



RISKWORLD 2025 Comes to the Windy City

From May 4 to 7, the global risk community will convene in Chicago for RISKWORLD, the largest risk management gathering in the world. As RIMS celebrates its 75th anniversary, more than 11,000 risk and insurance professionals will network with industry leaders and peers to share perspectives, gain actionable insights, and develop strategies to strengthen resilience in today's volatile risk environment.

RISKWORLD will provide attendees with a wide range of opportunities for learning and collaboration. Five main stage keynotes will feature unique insights from expert speakers, including the inimitable Martha Stewart. More than 100 education sessions will explore topics like: artificial intelligence and cyberrisk; strategic and enterprise risk management; insurance, legal and regulatory concerns; risk mitigation and loss control; and corporate sustainability. A new alternative risk transfer track will cover captive management, parametric solutions, sureties and other risk transfer strategies, while the Risk Unscripted: 360° Conversations track will encourage peer-to-peer discussions in immersive workshops focusing on some of today's most important risk issues.

Meanwhile, in the RISKWORLD Marketplace, over 300 exhibitors will demonstrate the latest risk management products, services and resources. The Marketplace will also host presentations and networking experiences in

various hubs, including the DEI Studio, Global Stage, Innovation Stage, Thought Leader Stage and Wellness Center.

Continuing an annual conference tradition, attendees will also have the opportunity to give back by participating in the 2025 RISKWORLD Community Service Day Project, sponsored by ESIS, A Chubb Company. Attendees will be assembling hygiene kits for A Safe Haven, a nonprofit organization that helps individuals and families experiencing homelessness in the Chicagoland area by providing treatment, housing, career pathways and a range of other support services.

With the global risk landscape evolving faster than ever, it is critical for risk professionals to stay ahead. From shifting geopolitical risks and natural catastrophe impacts to artificial intelligence and cybersecurity concerns, organizations must be prepared to navigate uncertainty. So join your fellow risk professionals at RISKWORLD to experience the latest in risk management thought and innovation. We'll see you in Chicago!

To learn more about RISKWORLD or to register, visit www.RIMS.org/RISKWORLD. ♦



On the Shoulders of Giants



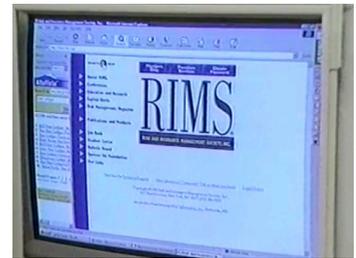
I have been researching the history of RIMS as we prepare to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Society's founding at RISKWORLD. It is an inspiring story, one that begins 90 years ago with the founding in New York of the Risk Research Institute (RRI), now known as the RIMS New York Chapter. RRI was instrumental in the founding of the National Association of Insurance Buyers (NAIB) in 1950. That name changed in 1955 to the American Society of Insurance Management (ASIM) and later, in 1975, to the Risk and Insurance Management Society (RIMS).

But the story of RIMS over the past 75 years is much more interesting than a couple of name changes. The hard work, talent and support of thousands of volunteers has been essential to the Society's success. Members organized 23 chapters within the first decade, including Montreal—the first in Canada. Volunteers organized the Risk Management Institute in 1956, a three-day course at the University of Connecticut, and volunteers continued that focus on learning ever since. Involvement in public policy has been driven by volunteers since the very beginning. Members testified before the U.S. Congress and state legislatures, wrote white papers and provided technical advice on an amazing array of issues, including OSHA, ERISA, Consumer Product Safety Act, McCarron-Ferguson Act, workers compensation, product liability, flood insurance and tort reform. And volunteers wrote for and contributed to *The National Insurance Buyer*, launched in 1954, and to all the issues since, including *Risk Management* magazine, the present-day name of RIMS' official publication. The legacy of volunteer support continues today in the hundreds of members who give their time, talents and support to RIMS.

Looking at the large, successful, growing organization that is RIMS today, it is easy to overlook all the effort over decades to make it so. Those of us fortunate enough to engage in the Society today "stand on the shoulders of giants," as Sir Isaac Newton famously said, as he paid tribute to the scientists who came before him.

We can see more and farther than those who came before us, not because we have keener vision or greater height, but because we are lifted up and borne aloft on the contributed knowledge, sacrifice and experience that came before us. And for that we are grateful, because only by standing on each other's shoulders can we ever hope to touch the stars.

Gary A. LaBranche, FASAE, CAE
Chief Executive Officer
RIMS, the risk management society



Martha Stewart Headlines RISKWORLD Speaker Lineup

Every year RISKWORLD strives to feature dynamic keynote speakers who encourage attendees to examine their world from new perspectives. This year is no exception with five main stage keynotes making up a diverse, inspiring and engaging lineup of business strategists, industry experts and thought leaders.

Martha Stewart will kick things off on Monday, May 5. As the founder of the first multi-channel lifestyle company, Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia, an entrepreneur, and an Emmy award-winning television show host, her magazines, television shows, books, and home products reach more than 100 million fans every month.

Tuesday, May 6 will feature a unique keynote from three speakers who will share their insights on leadership in a series of TED-style talks. In “The Power of Relatability,” **Rachel DeAlto** will explore the vital role of genuine human connections in effective leadership and offer practical strategies to motivate teams and cultivate a culture that enhances collaboration, productivity, and overall success. Next, **Ryan Harris** will draw from his Super Bowl-winning experience to share his “5 Components of Championship Leadership,” and demonstrate how authentic leadership can inspire greatness and foster a positive impact on both individuals and teams.



Then, in “Humanizing Leadership in a Tech-Enhanced World,” **Holly Ransom** will address the critical need for authenticity, empathy and purpose in leadership amid rapid technological change, enabling leaders to better navigate the complexities of modern work environments while enhancing their leadership impact and organizational culture.

Later that day, **Evan G. Greenberg**, chairman and CEO of Chubb Limited and Chubb Group, will discuss the global business environment and the state of the risk and insurance industry in a fireside chat moderated by award-winning journalist and author Poppy Harlow.

Then on Wednesday, May 7, **Keith Berry**, head of the corporate and government business at Moody’s, will share how, in an era of “exponential risk,” powerful analytical tools can help create a unified view of risk exposures, quantify potential financial impacts and present informed recommendations to the board.

Last but not least, RISKWORLD will close with a performance by **The Second City Works**, a world-renowned improv and sketch comedy theater whose alumni includes legends like Tina Fey, Amy Poehler, Bill Murray and Keegan-Michael Key. It is sure to be good time that you won’t want to miss! ♦

Keynote Lineup



Rachel DeAlto



Ryan Harris



Holly Ransom



Evan G. Greenberg



Keith Berry

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Katie Rabs

Corporate Insurance & Risk Manager,
Solventum Finance

President, [RIMS Chicago Chapter](#)



What do you think the hot topic will be for risk professionals at RISKWORLD this year?

I think a big topic will always be the control and customization of alternative risk transfer options to fit a company's exposure. No two companies are alike, and with day-to-day operations constantly changing, risk professionals need to look beyond the traditional insurance options to help manage financial exposures for companies and become more than just savvy insurance purchasers, but rather strategic risk financiers.

What are you looking forward to most at the conference?

Every year, I look forward to connecting with the brilliant minds in the risk and insurance industry. There is no better place to network than at RISKWORLD. Whether its business meetings or educational sessions, there are so many takeaways to look forward to.

As a Chicago native, do you have any advice or tips for visitors? Is there a "can't miss" Chicago experience you would recommend?

Hands down, a can't miss activity is taking a ride on one of the Chicago River Architecture Boat Tours. Living Chicago suburb-adjacent my entire life, I still make it a point to take a ride every other year because I always learn something new about our beautiful city. There is no better way to see all the intricate, diverse and legendary architecture that makes up our city than from the water. Not only will you be awed by the views, you will also learn interesting facts about Chicago history, including why the three branches of the river had their flow reversed. The whole tour is interactive—and the fact that there are bartenders on board never hurts!

From your perspective as president of the RIMS Chicago chapter, why should risk professionals get involved with their local chapter?

With remote and hybrid work still being the dominant set-up for many people, getting involved with a local chapter allows for risk and insurance professionals to get out and meet like-minded professionals, network and engage with each other and their local communities, and take advantage of the opportunity to learn from educational content and discuss the issue that keep us up at night—at least that is how it has felt during the last few eventful years here at the Chicago chapter.

What exciting plans does the Chicago chapter have in store for this year?

We are hosting a first-of-its-kind Host City Happy Hour at the Chicago Sports Museum on Monday, May 5 (conveniently located on a bus route!). Chicago is one of the most iconic sports cities in the world and the Chicago Sports Museum combines high-tech interactive experiences—including skill challenges and simulated experiences—with unique sports memorabilia and an impressive collection of game-used treasures and other artifacts. The museum is also home to the city's largest collection of 2016 World Series memorabilia, commemorating the Cubs first championship since 1908. If you can't make that, don't worry, we have other events coming up later in the year like our summer intern event, the 10th Anniversary Chicagoland Risk Forum, monthly educational programming events, and our annual golf outing, the proceeds of which go to fund our annual scholarships. We may have some additional things up our sleeves as well! ♦

DEI SPOTLIGHT



Bridging Communities at RIMS 2025 Leadership Forum

As the insurance and risk management industry continues to evolve, diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) initiatives play a crucial role in building stronger, more connected professional communities. At the RIMS 2025 Leadership Forum, held in Orlando on January 30–31, a session on “Bridging Communities: Aligning DEI Efforts to Strengthen Chapters and Membership” brought together key industry leaders to discuss best practices, challenges and opportunities for integrating DEI into chapter engagement and membership growth initiatives.

Moderated by Neil Colclough, chair of RIMS DEI Advisory Council, the panel featured insights from:

- **Omari Aarons-Martin**, executive director and COO of the National African American Insurance Association (NAAIA), shared strategies for fostering inclusive leadership and membership engagement.
- **Melinda Yee-Dong**, director of risk management at Panda Restaurant Group and Asian American Insurance Network (AAIN) board member, discussed the importance of representation in risk leadership.
- **Maggie Potter**, shareholder at Segal McCambridge and Association of Professional Insurance Women (APIW) co-chair, highlighted how mentorship and professional development enhance DEI efforts.
- **Dionne Bowers**, owner of D.B. Solutions and

co-founder of the Canadian Association of Black Insurance Professionals (CABIP), explored how collaboration between organizations can drive meaningful change.

The discussion provided chapter leaders valuable perspectives and practical strategies that they could implement to align DEI initiatives with chapter growth, increase member engagement, and create inclusive environments that support diverse talent. ♦

DEI Chapter Toolkit

The RIMS Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Advisory Council has developed a Chapter Toolkit to assist chapters in embedding DEI principles into all aspects of their operations. Whether your chapter is just beginning its DEI journey or already has established programs, this toolkit provides resources and support for sparking meaningful discussions, identifying opportunities, assessing chapter needs, and setting actionable DEI goals that can be adapted to your specific circumstances.

One such tool is the RIMS Diversity Calendar site, which provides various references to assist chapters in meeting strategic goals including a diversity calendar, inclusion tips and insights, and cultural recipes. There are also links to access “Inclusion Space” podcasts on demand. Chapters can access the RIMS Diversity Calendar at: <https://diversityresources.com/calendar>.

For more information on additional tools and resources to assist you with your chapter’s strategic goals, please contact us at DEI@rims.org. ♦

RIMS Visits Capitol Hill for Annual Legislative Summit

In March, RIMS members convened in Washington, D.C. for the Society's annual Legislative Summit.

The event gives members an opportunity to learn about RIMS legislative priorities and discuss those issues with Congressional leaders. On the first day, attendees gathered at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce to learn more about proposed nonprofit tax reforms; the detrimental effects of nuclear verdicts and third-party litigation funding; and RIMS proposals to improve the National Flood Insurance Program. Speakers included senior personnel from the U.S. Chamber, Chubb, the American Society of Association Executives, and the National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies. That evening, members attended a cocktail reception featuring Shana Oppenheim, the head of federal affairs at the National Association of Insurance Commissioners. The next day, attendees then went to Capitol Hill to meet with their members of Congress.

The Legislative Summit is an excellent opportunity to learn more about the legislative process and help RIMS advance its legislative initiatives. To further support RIMS legislative efforts, please also consider [contributing to RISK PAC](#), the Society's political action committee. ♦



“Think about it this way—we have 535 members of Congress in the House and the Senate and they are dealing with thousands of issues,” said Neil Bradley, executive vice president and chief policy officer at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. “They really rely on associations like RIMS, and more importantly on the members of those associations, to come to Washington and help them understand the real-world implications of the things that they are debating.”



Setting a Global Standard with the RIMS-CRMP Certification

Conducting business with partners, customers, and even employees from around the world is the new norm. With business interests worldwide, it has become increasingly more common for organizations in the far reaches of the world to share the same list of high priority risks.

If risks are global, risk management strategies must be global too. Setting a global risk management standard remains a RIMS priority and the Society continues to advance this endeavor through the RIMS-Certified Risk Management certification (RIMS-CRMP).

The RIMS-CRMP is the only globally accredited risk management certification in the world. It holds its official accreditation from the ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB) under ISO/IEC 17024:2012. Currently, more than 1,500 risk professionals from 64 countries have earned the mark of achievement.

“Establishing a global standard for risk management and a baseline for professional excellence in the field is critical,” said RIMS CEO Gary LaBranche.

Access to education is the key. RIMS continues to partner with groups around the world to provide greater opportunities for the international risk community to earn the RIMS-CRMP. One of those partnerships was with the Pan-Asia Risk and Insurance Management Association (PARIMA).

“The collaboration will enable the RIMS-CRMP certification to be more relevant to the [Pan-Asian] region, and better position risk professionals to drive the key themes of resilience and sustainability for organizations across the region,” said PARIMA Co-Founder Franck Baron.

In addition to extending opportunities to global audiences, RIMS has engaged in educational partnerships with adjacent professional fields.

Most recently, RIMS teamed up with Brokerslink to deliver RIMS-CRMP Exam Prep Workshops to Brokerslink’s global network that comprises more than 45,000 professionals in 133 countries. Similarly, RIMS and The Institute of Internal Auditors also entered into an agreement to exchange educational programming, giving both group’s members greater access to career-building learning experiences.

“Risk professionals’ expertise, responsibilities and even professional titles can vary greatly,” LaBranche said. “Through education we can equip an even wider group of business leaders with the tools and knowledge to advance risk management in their organizations.”

To learn more about the RIMS-CRMP certification or to start your RIMS-CRMP journey, visit www.RIMS.org/certification. ♦



NEWS

TAMIEKA WEEKS RECEIVES 2025 WALTER H. BUCE, JR. MEMORIAL AWARD

RIMS Atlanta Chapter presented this year's Walter H. Buce, Jr. Memorial Award for insurance and risk management professional of the year to Tamieka Weeks, director of global risk management and insurance at Southwire Company, and member of RIMS Board of Directors. Each year, the Atlanta Chapter presents the Walter H. Buce, Jr. Memorial Award to honor an outstanding risk management and insurance professional. The first award was presented posthumously to Walter H. Buce, Jr. of National Services industries, Inc. in 1996 to recognize his contribution to the Atlanta RIMS insurance community.



RISK MANAGEMENT MAGAZINE AND RIMSCAST WIN TRENDY AWARDS

In March, *Risk Management* magazine and RIMScast—RIMS' official publication and podcast—each took home Trendy awards at the 45th annual Salute to Association Excellence awards luncheon in Washington, DC. The Trendy Awards are given out by Association Trends & CEO Update and recognize outstanding publications, communications and marketing achievements in the association and nonprofit industry. *Risk Management* received a bronze award for best quarterly magazine and RIMScast won bronze for best podcast.

KRIS WOLCOTT TO BE HONORED AT SMART WOMEN IN MEETINGS AWARDS

RIMS Vice President of Business Development Kris Wolcott is being recognized as an Innovator at the 10th Annual Smart Women in Meetings Awards, sponsored by *Smart Meetings Magazine*. The award celebrates the achievements of leaders who have made unique contributions to the meetings and events industry. The awards gala will take place in September in Tampa.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS



CONFERENCES :::

May 4-7

[RISKWORLD 2025](#)
Chicago, IL

May 8

[Alberta Captive Conference](#)
Presented by SARIMS
Calgary, AB

July 29-August 2

[2025 Florida](#)
[RIMS Educational Conference](#)
Naples, FL

August 4-6

[RIMS Texas Regional](#)
[Conference 2025](#)
San Antonio, TX

September 14-17

[RIMS Canada Conference 2025](#)
Calgary, AB

October 1-3

[RIMS Western](#)
[Regional Conference](#)
Santa Clara, CA

November 17-18

[RIMS ERM Conference 2025](#)
Seattle, WA

WEBINARS :::

April 24

[Better Together: The Marriage](#)
[of Insurable Risk and](#)
[Business Continuity](#)
Sponsored by Riskconnect

May 1

[Understanding Third-Party](#)
[Litigation Funding: Its](#)
[Importance and How You Can](#)
[Contribute](#)
Sponsored by Zurich

June 5

[Today's Risk Trajectory:](#)
[What's the Cause and What's](#)
[the Solution](#)
Sponsored by Zywave

WORKSHOPS :::

May 19-22

[CBCP & RIMS-CRMP Exam Prep](#)
[Virtual Bootcamp: Mastering](#)
[Business Continuity](#)
[& Risk Management](#)

June 5

[Leveraging Data and](#)
[Analytics for Continuous](#)
[Risk Management \(Part I\)](#)

June 12

[Managing Data for ERM \(Part II\)](#)

June 18

[Optimizing Risk Management](#)
[with Artificial Intelligence](#)
[\(Part III\)](#)

June 26

[Generative AI for](#)
[Risk Management \(Part IV\)](#)

July 8-9

[Risk Appetite Management](#)

July 9-September 17

[Advanced ERM](#)
[Certificate Program](#)

July 17-18

[RIMS-CRMP-FED Exam Prep](#)

July 24

[Risk Taxonomy for Effective](#)
[Risk Management](#)

July 29-30

[Fundamentals of Insurance](#)

August 5

[Emerging Risks](#)

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75 Years of Excellence—
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Submit your slice
of history today at

www.rims.org/rims75/rims-75



For more information, visit www.RIMS.org.



A Brand New Day with RIMS President Kristen Peed

RIMS 2025 President and Sequoia CRO **Kristen Peed** discusses the evolving role of the risk manager, her pathway to the C-suite, the value of mentorship, and more.

To listen:

[Apple Podcasts](#)



[Spotify](#)



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