



Upcoming Events

April 9
ESG and IR Best Practices
Roundtables: Not Your Typical
Webinar

[Register](#)

May 18
IR in Special Situations

[Register](#)

Save the Date
September 24
NIRI Chicago IR Workshop

Event Recaps and Webcasts

Unable to attend a recent event? [Event recaps and webcasts](#) can be found by clicking the links below.

February 2021
[IR Trends to Watch in 2021](#)

December 2020
[Reg S-K and Principles-Based Disclosures: What Do You Need to Know?](#)

November 2020
[Developing Your ESG Program and](#)

From the President



Spring is finally upon us and the boys of summer are back with Opening Day. I'm fortunate enough to be writing this newsletter with the family out on spring break in San Diego. My current view is atop Mt. Helix surrounded by palm trees and an ocean view, so it will be tough to come back home. With Q1 in the books, I hope the IR community is able to enjoy a little downtime, as well.

From a market perspective, an eventful Q1 is coming to a close and it's clear 2020 is well behind us, too. As the broader indices continue to hit record highs, last year's best-performing S&P 500 stocks were laggards in the first quarter, while the worst-performing ones were winners. With a more widely distributed vaccine and fewer COVID-19 cases, a more normalized daily life is bound to happen soon enough, so at this point, the consensus view is the bullish narrative of a recovering/reopening economy. What will make things interesting: since the markets are always heavily discounted, how much of this recovery is already baked in?

From an IR perspective, human capital management is an increased focus in post-COVID disclosures. The SEC recently voted three to two to adopt a new disclosure rule on how public companies manage their workforces. Updated human capital disclosure requirements include the concepts of materiality and risk and other guidance for inclusion in the 10-K/annual report and for consideration to include in ESG/CSR disclosures.

From a NIRI Chicago perspective, I thank all who participated in the recent ["March Madness" trivia competition](#). It was great fun to share some laughs with local members and IROs from other NIRI chapters. While the Chicago chapter finished in the middle, the Philly chapter took the crown this year and donated its winnings to [JDRF](#), the world's largest nonprofit funder of type 1 diabetes research.

If you haven't done so yet, please sign up for our next two NIRI Chicago events. [ESG and IR Best Practices Roundtables: Not Your Typical Webinar](#) will be held on April 9 ([register](#)) and [IR in Special Situations](#) will occur on May 18 ([register](#)).

Disclosure

September 2020
IR Workshop Session Summaries

March 2020
A Primer on Virtual Annual Meetings for Unusual Times

Finally, I'm very excited to announce our new [NIRI Chicago NextGen program](#). It's designed to meet the needs of up-and-coming investor relations practitioners who have been in IR for less than five years and are newer in their careers. This program offers many benefits to help you succeed, including educational programs offered at no additional charge or at a discount, as well as outstanding opportunities to network with IR and capital markets leaders. There's no time like today to take advantage of our NIRI community's wealth of knowledge by joining NIRI and NIRI Chicago through our NextGen program. We will send an email with more details to people who may be eligible for the program, or contact one of our membership committee members with questions: Jeremy Cohen (jeremy.cohen@edelman.com) or Shep Dunlap (william.dunlap@mdlz.com).

I hope everyone has a great April.

Victor Jendras
NIRI-Chicago President

In the News

- [Rising stock volatility](#) points to the need for IR.
- [Stock buybacks](#) are popular again.
- More companies are using [hybrid auctions](#) in lieu of IPOs or SPACs.
- Post-COVID changes in [executive compensation](#) can build your company's competitive advantages.
- Companies that avoid [ESG disclosures](#) risk higher capital costs – and more [shareholder resolutions on ESG topics](#) may reach proxy statements this year.
- Big companies expand their [diversity reporting](#).

Virtual Learning

NIRI Chicago and its fellow NIRI chapters continue to come together to support members with timely and relevant virtual programs during the COVID-19 pandemic. Here is a complimentary webinar available to NIRI Chicago members:

[Market Review and Outlook Following the Early Days of the Biden Administration](#) [Regulatory Developments: What's Happened & What's Next?](#)

NIRI Virtual
Wednesday, April 14
Noon - 1 p.m. (ET)

NIRI Chicago Member News

Welcome to NIRI-Chicago's newest members: **David Barry**, senior vice president, finance and investor relations, Fortune Brands Home & Security; **Deanna Graham**, director, investor relations, W.W. Grainger; **Tim Hill**, head of investor relations, Americas, Omron Corporation; **Matthew Skelly**, head of investor relations, Fortune Brands Home & Security.

Congratulations to NIRI Chicago members with milestone NIRI anniversaries in February through April:

25 years
Aaron H Hoffman, TransUnion

10 years

Shep Dunlap, Mondelēz International

5 years

Robert Cherry, Methode Electronics

Marilyn Vollrath, Reputation Partners

Michael Zimmerman, MGIC Investment Corporation

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

Maryellen Thielen
Vice President, Communications
NIRI Chicago

Our Sponsors



Platinum Sponsor



Broadridge[®]

Silver Sponsor



businesswire
A BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY COMPANY

Silver Sponsor



IHS Markit[®]

Silver Sponsor



ModernIR

Market Structure Analytics[™]

Silver Sponsor



Silver Sponsor

Annual In-Kind Sponsors

