



**In This Issue**

- [From the President](#)
- [Article Headline](#)
- [In the News](#)
- [Member News](#)

**Upcoming Events**

**May 10**  
**[ESG Mini-Workshop:  
 Navigating the Brave New  
 World of ESG](#)**  
[Register](#)

**May 16**  
**[Tour of CDW Distribution  
 Center](#)**  
 (followed by drinks/bites at  
 Nirvana Wine and Grillerie)  
[Register](#)

**June 2**  
**[Chapter Bash at NIRI National  
 Conference](#)**  
[Register](#)

**June 19**  
**[NIRI-Chicago Annual Meeting  
 and Social](#)**  
[Register](#)

**August 21**  
**[A Summer Night Under the  
 Stars at Wrigley](#)**  
[Register](#)

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**September 20**  
**2019 IR Workshop**



**From the President**

As NIRI prepares to celebrate the 50th anniversary of its founding, NIRI President and CEO Gary LaBranche recently looked [back 25 years](#) at trends that helped shape IR, as a prelude to announcing a white paper to be published and discussed by members of the [Think Tank on the Future of Investor Relations](#) at the [annual conference](#) in June. We have a strong contingent from Chicago attending the conference. Please join us on Sunday afternoon for our [chapter gathering](#) before the event officially begins.

NIRI-Chicago will celebrate the same milestone in 2021 -- but it's never too early to look back on our chapter's role over the years. Some thoughts from a few of our longstanding members:

"I've been in IR for 29 years and a member of NIRI and NIRI-Chicago from the start of my IR career. A lot has changed in IR over that time, but one thing hasn't changed. NIRI and NIRI-Chicago have always offered a strong network of colleagues to contact for help and advice, outstanding information on investor relations, and resources on any situation that one can imagine facing. I have always been amazed and grateful that the members are so willing to help each other. Even more important, many of these colleagues also have become good friends."

-- Christine Hanneman  
 Professional Communications Specialists

"On both the national and local levels, NIRI offers fabulous learning and networking opportunities. As an IR professional and NIRI member for 27 years, I've gained invaluable knowledge, experience and friendships. Being involved in NIRI and serving on the NIRI-Chicago board have leveraged and strengthened my leadership skills. Collaborating, aligning and partnering with professionals from other organizations -- each with their own priorities and pressures -- to achieve chapter goals truly has been an invaluable leadership experience."

-- Lisa Ciota  
 Lead-IR Advisors, Inc.

### Photo of the Month



Our April panel gave insights on how IR can become a Board's valued partner.

### Recent NIRI-Chicago Meeting Recaps

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

[April 2019: How IR Can Become the Board's Valued Partner](#)

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

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

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

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

[Download on iOS](#)  
[Download on Android](#)

**E**GROUPS



"NIRI has been instrumental to my success in the field of investor relations. It all started in 2007 when I attended a 3-day introduction to investor relations seminar led by veteran IR professionals. That base knowledge on best practices quickly led me to the head of investor relations at OfficeMax. I have continually encountered new challenges as I helped to navigate and advise executive management teams through various corporate actions, initiatives, and crises. I am now an Investor Relations Charterholder and the head of investor relations at Zebra Technologies. I continue to stay curious on new and improved ways to improve the investor relations function. To this day, I continue to rely on the strong network of investor relations professionals that I have built through years at the national and chapter level of NIRI, including the senior roundtable. I have also enjoyed giving back to the organization that has served me well - this has included being a board member of the Chicago chapter of NIRI, as well as various panel discussions and volunteer assignments."

-- Mike Steele  
Zebra Technologies Corporation

There's always lots going on at NIRI-Chicago. Please join us on May 10 for our deep dive into environmental, social and governance topics at our [half-day workshop](#). ([Register.](#)) RSVP now for our May 16 [site tour](#) of the CDW distribution center in Vernon Hills. ([Register.](#)) We won't stop when summer arrives, either -- although it's been a long time coming, with two Chicago snowstorms in April. Come to our [annual meeting](#) on the rooftop of Groupon's corporate headquarters on June 19 and sign up now for one of the limited number of tickets for our [Cubs outing](#) on August 21.

See you there!

Elizabeth Allen  
NIRI-Chicago President

### April Event Highlights

Read our [April event summary](#) for insights on how IROs can become more effective partners with their companies' boards of directors.

### In the News

- [Social media risks](#) are increasing for research firms.
- An inside look at [IPO listing decisions](#).
- Lies, damn lies and statistics? Huge swings in [median worker pay](#) from year 1 to year 2.
- [Lessons](#) from the Theranos whistleblower.
- Proxy season [preview](#).
- [Environmental and social proposals](#) have become more successful, winning record levels of support (still only 24% on average) -- but a record 48% were filed and then

withdrawn (indicating that more companies may be agreeing to some demands).

- Are you ready for your stock to become a [digital security](#)?

---

## NIRI-Chicago Member News

Welcome to NIRI-Chicago's newest member: **Timothy Gerdeman**, partner, Lincoln Churchill Advisors.

Congratulations to Elizabeth Saunders of Clermont Partners, who was named to the [2019 Class of NIRI Fellows](#). As NIRI's highest recognition, the program has honored 31 members to date who "epitomize the leadership, integrity, involvement and contributions of investor relations professionals."

Congratulations to NIRI-Chicago members with milestone NIRI anniversaries January through May:

### 5 years

**Chris Kutsor**, Motorola Solutions, Inc.

**Lori Lauber**, Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc.;

**Jennifer Leone**, Computershare/Georgeson

**Charlie Zade**, Computershare/Georgeson

### 10 years

**Robert Cherry**, Regal Beloit Corporation

**Lisa Gregory**, Grainger

### 20 years

**Janet Halpin**, LSC Communications

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

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

---

## Our Sponsors

Gold



Silver



**Annual In-Kind Sponsors**



**One-Time Program Sponsor**

