



**September 12, 2017**

## **Busy Week in NIRI-Land**

September brings a rush of activity across NIRI. This week 23 IR professionals from the United States and three other nations are investing in their careers by taking the Investor Relations Charter (IRC™) examination. I know everyone will wish them well. They are the latest wave in the growing IRC certification program. If you haven't obtained your IRC yet, please visit the [Certification](#) section of the NIRI website to learn more about the benefits of the IRC. To accommodate the hectic schedules of IR professionals, there will be three testing windows in 2018: March 3-10; June 16-23; and November 13-20. Instant scoring will be introduced in 2018, so candidates can learn their provisional score before leaving the testing center.

Of course, it can be hard to find the time to study for the IRC exam, but support from your fellow NIRI members can certainly help. A number of NIRI chapters are forming study groups, providing scholarships, and/or hosting programs to help members prepare for the exam. Reach out to your chapter to learn more about their support for IRC applicants.

I will join dozens of IR professionals in Boston this week for the legendary NIRI Fundamentals of IR seminar, and I spoke at the 2017-2018 kick-off event for NIRI Boston last night. Later in the week, I will attend NIRI Chicago's [Annual IR Workshop](#), which will cover shareholder activism and market, geopolitical, and regulatory uncertainties. On Thursday, [NIRI Atlanta](#) is hosting a golf tournament, while [NIRI San Francisco](#) members will gather for a bowling and networking event.

Finally, I want to encourage members to join NIRI in making donations to relief efforts to help our friends in Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina who were impacted by Hurricane Irma. It's remarkable that another catastrophic storm hit so soon after Harvey devastated Texas, and it's a reminder of the importance of pulling together when our neighbors are in need.

All the best,  
Gary



Gary A. LaBranche, FASAE, CAE  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
National Investor Relations Institute  
[glabranche@niri.org](mailto:glabranche@niri.org)