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## Upcoming Events

**August 27**

[2014 Golf Outing and Reception/Buffer Dinner](#)

[Register](#)

**September 10**

[Industry Networking Happy Hour](#)

[Register](#)

**September 19**

[NIRI-Chicago IR Workshop The Art & Science of IR](#)

[Register](#)

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

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## New: Event Summaries

Now in one place at

[Best of NIRI-Chicago](#)

## The IR Puzzle: PIECING IT TOGETHER

NIRI-Chicago  
2014-2015

## From the President



Welcome to NIRI-Chicago's 2014-2015 program year! I am excited to be at the helm of our well-oiled machine for the next year. I'm also extremely grateful for a dedicated group of volunteers who share their collective experience, knowledge and wisdom to help us all solve the puzzle that is investor relations.

We are hard at work planning a rich year of programming, with varied content designed to appeal to the diverse needs and interests of our membership. Based on what you told us in our most recent survey, we plan to cover a broad range of relevant topics that include activism, global IR, professional development and leadership. Our biggest challenge may be selecting the most convenient time for our members. Consequently, we will once again mix up the calendar to include morning workshops, lunch programs, late afternoon programs to be followed by cocktail networking receptions, and less formal NIRI in Your Neighborhood breakfasts and networking receptions. Furthermore -- as most of you know -- the [NIRI national conference](#) will be held in Chicago next June, adding excitement and opportunities for our chapter members as we work with NIRI National to help make the conference a success.

Our first major professional development event is our IR Workshop, [The Art and Science of Investor Relations](#), on **Friday, September 19** at the Metropolitan Club. We are thrilled to have CNBC's Rick Santelli as our keynote luncheon speaker, in addition to blockbuster sessions on topics ranging from market structure to shareholder activism, and distinguished panels that include board members and CFOs.

But definitely, NIRI-Chicago should play before work. We kick off our programming year with our annual [golf outing](#) on **Wednesday, August 27** at the Highland Park Country Club.

## Photo of the Month



Lisa Meers, Ruth Venning and Christine Hanneman at June's annual meeting

Please join us for cocktails and dinner if golfing is not your thing.

On another lighthearted note, one of our members recently shared this link with me -- it is easy reading -- on trends in CEOs' use of profanities. Please [enjoy the article!](#)

Like every organization, we are only as good as our people, and we welcome your participation. Thanks to all of you for your continued support, and I look forward to working together this year. Please feel free to reach out to me directly to become more involved or share your ideas on ways we can help you piece together the puzzle of your career.

Regards,

[Lisa Micou Meers](#), CFA  
NIRI-Chicago President

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

## In the News

- [Narcissistic CEOs](#) get paid the most.
- [Chicago Fed](#) joins critics' bandwagon on high-frequency trading.
- A total of [428 S&P 500](#) companies will pay dividends in 2014 -- the highest proportion since 1997, representing a 9.7% increase in cash outlays.
- Sourcing investment ideas [online](#).
- Another reason to be happy you're not a business journalist: [AP automates](#) earnings stories.

## NIRI-Chicago Member News

Welcome to NIRI-Chicago's newest members: **Ellen Grinde**, director, investor relations and communications, Penford Corporation; **Mary Morrissey**, senior manager, investor relations, Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Corporation; and **Stephen Shulstein**, director, investor relations, Hyatt Hotels Corporation.

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

Maryellen Thielen  
Vice President, Communications  
NIRI-Chicago

