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### Upcoming Events

**January 9, 2018**  
**Alternative Paths for an IRO**  
**Register**

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**July 12, 2018**  
NIRI-Chicago Golf Outing

**September 28**  
2018 IR Workshop

### Photo of the Month



(l to r) Patrick Manning, Jeremy Cohen and Jonathan Spitzer at our December holiday event.

### Job Bank

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

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### From the President



Happy New Year from NIRI Chicago! I hope the year is filled with health and joy for each of us, that our companies thrive and prosper, and that we achieve the goals we set for ourselves -- or at least learn something from attempting them.

Psychologists say gratitude makes us happier. If the "attitude of gratitude" is one of your resolutions this year, join me in being grateful for NIRI. Because of our association, we have:

- The security of shared best practices. Imagine if you had to invent the IR function for your company without reference to what other successful companies do?
- Continuing education that keeps us up to date with changes in market structure and regulation.
- The support and fellowship of chapter members who share their IR experiences.
- The opportunity to earn certification, the IR Charter, as a marker of our knowledge and experience in investor relations.

Invest in yourself this year. The benefits will accrue to both you and your employer. Start by attending NIRI events. If you haven't been to a meeting or a NIRI in Your Neighborhood gathering for a while, I hope you will register and attend some of our upcoming sessions, including the January 9 meeting on [Alternative Paths for an IRO](#). [Register](#).

Regards,

Dee Johnson  
NIRI-Chicago President

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## December Event Highlights

NIRI-Chicago members and guests enjoyed holiday cocktails, appetizers and a lively discourse on market performance and expectations by Kenny Polcari, Director of NYSE Floor Operations, O'Neil Securities. [Summary.](#)

## Member Profile

We're very proud of longtime NIRI-Chicago board member Ruth Venning, who was recently [elected](#) to the NIRI national board (joining Shep Dunlap of Mondelez, a NIRI-Chicago board member elected to the national board in 2016). Read [more about Ruth.](#)

## In the News

- Investors are drawn to short, punchy [headlines](#)...and shorter [proxy statement](#) disclosures.
- Why [sexual harassment](#) matters to investors.
- Some [directors](#) are still reluctant to meet with investors.
- The SEC's new approach may exclude more [shareholder proposals](#) this proxy season.
- Ideas for what to communicate during a CEO transition: McKinsey on what makes a CEO [exceptional](#).

## NIRI-Chicago Member News

Welcome to NIRI-Chicago's newest members: **Emily Ryan**, vice president, business development, Wells Fargo Shareowner Services; **Zach Rothberg**, vice president of sales, AlphaSense Inc.

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

Maryellen Thielen  
Vice President, Communications  
NIRI-Chicago

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