investor relations, Snap-on Incorporated (NYSE: SNA). This is Kratcoski’s second year on the NIRI-Chicago board; she chaired the 2017 IR Workshop and is a member of the NIRI Senior Roundtable. Kratcoski previously was a board member of NIRI-Atlanta and served as its program chair.

Vice President, Programs: Victor Jendras, managing director, Q4 Inc. This is Jendras’ second year in this role on the NIRI-Chicago board.

Vice President, Communications: Maryellen T. Thielen, APR, ABC, president, Forest Glen Communications LLC. Thielen has held this role on the board and IR Workshop committee for several years and earlier was a NIRI-Chicago chairman, president and executive vice president.

Vice President, Membership: Lisa M. Gregory, CFA, vice president, investor relations, Anixter International (NYSE: AXE). Gregory previously was NIRI-Chicago chairman, president, executive vice president and programs co-chair.

Vice President, Treasurer: Ruth E. Venning, executive director, investor relations, Horizon Pharma (NASDAQ: HZNP). Venning previously was NIRI-Chicago chairman, president, executive vice president, and vice president of programs, communications and membership. She is a director on the NIRI national board and member of the NIRI Senior Roundtable, served

on the NIRI Annual Conference committee from 2013 to 2015, and chaired the NIRI-Chicago IR Workshop for several years.

Vice President, Sponsorship: Christine J. Hanneman, principal, Professional Communications Specialists. Hanneman earlier served as vice president-treasurer.

Directors

Chairman: Dee Johnson, principal, Dee Johnson Investor Communications LLC. Johnson previously was the chapter's president and executive vice president, served on the membership and IR Workshop committees, and chaired the 2015 IR Workshop. Before relocating to Chicago, she was president of NIRI St. Louis.

Director: Shep Dunlap, vice president of investor relations, Mondelez International (NASDAQ: MDLZ). Dunlap is a director on the NIRI national board and member of the NIRI Senior Roundtable, was co-chair of the 2015 NIRI Annual Conference committee and has served on the NIRI-Chicago IR Workshop committee.

Director: Larry Larsen, LBL Communications Inc. Larsen previously was NIRI-Chicago chairman, president, executive vice president, programs co-chair and chair of the 2013 IR Workshop committee.

Director: Terri Anne Powers, vice president, investor relations at Diplomat Pharmacy, Inc. (NYSE: DPLO). Powers was a member of the 2017 NIRI Annual Conference committee, NIRI-Chicago vice president of programs and co-chair of the 2014 IR Workshop committee.

Director: Victoria Sivrais, founding partner, Clermont Partners. Sivrais previously was NIRI-Chicago chairman, president, executive vice president, programs co-chair, treasurer, co-chair of the 2012 IR Workshop committee and chair of the 2011 IR Workshop committee. She is chairing the 2018 NIRI Annual Conference committee and served on the 2016 and 2015 conference committees.

Departing Board Member

The chapter extends its gratitude to **Monica Gupta**, financial communications manager, W.W. Grainger, Inc., who is stepping off the board after serving as vice president of membership.

The Chicago chapter of the National Investor Relations Institute (NIRI-Chicago) provides professional development and networking opportunities to practitioners of investor relations, a strategic management responsibility that integrates finance, communication, marketing and securities law compliance. For more information, visit www.niri-chicago.org.

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