



## **NIRI-CHICAGO NAMES 2006-2007 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

CHICAGO - June 21, 2006 - The Chicago Chapter of the National Investor Relations Institute (NIRI-Chicago) announced today that it has elected six officers and seven directors for the 2006-2007 term.

Incoming NIRI-Chicago President William D. Chapman said, "Each year NIRI-Chicago strives to advance the practice of investor relations by addressing the growing professional development needs of those in our field. Our officers and directors work tirelessly to execute topical programs for our members, such as our annual IR workshop and other innovative events. And we are proud that our efforts earned NIRI's "Best Special Event for a Large Chapter" award once again this year, the second consecutive year for us to win the award. We intend to build on this record of success in the year to come.

"Therefore, it is with great pleasure that we announce NIRI-Chicago's officers and directors for 2006-2007. These experienced individuals are highly regarded investor relations professionals, and are well-suited to address the needs of our more than 200 chapter members in the coming year."

The NIRI-Chicago chapter board for the 2006-2007 term comprises the following members:

### **Officers**

**President: William D. Chapman**, director, investor relations, W.W. Grainger, Inc. [NYSE: GWW]. Chapman previously has served as executive vice president, vice president-programs and as a director of the chapter.

**Executive Vice President: Ruth E. Venning**, manager, investor relations, Hospira, Inc. [NYSE: HSP]. Venning previously served as vice president-programs and vice president-communications. Before that she served as chair of the NIRI-Chicago workshop.

**Vice President-Programs: Kevin P. Kelly**, managing director, Morrow & Co., Inc. Kelly has chaired the NIRI annual workshop committee for the past two years.

**Vice President-Treasurer: Christine J. Hanneman**, vice president of investor relations at Pactiv Corporation [NYSE: PTV]. This is Hanneman's fourth year as vice president-treasurer for the chapter.

**Vice President-Membership: Thomas J. Laughran**, vice president, Fleishman-Hillard Inc. Laughran has been a director for two years, and was chairperson of the Triad Annual Report Awards Competition from 2003-2005.

**Vice President-Communications: Maryellen T. Thielen**, director, investor relations, Calamos Asset Management, Inc. [NASDAQ: CLMS]. This is Thielen's first year serving NIRI-Chicago. An accredited business communicator, Thielen received an M.B.A. from Northern Illinois University and a bachelor's degree from Loyola University Chicago.

### **Directors**

**Chairman of the Board: David A. Prichard**, director, investor relations, Corn Products International, Inc. [NYSE: CPO]. Prichard previously has served as president, executive vice president, vice president-programs and vice president-treasurer, as well as a director of the chapter.

**Director: Steven D. Carr**, managing director, Dresner Corporate Services Inc. Carr was previously chairman of the board. He also has served as president, executive vice president and as a director.

**Director: William H. Parke**, senior associate, corporate and financial communications, Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc. [NYSE, NASDAQ: CME]. Parke has served NIRI-Chicago in several capacities, including president of the chapter and chairman of the board.

**Director: Lisa I. Ciota**, director, investor relations, McDonald's Corp. [NYSE: MCD]. This is Ciota's second year as a director.

**Director: Jonathan V. Hubbard, president**, Alltus Communications, Ltd. Hubbard was vice president-membership of the chapter for two years and also served as chairperson of the NIRI-Chicago workshop.

**New Director: Joan L. Bates**, director of investor relations, DeVry Inc. [NYSE: DV]. During her 15-year career in investor relations, Bates has held senior IR positions with Navigant Consulting and Great Lakes REIT as well as DeVry.

**New Director: Kevin J. Berry**, director of investor relations, Equity Office Properties Trust. Berry joined Equity Office Properties Trust in 1997, and served in an SEC Financial Reporting capacity until November 2005. He holds a B.S. in Business from Northern Illinois University, and previously was employed at Ernst & Young / Kenneth Leventhal and Panduit Corp.

### **Departing Officers and Directors**

The chapter officers and directors extend their gratitude to the following three departing officers and directors for their effort and many contributions to the chapter:

- **Cindy Thorson Klimstra**, director of investor relations at CDW Corporation [NASDAQ: CDWC]. Klimstra served as president, executive vice president, vice president-membership and as a director. She spearheaded the Chicago CFO of the Year Award for five years.
- **Christopher G. Curtis**, vice president of corporate affairs, Rewards Network Inc. Curtis served as an officer and director for four years.
- **Mary T. Ryan, vice president**, communications and investor relations at Aftermarket Technology Corp. [NASDAQ: ATAC]. Ryan served as a director last year.

### **About NIRI-Chicago**

The Chicago chapter of the National Investor Relations Institute (NIRI-Chicago) works to advance the practice of investor relations and meet the growing professional development needs of those engaged in the field. The members of NIRI-Chicago include corporate officers, consultants, service providers, academics and others involved in the practice of investor relations, which is a strategic management responsibility that integrates finance, communication, marketing and securities law compliance. With more than 200 members, NIRI-Chicago is one of the largest NIRI chapters in the United States and the recipient of several NIRI awards for large chapters, including Best Chapter and Best Special Events. More information on is available at [www.niri-chicago.org](http://www.niri-chicago.org).