



Upcoming Events

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 Disclosure](#)

September 2020
[IR Workshop Session Summaries](#)

March 2020
[A Primer on Virtual Annual Meetings for Unusual Times](#)

From the President



As I sit on my front porch and contemplate whether I should do some yardwork today, I can't believe we are already in May. Where does the time go? Between carting my boys to soccer and baseball, life is good. I know most IR teams have their heads down preparing for Q1 earnings, so I hope you will get a breather very soon.

While we are still in the midst of the earnings cycle, companies are beating profit estimates at a record rate. With results in from 110 of the S&P 500 companies, a record 85.5% have beaten analysts' estimates for earnings per share, reported Reuters, adding, "If that trend continues through the reporting season, it would be the highest beat rate on record going back to 1994." An average 78% of companies have beaten earnings estimates in the past four quarters. So, this tells us that either forecasts were too low or that many businesses were not as financially impacted by COVID-19 as expected.

From an IR perspective, I've seen a lot of teams are focused on preparing for their Q1 earnings announcements and annual shareholder meetings. On top of that, virtual conferences are in full swing and more IR teams are building direct relationships with the buy-side and corporate access teams. Finally, ESG disclosure remains near the top of the to-do list for organizations. If you are looking for insights on your ESG initiatives, both NIRI national and many local chapters are offering great content on this subject.

We've certainly learned the value of preparing for the unexpected this past year. If you haven't done so yet, be sure to sign up for NIRI Chicago's next event on May 18 – [IR in Special Situations](#). [Register](#). Also, please save the date for our flagship [IR Workshop](#), which will take place on September 24. More details to come. In the meantime, please respond to our survey below to help us make the call about when we can (finally!) return to in-person meetings.

I hope everyone has a great May and I look forward to Chicago opening back up again in full swing.

Victor Jendras
NIRI-Chicago President

When would you be willing to attend a NIRI Chicago event in person?

Now

[Select](#)

In the next month or two

Select

In 3-6 months

Select

After I've been vaccinated

Select

Not this year

Select

In the News

- [Positive earnings surprises](#) may already be priced in.
- Companies say they are better prepared to host [virtual annual meetings](#) this year.
- [NIRI study](#): IROs worry about their ability to influence senior management while working remotely.
- Forget Twitter – can your company meet Regulation FD requirements with posts on private channels, such as [Discord](#)? (Facebook is doing it. Scroll down to read the news item in Sorkin's column.)
- Opinion: [Human capital management](#) in five steps.
- Racial justice activists send [message](#) to asset managers; the top three (BlackRock, Vanguard and State Street) control about [80% of all indexed](#) money.

NIRI Chicago Member News

Welcome to NIRI-Chicago's newest member: **Nick Smith**, vice president, investor relations and corporate development, Aptinix Inc.

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

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Vice President, Communications
NIRI Chicago

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