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**Upcoming Events**

**March 29**

**[ESG Mini-Workshop: Navigating the Brave New World of ESG](#)**

**[Register](#)**

**April 8**

**[How IR Can Become the Board's Valued Partner](#)**

**[Register](#)**

**Photo of the Month**



NIRI members gathered to discuss top-of-mind issues at February's NIRI in Your Neighborhood Breakfast Roundtable

**Recent NIRI-Chicago Meeting Recaps**

Unable to attend a recent event? Event recaps can be found by clicking the links below.

[November 2018: Why ETFs and Passive Investing Matter to Your Company](#)



**From the President**

I have been a part of the ESG reporting team at FedEx for 15 years. What started as an effort to understand and efficiently manage the growing number of surveys we received has become a company-wide effort to drive beneficial change. FedEx now has a comprehensive, annual [Global Citizenship Report](#) which includes multi-year goals for fuel use and sourcing, community investment and energy efficiency at our facilities.

I can vouch for the fact that the ESG movement has come a long way in the past 15 years -- and it is taking on much greater importance as a new generation of investors steps into leadership positions. Join us on Friday, March 29 for a morning workshop to dive into the ESG issues you face as an investor relations officer. Learn from others and share what you know. I hope to see you there!

Elizabeth Allen  
NIRI-Chicago President

**In the News**

- About 85% of S&P 500 companies publish CSR reports -- but stakeholders [complain](#) about the content and want more substantive info ranging from [human capital](#) and [sustainability](#).
- [CFA Institute survey](#): MiFID II has reduced research coverage, particularly in small and mid-cap equities.
- [New research](#): BlackRock, State Street and Vanguard often vote in favor of short-term proxy proposals.
- [Activist investors](#) won 161 board seats in 2018, up 56% from a year earlier.
- The SEC continues to scrutinize use of [non-GAAP](#) numbers.
- [Survey](#): 55% of finance professionals lack confidence in their ability to spot financial errors before reporting results.
- [Opinion](#): Index fund providers need to offer more transparency and accountability.

[May 2018: How to Effectively Engage and Compete for Capital](#)

[April 2018: The Long and the Short of It: Options, Market Intelligence and Volatility](#)

[March 2018: Strategic Investor Days](#)

[January 2018: Alternative Paths for an IRO](#)

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

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**NIRI-Chicago Member News**

Welcome to NIRI-Chicago's newest members: **Clayton Lawnicki**, director of CEO operations and investor relations, Motorola Solutions, Inc.; **Caitlin Markle**, director, Clermont Partners, LLC; **Voula Pope**, global broker relations & corporate access manager, William Blair and Company.

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

Maryellen Thielen  
Vice President, Communications  
NIRI-Chicago

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