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RISKWORLD Kicks Off with Goodell Award and Past Presidents' Ceremony

In the Skyline Ballroom at McCormick Place on May 5, risk management veteran Randy Nornes received the Harry and Dorothy Goodell Award, RIMS' most prestigious honor, named for the Society's very first president Harry E. Goodell.

The Goodell Award recognizes individuals who have advanced the goals of the Society and the risk management discipline through outstanding service and achievement. Nornes has made a lasting impact on the profession, having spent nearly 38 years at Aon in various roles, and currently serves as EVP for Enterprise Client Partner, Technology Media and Communications Industry.

Randy Nornes has long been recognized as a visionary in the field of risk management, credited with introducing transformative ideas that have shaped the industry. In the late 1980s and early 1990s, he played a pivotal role in bringing international directors and officers (D&O) insurance to the market. He was also an early advocate for enterprise risk management (ERM), promoting the concept well before it became mainstream.

Over the years, Randy has continued to lead innovation, driving forward parametric

insurance solutions in 2004, spotlighting reputation risk in 2006, and pioneering integrated reinsurance strategies in 2010. More recently, he has focused on developing insurance solutions for the digital economy, including revolutionary work for Uber, Lyft, and Airbnb.

Through his forward-thinking approach, Randy has helped organizations not only manage complex risks but also capitalize on new opportunities.

Following Nornes' address, RIMS CEO Gary LaBranche and 2025 RIMS President Kristen Peed welcomed the audience and invited 14 past RIMS presidents and former RIMS CEO Mary Roth to the stage to commemorate the organization's 75 years of history—the largest assembly of its kind.

RIMS started as the National Association of Insurance Buyers in 1950. Over the years, the organization evolved—renamed the American Society of Insurance Management in 1955 and ultimately becoming RIMS in 1975. RIMS is driven by the dedication of hundreds of volunteers and committed risk professionals, whose efforts have built a vibrant and resilient community. ■

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2025 RIMS Chapter Awards

by Eric Bernard

The 2025 RIMS Chapter Awards were held at the Chapter Leadership Forum at RISKWORLD on Sunday, May 4. Three RIMS chapters were honored for their work and received cash awards to recognize their accomplishments. The Greater Bluegrass chapter was named RIMS Chapter of the Year for the second year in a row. The Oregon and Atlanta chapters also earned chapter recognition awards. The Detroit chapter earned the DEI Chapter Leadership Award.

RIMS Chapter of the Year: Greater Bluegrass

The Greater Bluegrass chapter is entering its third year as a RIMS local chapter. Each year, Greater Bluegrass gains momentum in membership growth, student engagement, and sponsor engagement.

The Greater Bluegrass chapter experienced a 27.7% growth in 2024 and achieved an impressive retention rate of 85.5%. This progress demonstrates the continued excitement and engagement surrounding the chapter. The chapter's ongoing initiatives, such as college outreach and enhanced sponsor participation aids them in reaching their membership recruitment and retention goals.

The chapter has also made significant progress in committee development. The Greater Bluegrass chapter events committee, initially started with just three members and has grown to 10 active members, allowing the execution of larger and more diverse events. The college outreach committee, which started with three professional members now has eight professional members and five student members, which increased their capacity to connect with and support college students pursuing careers in risk management.

In 2024, they also saw a 63.6% increase in sponsorship and a 39% increase in their LinkedIn following resulting in a consistent rise in engagement with the risk management community in Kentucky.



RIMS Chapter Award: Oregon

Rebuilding in-person meeting attendance and engagement in a virtual world can be quite challenging, but the Oregon chapter proved they were up to the challenge with high-quality educational content and strategic partnerships.

It was an eventful year for the chapter with lots of fun and high attendance. The chapter made sure that members and partners had at least one event to participate in every month, which included sponsoring a few members to attend RISKWORLD and the Western Regional Conference. In 2024, the Oregon chapter saw an attendance of more than 375 attendees at the Western Regional.

Additionally, the Oregon chapter's Annual President's dinner in April 2024 attracted a record number of past chapter presidents, which allowed for meaningful engagement between current and former leadership. Lastly, the chapter was able to exceed its sponsorship goal by \$2,500 which aided in the success of their events.



Chapter of the Year **Greater Bluegrass**



Chapter Award **Oregon Chapter**

2025 RIMS Chapter Awards *(continued from page 3)*



Chapter Award Atlanta Chapter

RIMS Chapter Award: Atlanta

Atlanta is well known for its huge population of students that attend historically black colleges and universities (HBCU). Outreach to Georgia's HBCUs began several years ago and was initiated with limited resources. However, through persistence and a continual search for the right contacts, the chapter made headway with Morehouse and Clark Atlanta. By utilizing the Chapter's financial health and partnering with the Spencer Educational Foundation, they've been able to influence Savannah State to offer a risk management course.

The chapter was also able to work with Georgia State University to encourage them to pay for student registration for the annual Education Conference. The result was greater student attendance at the event than they had ever seen historically with 73 students in total. Notably, 46 of these students were from Georgia State University. The mentoring committee is continually looking for ways to improve and include outside input from CPCU mentoring, as well as from students themselves which should bring greater effectiveness.

In support of the key risk management programs in the state, the chapter set another record by making donations of \$95,000 each to the University of Georgia and to Georgia State University. Thanks to the success in fundraising activities the chapter had the ability to make these outsized one-time contributions.



DEI Chapter Leadership Award Detroit Chapter

RIMS DEI Chapter Leadership Award: Detroit

Over the past year, the RIMS Detroit Chapter has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to DEI through impactful events, strategic partnerships, and community engagement. A standout initiative was the Black History Month collaborative event with NAAIA Michigan, hosted at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, which drew over 120 attendees from across Michigan.

The chapter has strategically allocated over \$30,000 in event funding and scholarships, including scholarships for college students pursuing careers in risk and insurance. Most events are free to members, which encouraged greater participation, and more than 100 volunteer hours have been invested to support these programs. Notably, Detroit RIMS partnered with WTW to host a Women in Automotive Risk event, spotlighting women in leadership and reinforcing the importance of mentorship and representation in male-dominated sectors.

Detroit RIMS has also built strong relationships with seven key partners, including Marsh, Aon, Liberty Mutual, and academic institutions, helping to reach over 250 individuals from diverse backgrounds through outreach and workshops. With a dedicated DEI committee, clear performance metrics for leadership, and intentional community investment, Detroit RIMS is advancing meaningful, measurable progress in DEI and exemplifies what it means to lead with purpose and inclusion. ■

RISKWORLD RIMS Leadership Forum



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Q & A



“The plan starts with you. You need nothing outside of yourself to be great...”

Lead to Win: An Interview with RISKWORLD 2025 Keynote Ryan Harris

Ryan Harris will be the first Super Bowl Champion to grace a RISKWORLD stage, when on May 6, the former Denver Broncos offensive lineman will present “Lead to Win.” In this TED-style keynote, he’ll draw from his decades in the NFL and new career as a sports broadcaster to motivate and inspire the audience of global risk professionals.

Harris joined RIMS to discuss the components of championship leadership, emphasizing how the direction from which leaders operate shapes their effectiveness.

RIMS: Ryan, why are you so excited to kick off RISKWORLD 2025?

Ryan Harris: I just love the idea that you’re going to have professionals together to find groundbreaking solutions and try new things. That’s how you win in football and that’s how you win in life. I can’t wait to be a part of an entire convention of people looking for how they can build their skills for tomorrow.

RIMS: One of your big risks occurred in your post-NFL career, when you entered broadcasting. You were new to it but tackled it with a plan. Tell us about that plan.

RH: I wanted to go into broadcasting because I tell people all the time, I got my doctorate in “applied football mechanics and theory.” I could use all this knowledge I had built, and I got selected by the NFL to come to a broadcast boot camp where they put you around the best of the best in the broadcast industry. And on the last day, one of the presenters said, “Go to your alma mater and work your way up.” I drove from that symposium to Notre Dame, and that’s where I got my first broadcasting job.

I think it started with me listening, taking action, and telling people, “Hey, look, this is something I want to do. I want to get involved here.” Sure, you have to kind of work for free sometimes to get started. But eventually, you don’t. Everyone can sit on the couch and say they want to do something. The difference is the people who put their feet where they want to be.

RIMS: As an NFL veteran shifting to sports broadcasting, you had an “in.” But did you need outside partners to

launch this phase of your professional journey?

I did not have to go to anybody else, like an agent or business manager. The plan starts with you. You need nothing outside of yourself to be great, and you cannot expect other people to work harder for you and your goals than you’re working toward them.

RIMS: You seem like a very optimistic person. Can we expect this level of positivity during your appearance at RISKWORLD?

RH: You bet. Positivity is one of the most important elements, as well, of success. When you’re in the NFL, there are what they call “dog days,” where you’re in training camp, your fifth day of going against grown men who have pads on, trying to break your spleen in every play. That gets tough. But that’s when you get [to embrace it], and say “let’s rock to roll, man.” What choice do you have? Do you think that astronauts like their head rattling against the seat cage on their way to space? No, but that’s what it takes and that’s why you better find a way to stay positive.

It is so easy to be negative. It is so easy to fall into a trap of “I was done wrong,” or “this didn’t go my way.” That’s going to happen. And I understand that, but I’m just telling you, it’s a far better experience to be positive and to look at the obstacles that are in front of you, the things that you can do, the skills you can add to be successful, and the positivity keeps you moving faster toward that direction. ■

Be sure to attend the Main Stage keynote in the Skyline Ballroom at McCormick Place – West Building on May 6 at 1:15 pm.

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425**

Fire Protection Engineering

Natural Hazard Analysis

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**Jurisdictional Boiler & Pressure
Vessel Inspections**

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Infrared Thermographic Surveys

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Session Spotlight

Effective Captive Utilization

by Anne Marie Towle, CEO of Global Risk and Captive Solutions, Hylant

In today's world, managing your risk efficiently and effectively enterprise-wide is necessary. With more major catastrophic events happening around the globe and potential supply chain interruption, organizations are turning their attention to their existing captive insurance company or even evaluating the setup of a captive.

Risk management tools are essential for identifying, evaluating, and mitigating potential organizational risks. With data from their own loss experience, benchmarking, and other industry information, risk managers are better equipped than ever to decide on a risk financing strategy through a captive. The data is truly key to placing an organization in the driver's seat for determining optimal risk retention in a captive.

How do you design a strategy to utilize your captive more effectively for your organization? Knowing and understanding your captive's guiding principles and aligning them with the parent company's goals and objectives is paramount to developing a short-, medium-, and long-term strategy.

The Tuesday RISKWORLD session, "Effective Captive Utilization," will provide critical information on developing guiding principles, governance, and customizing a strategy that will be most effective for organizations.

"Risk professionals know too well the hard market of the past few years and are balancing how to budget for insurance increases; as such, many are looking at expanding their existing captive to finance risk," said Anne Marie Towle, CEO of Global Risk and Captive Solutions at Hylant. "In order to effectively develop a strategy, organizations need to initially look at crawling with a captive, then move to the walking and running phases."

Risk managers continually evaluate their risk exposures, particularly if an organization is growing and acquiring additional facilities or businesses, which changes its profile. What is the best way to manage this ever-changing landscape? The captive can be the strategic enabler to leverage an organization's insurance-buying decisions. Captive utilization can drive down the cost of risk in the long term by smoothing out the costs, accessing reinsurance market capacity, and placing control back in the risk manager's hands.

"A captive can be an incredibly valuable strategic tool for risk financing, enabling organizations to manage their risk exposures more effectively," said Will Lehman, RIMS Board Director and the Global Director of Risk Management at Cook Group Incorporated. "By leveraging data and aligning with organizational goals, captives can drive down long-term costs and enhance control over insurance decisions."

"An important takeaway from our session, first and foremost, is creating your 'why' and having key stakeholders at your organization understand and advocate for captive utilization. These stakeholders will be critical with supporting the guiding principles as an organization's captive grows and leverages their surplus with additional lines of coverage or increasing retentions," said Anne Marie Towle.

Risk managers don't need to understand every aspect of effectively leveraging the captive. They need to ensure that they surround themselves with expertise from their external service providers who can educate, provide analysis, and support a customized strategy tailored to their needs.

The session *Effective Captive Utilization* is on Tuesday, May 6, at 9:30 am in room W175ABC. ■

WEDNESDAY PREVIEW

Don't miss these must-attend events tomorrow, May 7!

Exclusive Marketplace Hours

9:00 am–10:00 am | Level 3, Hall F

Start your day with coffee and donuts in the Marketplace.

Main Stage Keynote

Keith Berry, Decode Risk, Unlock Opportunity: Leveraging Interconnected Insights to Identify and Quantify Risk

10:00 am–11:15 am | Skyline Ballroom AB

(This event will open 15 minutes prior to start time.)

Sponsored by Moody's

Discover how robust datasets and powerful risk assessment tools help create a unified view of exposures, quantify potential financial impacts, and present informed recommendations to leadership and the board.

Exclusive Marketplace Hours

12:30 pm–1:30 pm | Level 3, Hall F

Fuel up for the second half of your day with lunch in the Marketplace.

Main Stage Keynote

The Second City Works

3:00 pm–4:00 pm | Level 3, Skyline Ballroom AB

(This event will open 15 minutes prior to start time.)

The Second City Works, a world-renowned improv and sketch comedy theater, hits the main stage for a highly interactive experience you won't forget!

RIMS-Sedgwick Official Closing Party

7:00 pm–11:00 pm | Goose Island Salt Shed Pub,

1221 W Blackhawk Street

Sponsored by Sedgwick

Let's dance, celebrate, and make unforgettable memories to close out RISKWORLD 2025. ■

RISKWORLD Snapshots



Create Hygiene Kits with A Safe Haven

Sponsored by **ESIS**
A Chubb Company

May 6 | 9:30 am–4:00 pm

Location:

**McCormick Place – West Building, Level 3,
Opposite the RISKWORLD Marketplace**

A Safe Haven is a place where people in crisis can find the food, shelter, treatment, medical care, education, job training, and job placement they need under one roof.

You'll create hygiene kits that will be distributed to the men, women, and children residing at A Safe Haven's main facility in North Lawndale.

The kits include essential hygiene items such as toothbrushes/toothpaste, shampoo, deodorant, and other essentials. ■



Chicago Eats: The Loop

by Shauntay Jones

The Loop is a food lover's playground, where sleek steakhouses, historic diners, and inventive global eateries line every block. Whether you're craving a power lunch, deep-dish pizza, or craft cocktails with skyline views, The Loop serves up bold flavors and unforgettable dining experiences at the center of it all.



CINDY'S ROOFTOP

12 S Michigan Ave | cindysrooftop.com | 312.792.3502

Located on top of the Chicago Athletic Association Hotel, Cindy's Rooftop offers extensive views of Millennium Park and Lake Michigan. Guests can enjoy a seasonal menu and imaginative cocktails crafted with fresh ingredients. The glass atrium and open-air terrace provide a vibrant atmosphere, making it an ideal spot for both daytime and evening visits. ■



LUKE'S ITALIAN BEEF

215 W Jackson Blvd | lukeschicago.com | 312.939.4204

Luke's Italian Beef in Chicago's Loop is a go-to spot for a classic Italian beef sandwich. Known for its quick service and reasonable prices, it's a favorite among locals and visitors alike. The menu offers a variety of options, including hot dogs, pizza by the slice, and more, making it a convenient choice for a satisfying meal in the heart of the city. ■



DO-RITE DONUTS & CHICKEN

233 S Wacker Dr, Floor 1 | doritedonuts.com

Craving something savory and sweet? Visit Do-Rite Donuts & Chicken. Do-Rite is renowned for its artisanal donuts, including favorites like Chocolate Old Fashioned and Vanilla Bean Glazed. Their flavorful chicken sandwiches are crafted with all-natural, hormone-free chicken—you can even have it on a donut. ■



OASIS CAFÉ

21 N Wabash Ave | oasiscafeonwabash.com | 312.443.9534

Tucked behind a jewelry store, Oasis Cafe is a hidden gem offering flavorful and affordable Mediterranean food. Favorites include their crispy falafel, tender shawarma, and rotating daily specials like Moroccan chicken. With quick service and generous portions, it's a go-to spot for a satisfying meal without breaking the bank. ■

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RISKWORLD Snapshots



Chicago Sights: The Loop

by Shauntay Jones

In the heart of downtown Chicago, The Loop buzzes with energy, blending world-class architecture, iconic landmarks like Millennium Park, and a vibrant arts scene. Whether you're catching a show at the Chicago Theatre, strolling along the riverwalk, or marveling at the skyline from a rooftop bar, The Loop offers an unforgettable taste of the city's pulse—all within walking distance.



ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

111 S Michigan Ave | artic.edu | 312.443.3600

The Art Institute of Chicago is an absolute must-visit for anyone exploring the city. The space itself is stunning, blending historic architecture with modern design. Whether you're an art lover or just looking for a peaceful place to get inspired, the Art Institute offers an unforgettable experience. Exhibitions on view include *Frida Kahlo's Month in Paris* through July 13, 2025; *Myth and Marble: Ancient Roman Sculpture* through June 29, 2025; *En el principio / In the beginning: Juliana Góngora Rojas* through July 28, 2025; and *Japan's Great Female Poets* through July 14, 2025. ■



CHICAGO FED MONEY MUSEUM

230 S LaSalle St | chicagofed.org | 312.322.2400

The Chicago Fed's Money Museum offers an engaging, interactive experience that brings the world of currency and economics to life. This free museum invites visitors to explore the history of money, detect counterfeit bills, and check out a cube containing one million dollars in \$1 bills. Visitors leave with a free souvenir—a bag of shredded U.S. currency, known as "Fed Shreds." ■



CHICAGO ARCHITECTURE CENTER

111 E. Wacker Drive | architecture.org | 312.922.8687

The Chicago Architecture Center (CAC) offers a variety of exhibits and tours that showcase Chicago's architectural marvels. Exhibitions on view include *Construction Hope: Ukraine* through September 1, 2025; *Architectural Head Games* through May 31, 2025; and *Chicago City Model Experience*, a permanent exhibition that features a detailed scale model of the city. For those looking to explore further, the CAC offers over 85 tours led by expert docents. ■



CHICAGO RIVERWALK

11 W Riverwalk | chicago.gov

The Chicago Riverwalk is a scenic 1.25-mile path along the Chicago River, perfect for strolling, dining, and soaking in city views. With waterfront restaurants, kayak rentals, public art, and access to architecture tours, it's a vibrant spot to relax and experience the city from a whole new angle. ■

RISKWORLD Snapshots

