

IAIP+GIS

JOB SHADOW PROGRAM

by: Amanda Hammerli

Gamma Iota Sigma (GIS) is an educational business fraternity for students of insurance, risk management and actuarial science. Since 1965, GIS has pursued a mission to promote and encourage students interested in the insurance industry as a profession; and it has grown to over 75 chapters with more than 4,000 student members and an alumni population of over 25,000. As an industry partner, IAIP has had a long-standing relationship with GIS, offering free limited memberships to students; and IAIP is a proud sponsor at the the GIS International Convention, providing the opportunity to interact with over 600 students, faculty and insurance leaders.

Each year the IAIP Student Task Force looks at different ways to engage students and faculty. They have added new benefits to the GIS membership model including student/faculty rates for the IAIP International Convention and a free limited faculty membership. This past year was no different, as the IAIP Student Task Force continued looking for opportunities for GIS students to get involved at the local level.

In the spring of 2018, Chelle Carey and the IAIP Student Task Force started exploring the idea of creating a job shadow program with the University of Central Oklahoma's GIS chapter. Working with university faculty to recruit students for IAIP's job shadow program, GIS faculty advisor Beverly Frickel shared, "the idea of a job shadow is to give students a broader view of the insurance industry. Too many times I see students pigeon-hole themselves too early in their education. They need to take a step back to learn all different areas of insurance." With this understanding, the committee worked to define the job shadow experience as a half-day opportunity for GIS students to go behind-the-scenes at a local company and explore different areas of insurance and risk management. As the idea started to take shape, the then Region VI Vice President, Kristina Donaldson, was included in the conversation to help identify a local company who would be willing to take on the challenge.

RICH & CARTMILL, INC.
EST. 1922 INSURANCE • BONDS



Enter Rich & Cartmill (rcins.com). One of the largest, privately-held independent agencies in the country, Rich & Cartmill of Oklahoma City stepped up to the opportunity to be the first host company for IAIP's Job Shadow Program. Working closely with the Student Task Force, Rich & Cartmill designed a program for the Central Oklahoma students centering around the daily activities of producers, the rating department, commercial lines, personal lines and even included a resume review.



On September 7, three students from the University of Central Oklahoma visited the offices of Rich & Cartmill in Oklahoma City. The students toured the office and spent one-on-one time with producers and account managers reviewing aspects of personal and commercial insurance, including property and casualty and life and health. They also reviewed policy processing as well as underwriting phases of new accounts. University of Central Oklahoma's student Kiersten Haws shared, "I definitely learned some things about the insurance industry while touring Rich & Cartmill. I knew insurance had a lot to offer, but this experience opened my eyes to all the opportunities. I learned that there is more to insurance than just selling it."

While at Rich & Cartmill, the students indicated they enjoyed seeing how each department works together at the agency, visiting with the employees and experiencing the company culture. Haws went on to share, "I was able to interact with several staff members who all do very different jobs. I spoke with some that worked in the commercial lines as well as the personal lines and gained a better understanding of which side I prefer. After this experience, I think I would prefer personal lines of insurance and taking care of the customer."

The new Job Shadow Program was a first of its kind for IAIP, but it doesn't stop there! With GIS chapters located across the nation, the next IAIP Job Shadow could be hosted by your company. If you're interested in bringing the next generation of insurance leaders through the doors of your company, please let us know. The IAIP Student Task Force is ready to help you create a unique opportunity to bridge the talent gap for your employer and share the power of IAIP.

The IAIP Student Task Force committee would like to thank Beverly Frickel, GIS faculty advisor for Central Oklahoma University for her endless support and guidance and IAIP member Kerri Shelton, Operations Manager for Rich & Cartmill who worked tirelessly within her company to make the day a success.



If you are interested in learning more about the IAIP + GIS Job Shadow Program, please contact Amanda Hammerli at membership@iaip-ins.org.