From the inception of NIRI, chapters have been integral to its development and many of its member benefits.

In fact, in 1969 NIRI grew out of a New York City-based organization called the Investor Relations Association (IRA), which became the NIRI New York chapter after 22 IRA members voted to form NIRI and signed the NIRI constitution. NIRI subsequently passed a motion noting that IRA was the originating chapter of NIRI, although the two organizations were not linked financially and membership was exclusive to each group, a structure that continues today with all NIRI chapters.

Especially in the early years—1970s and 1980s—before the advent of digital communication, chapters provided a way for investor relations professionals to gather regionally on a frequent basis to learn and discuss common issues with colleagues.

NIRI Chapters: A Unifying Force

NIRI has 26 chapters across the nation connecting members in many cities and regions. Chapter presidents offer their perspectives on historic milestones and what’s ahead for their organizations.

BY AL RICKARD, CAE
One of the three primary goals of NIRI in 1970 was “to develop chapters as rapidly as possible.” The NIRI Board of Directors recognized that successful chapters would build strong grassroots membership that would help build attendance at the national conference.

At that time, Charles L. Cohen, director of investor relations at Lear Siegler and one of the NIRI founders, became a powerful ambassador to create and build NIRI chapters.

His efforts helped create chapters in Boston, Cleveland, Detroit, and Los Angeles in 1969 and 1970, and by early 1971, IR professionals in Chicago, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, and Minneapolis-St. Paul also formed chapters. Many others followed in subsequent years.

Today, nearly all the chapters formed in NIRI history remain vibrant organizations with valuable programs and networking opportunities. The Virtual Chapter was formed in 2003, connecting NIRI members across the digital media spectrum that transcends all cities and regions.

Each year, NIRI recognizes chapter achievements by presenting Chapter Leadership Awards at the NIRI Volunteer Appreciation Dinner held the evening before the NIRI Annual Convention.

These include:
- Individual Chapter Leadership Award (presented to one individual from each chapter)
- Chair Award for Excellence in Membership Retention
- Chair Award for Excellence in Membership Growth
- Phoenix Award (Most Improved Chapter)
- Chair Award for Excellence in the Advancement of the Investor Relations Charter
- Chair Award for Excellence in Advocacy Support

“One of the major benefits of NIRI chapter membership is the networking opportunities it offers,” notes Ruth Venning, executive director, investor relations, Horizon Therapeutics. “Getting to know the IR practitioners in your area can make a real difference when you encounter a new situation and want to speak to someone who has experienced the same thing. I count the relationships I’ve developed over my 15 years in the NIRI Chicago chapter as one of the best aspects of my overall NIRI membership.”

IR Update asked each NIRI chapter president to comment on something significant in their chapter’s history and offer thoughts on where their chapter is headed in the future. This article highlights their perspectives.

**NIRI Atlanta Chapter**

**FOUNDED 1984**

During the past 18 months, the Atlanta chapter has expanded its reach to the entire Southeast region of the United States by offering a compelling list of programs including our annual CEO Dinner and Southeast Conference, which attracted more than 75 attendees in its first year.

In 2019, we rolled out our NIRI Atlanta MBA internship program where we partner with member companies to help find and select qualified graduate school candidates to participate in a two-month internship in the member organization’s IR department and help fund the initiative. The NIRI Atlanta Board of Directors has worked tirelessly to reconfigure our programming to offer unique value to our members and strategic partners that cannot be found elsewhere.

The Atlanta chapter is thriving and expanding its capabilities and members to fulfill its vision of providing value-added education and networking opportunities to members and using its resources to foster the future of the investor relations profession.

Dan A. Aldridge, III
Managing Partner, Asbury Investor Relations
President, NIRI Atlanta

**NIRI Boston Chapter**

**FOUNDED: 1970**

NIRI Boston has a rich history in providing its members relevant and action-oriented programming, combined with valuable networking opportunities. We received the first-ever Best Chapter Award from NIRI, which served as a testament to the hard work of our prior leaders. We strive to live up to their legacy every year. We continue our commitment to enriching our community through the legacy of Scott Higgins. He was a force in the Boston IR community, and while he ultimately lost his battle, the chapter continues to honor his passion for IR with an annual scholarship to help IR professionals continue their education and development.
Fall 2019 marks NIRI Boston’s 49th year of cultivating a community of New England’s best and brightest IR practitioners through innovative and engaging programming, networking and a commitment to serving our community. I am extremely excited about our plans for the 2019-2020 season and look forward to building on our history of bringing informative programming to our membership.

Jacqueline Marcus
Assistant Vice President, Alpha IR Group
President, NIRI Boston

NIRI Capital Area Chapter

The NIRI Capital Area Chapter includes members from a diverse mix of sectors such as biotechnology, defense/government contractors, real estate investment trusts, and technology. Geographically, chapter membership spans the states of Virginia and Maryland and Washington, DC. The chapter’s diversity is a significant part of its strength and uniqueness. One of its significant achievements was holding a day-long conference on activism, which featured a mock proxy battle and panel discussions. The event included endorsement and participation from the Society of Corporate Governance.

The chapter is actively engaged in supporting NIRI’s advocacy efforts by encouraging chapter issuer members to make their voices heard with regulators and legislators. These activities have included communicating as a chapter with the Securities and Exchange Commission and Congress on key issues raised by NIRI’s advocacy initiatives. Several members of the chapter leadership are also involved in educating government policymakers on the need to modernize regulations that directly impact the ability of investor relations officers to perform their jobs in today’s capital markets.

David Dixon
Vice President, New Business Development - East Region EQ Shareholder Services
President, NIRI Capital Area Chapter

NIRI Central Ohio Chapter

Our chapter is in a renaissance period. After slowly fading away a few years ago, a small group of us decided to bring it back in 2018. We planned several programs last year that helped increase membership and participation from local IR professionals. Our efforts helped us to win the Phoenix Award for most improved chapter at the 2018 NIRI Annual Conference. We are building on the momentum we started last year as we relaunched the chapter. I hope we can continue to grow our membership and engagement with quality, timely programs.

Sara Macioch
Investor Relations Manager, NiSource Inc.
President, NIRI Central Ohio

NIRI Charlotte Chapter

The NIRI Charlotte chapter provides its members with an opportunity to share best practices, advance their knowledge, and increase their effectiveness in their roles thoroughly timely discussion of current themes affecting the IR profession.

The origins of the Charlotte chapter can be traced back to a conversation that took place at the 1996 NIRI Annual Conference. Following subsequent discussion with other NIRI staff members, a group of visionary Charlotte-area IR professionals laid the groundwork to form the chapter. This group hosted its first event in March 1997, featuring NIRI Executive Director Lou Thompson. The group’s first participant survey was distributed at this function, which indicated a strong interest in forming the chapter. Two years later, the chapter was granted its official charter. Charlotte’s continued growth (it is now the 16th largest U.S. city) should drive new members and unique perspectives to further elevate our chapter.

Jim M. Ryan
Senior Director, Investor Relations, Curtiss-Wright Corporation
President, NIRI Charlotte
NIRI Chicago Chapter

FOUNDED: 1971

NIRI Chicago has a history of innovative programming, including being one of the first chapters to establish an annual investor relations educational workshop featuring speakers and service providers. The workshop was held in 1998 and the event has remained a pillar of chapter programming.

Keynote speakers have included David S. Ruder, former chairman of the SEC and professor of law at Northwestern University, Mark Zandy, chief economist of Moody’s Analytics; and Rick Santelli, CNBC on-air editor. The 2019 keynote speaker was Austan Goolsbee, former chair of the Council of Economic Advisors and professor of economics at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. Initially, money raised by the workshop was utilized to support scholarships for candidates pursuing additional investor relations education. Today funds are used to support chapter educational programs.

NIRI Chicago is focused on staying relevant to meet the evolving needs of our members. My vision for the future is that we will continue to execute the strong programming for which the chapter is known. At the same time, I’d like to improve member participation, while recruiting new members to support future chapter efforts.

Terri Anne Powers
Vice President, Investor Relations, Diplomat Pharmacy, Inc.
President, NIRI Chicago

In the early 2000s, the chapter held two successful regional conferences and coordinated with NIRI chapters in Cleveland, Columbus, and Chicago to promote each other’s events and attend them whenever possible. One conference was an informational event designed for IROs, while the second conference featured company presentations to brokers and analysts from the buy side and sell side. Both were quite successful and were highlights of that era.

The chapter continues to serve members with engaging programs aligned with emerging trends facing IROs and the NIRI “Body of Knowledge” core IR competencies.

John Chevalier
Vice President, Global Investor Relations, The Procter & Gamble Company
Chapter Officer, NIRI Cincinnati Tri-State Chapter

NIRI Cincinnati Tri-State Chapter

FOUNDED: 1970s

The NIRI Cincinnati Tri-State chapter (originally the Southwest Ohio Chapter many years ago) is designed to help IR professionals who are new to the industry, seasoned executives or somewhere in between. The membership is rich with experience and covers southwestern Ohio, northern Kentucky and southeastern Indiana. It is dedicated to advancing the profession of investor relations through a variety of innovative programs and forums where investor relations practitioners can share their knowledge and experiences.

Although we have continually spoken about our desire to combine our local efforts with other organizations around Cleveland, the validity of this conversation came into play during a February 2017 meeting. We partnered with the Ohio Chapter of the Society of Corporate Governance to offer a session, “Proxy fight boot camp – what to do when the Barbarians are at your gate.” Maybe it was the title, but the attendance and level of attendance was much more than we could have imagined. The room was full of IROs, general counsels and lawyers from firms, and counselors. Someone from a company in the midst of deciding to go public was in the room. The energy and synergies were palpable and we walked away with the feeling that NIRI is a strong, vibrant organization that combines many disciplines not brought together by any other organization in the area.

niri.org/irupdate

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NIRI Cleveland/Northern Ohio has the best of both worlds. Being one of the first of the established chapters of NIRI, there is a strong sense of history and ideals that came before where we are today. Couple that with the passionate, energetic board that is currently in place, and the future vision is quite bright. We are ripe for new ideas and open to change, all while we hold firm to the solid history this chapter has had of being valuable to our constituents.

Shannon Gaycheck
Vice President, Toppan Merrill
President, NIRI Cleveland/Northern Ohio

NIRI Connecticut/Westchester Chapter

Founded: 1985

Our chapter is a dynamic organization consisting of practitioners and service providers from different vertical markets with a range of experience levels. Some of our chapter’s proudest moments were when June Filingeri was honored as a NIRI Fellow in 2018. Former chapter member Barbara Gasper was also named a NIRI Fellow and received the IR Magazine Lifetime Achievement Award in 2014. These women are role models to our chapter and the NIRI community. We are lucky to count them as our peers and friends.

I am proud of the close-knit relationships – professional and personal – that our chapter members have formed. We enjoy celebrating each other’s successes. In the volatile and often unpredictable world of IR, it’s nice to have that connection. Our chapter mission is to coordinate programs that provide useful and relevant information for our members.

June M. Vecellio-Lazaroff
Director, Investor Relations, Pitney Bowes Inc.
President, NIRI Connecticut/Westchester

NIRI Dallas Fort Worth Chapter

Founded: 1975

NIRI DFW will celebrate its 45th anniversary in 2020. As one of the oldest NIRI chapters, NIRI DFW has been at the forefront of many of NIRI’s national initiatives. In recent history, NIRI DFW received the NIRI Chair Award for Excellence in Advocacy Support after rallying member support for NIRI’s most critical regulatory and legislative campaigns. The chapter is also piloting NIRI’s NexGen initiative, which seeks to attract those new to the IR profession to the NIRI ranks.

The chapter hosts educational programs locally and for more than 25 years has partnered with the Houston NIRI Chapter to host the annual NIRI Southwest Regional Conference, attracting more than 100 NIRI professionals to Austin, Texas each year for in-depth educational sessions and networking. The event has become known as one of the best NIRI conferences, and for some is second only to the NIRI Annual Conference. In recent years, the conference has attracted NIRI members from across the United States and South America.

The NIRI DFW Chapter is on the rise. Our board now includes energetic and passionate young IR professionals such as Evan Black and Mac Schmitz, who complement veteran board members Liz Kline, Hala Elsherbini, and others. We also have a growing membership that is committed to the success of NIRI advocacy efforts and the NIRI DFW mission.

Glen Orr
Principal Consultant, Orr Strategic Communications
President, NIRI DFW
Congratulations to NIRI on 50 Great Years!

- Participate conveniently
- Connect globally
- Expand your network

NIRI VIRTUAL CHAPTER — JOIN US!
www.nirivirtual.org
NIRI Florida Chapter

**FOUNDED: 1971**

The NIRI Florida chapter is a fairly new entity formed through the consolidation of the Central Florida and South Florida chapters. In years past, these chapters experienced periods of transition and geographic obstacles that made it difficult for many members to attend meetings and for the chapters to provide overall sustainable value for its members. Today, the new combined Florida chapter is thriving once again. A dedicated board of directors is working hard to ensure that each member across the state of Florida is represented and provided with opportunities to network with their peers and expand their IR knowledge through educational events.

The Florida chapter is striving to be the fastest growing and most active small chapter within NIRI this year and beyond. With the help and vision of our current Board, I have no doubt in our ability to provide the membership value that will drive us to this achievement.

**Jack Hensley**
Manager, IR & Financial Reporting Solutions, Business Wire
President, NIRI Florida

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NIRI Kansas City Chapter

**FOUNDED: 2001**

The NIRI Kansas City chapter was chartered in 2001 thanks to the efforts of a small group of local IR professionals to formalize the network we had already developed. While many of those founding members have moved on, a few remain, and our chapter – small but mighty – continues to be a resource for education and fun.

One of our favorite events was hosting the NIRI Board of Directors for its 2011 annual meeting, which occurred as our chapter celebrated its 10th year. We had just grown the board from 8 to 12 members, and the distinction of hosting the NIRI Board helped increase visibility for our chapter and capitalize on that momentum. Thank you NIRI for being an incredible resource over the years, and happy 50th!

My vision for our chapter is to grow our presence in Kansas City so that we can reach more professionals working in the investor relations field.

**Theresa R. Seck**
Manager, Investor Relations, Garmin Ltd.
President, NIRI Kansas City

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NIRI Houston Chapter

**FOUNDED: 1976**

The NIRI Southwest Regional Conference has been, and continues to be, our chapter’s flagship event. Historically, the Houston Chapter would alternate planning and hosting responsibilities with the Dallas-Fort Worth chapter. But over the past three years, our two chapters have worked hard to collaborate and produce a high-caliber event each year for conference attendees. We hope this leads to more collaborative efforts among NIRI chapters across the United States.

Houston has changed tremendously over the past 10 years, and with that, our membership profile has changed. As we celebrate NIRI’s 50th anniversary, I feel a sense of vibrancy for our chapter as we navigate the city’s changing corporate landscape – one that was previously mostly energy companies to now a more diverse ecosystem of industries.

**Kim M. Pinyopusarerk, IRC**
Investor Relations Manager, Carrizo Oil & Gas, Inc.
President, NIRI Houston

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NIRI Los Angeles Chapter

**FOUNDED: 1970**

NIRI LA is unlike any other chapter. On the east side of Los Angeles are the star-studded streets of Hollywood, the high-rise buildings on rollers downtown and the rocket scientists in Pasadena. To the west, are the technology companies of Silicon Beach. In the middle, the Valley branches it all with large real estate investment trusts and restaurant chains calling the heat home.

While this blend of companies is unmatched, so is our traffic, often making it difficult for our members to participate. Due to this sprawl, we started NIRI in Your Neighborhood. This informal networking lunch or happy hour provides a setting to discuss a hot topic, ask for career advice, or simply take a break from the office in a convenient location.

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As co-presidents, we are very fortunate to serve on behalf of our Los Angeles members. As we continue to embrace the frequent change in our profession, our vision for our chapter is to be a one-stop shop of valuable resources for all IR teams by offering exceptional networking events, the highest quality educational programs and unique mentorship opportunities for individuals at all stages of their careers.

Anne McGuinness  
Investor Relations Manager  
American Homes 4 Rent  
Co-President, NIRI LA

Sam Ramraj  
Vice President, Investor Relations  
Edison International  
Co-President, NIRI LA

NIRI New York Chapter  
FOUNDING: 1970

NIRI New York was the first professional organization I joined after moving to New York City without a job, a roommate or any idea how to navigate public transit. At 50 years young, NIRI New York and I are both still going strong – 1970 is a good vintage!

NIRI New York’s future is inspired by the growing diversity of our members, the increased responsibilities of IR, and the widening stakeholder base we are engaging. The opportunity for IR professionals has never been greater. Today lessons learned are as much passed down as picked up from the next generation. Our senior members provide “been there, done that” perspectives while our NextGen members are resetting the playing field with social media. Together, NIRI New York members harness a dynamic force for investor relations education and networking.

Alexandra Deignan  
Director, Head of Investor Relations, LAZARD  
President, NIRI New York

Congratulations to NIRI on its 50th Anniversary, and thank you to all current and former officers, staff and members for your contributions to this great organization.

NIRI CONNECTICUT/WESTCHESTER CHAPTER

Congratulations
NIRI on celebrating
50 Years!

50 never looked so good!
This year, the NIRI Orange County chapter celebrates its 30th anniversary. In 1989, to support the expanding number of local public companies, the decision was reached to carve out the Orange County chapter from what was then known as the NIRI Southern California Chapter. In addition to its core programming, over several decades NIRI OC has conducted hallmark events including an annual report competition, helped develop one of NIRI’s first certificate programs in IR in conjunction with the University of California - Irvine, and won numerous awards and recognitions for both the chapter and many of its members.

Today, NIRI OC is one of the smaller NIRI chapters but our board consistently “hits above its weight” by producing innovative programs and events for members. We’re also committed to expanding members’ professional development by partnering with organizations tangential to IR.

David Erickson
President, NIRI OC

Our chapter membership spans IR professionals who have up to 30 years of experience. About six years ago the chapter changed the format of its monthly breakfast meetings to focus on education, providing greater value to members. Meeting topics included panels with CFOs, CEOs, and board members on their expectations of IROs, hearing from sell-side and buy-side analysts, and a half-day workshop on activism. Roundtable discussions where members discuss real-life questions are always successful because we benefit from other’s experiences. We have two networking happy hour evening meetings, most recently featuring axe throwing!

Several new NIRI Philadelphia Board members are developing new meeting topics aligned with the IRC Body of Knowledge to drive meeting attendance and membership. Our goal is to offer members networking opportunities, promote an exchange of ideas, and discuss current trends and issues affecting the world of IR.

Donna St. Germain
Director, Corporate & Investor Communications
Trinseo
President, NIRI Philadelphia

In 2010, the NIRI Pittsburgh Chapter membership had declined significantly. Thankfully, Patrick Kane (formerly of EQT) and Quynh McGuire (Koppers) decided to address this. Kane volunteered to be president and McGuire volunteered as treasurer. Eventually, I volunteered to become the vice president of events. Together, we started with building our networking events to entice IR professionals to become members of NIRI. Today the Pittsburgh Chapter is again thriving.

I am happy that the Pittsburgh Chapter still exists – there is great history of being one of the first chapters created under NIRI. The Pittsburgh Chapter has many wonderful members and I am confident that the chapter will continue to grow and thrive for years to come.

Janette A. Junker
Investor Relations Specialist, EQT Corporation
President, NIRI Pittsburgh Chapter

The NIRI Rocky Mountain Chapter continues to grow and thrive. We are a very active chapter focusing on member engagement to provide valuable programming and networking events to support IROs. As the public company landscape changes and the role of investor relations evolves, we look forward to the opportunity to be a resource for our members success.
Since chapter members are spread out across the Denver metropolitan area, we decided to alternate monthly program locations so members outside of downtown are able to attend more meetings. Members support the change and it has increased meeting attendance. We are proud that two chapter members were named NIRI Fellows in 2019 and the chapter has numerous members who volunteer to participate in IR panels.

Rebecca Palumbo
Vice President, Corporate Affairs & Administration
Hallador Energy Company
President, NIRI Rocky Mountain Chapter

NIRI San Diego Chapter
FOUNDED: 1989

San Diego has a reputation for a laid-back culture, but the business ecosystem here is rooted in fast-paced innovation – from some of the biggest tech and biotech companies in the world such as Illumina and Qualcomm to some of the most exciting emerging companies and IPOs like Turning Point and Gossamer. It’s exciting to be a part of a network of the brightest IR and communications professionals from these organizations who come to support the local industry and chapter.

San Diego is unique market. It is home to about 80 publicly listed companies, but most don’t have a dedicated IRO. The function is carried by the CFO or other officer. To bridge this divide, the San Diego chapter is making strides to link the CFO and IRO networks to advance the IR function at organizations in the region.

Jason Spark
Managing Director, Canale Communications
President, NIRI San Diego Chapter

San Francisco Chapter
FOUNDED: 1977

During the past three years, chapter membership grew more than 30 percent, average event attendance more than doubled, and we expanded chapter programs to include evening networking and happy hour events as well as free member events plus member-exclusive senior roundtables.

We also developed a strong partnership with the NIRI Silicon Valley chapter, launching the dual chapter membership “NorCal” and received multiple NIRI awards for programming, member services, and leadership expansion. All this was done while increasing sponsor support, which allowed us to offer a robust calendar of events, decrease member ticket prices, and expand our event locations to high-caliber venues.

We have made significant progress on our goals to represent the Bay Area in advocacy and programming at the national level while increasing member participation at our chapter events. I look forward to building on the momentum we have gained during the past three years.

Lisa M. Hartman
Senior Vice President, Head of Investor Relations
Redwood Trust, Inc.
President, NIRI San Francisco

NIRI Seattle Chapter
FOUNDED: 1979

NIRI Seattle has seen an incredible transformation since its founding. Market capitalization on companies in the Seattle metro has ballooned to more than $2.4 trillion. As a result, our chapter has undergone an inflection from addressing the challenges of “off the beaten path” to the challenges of “in the crosshairs.” In 2004 and 2005, this inflection and our hard work was reflected in our winning both the NIRI Best Overall Programming and Best Member Service awards. We honor our heritage of supporting small and medium-size companies while simultaneously serving the biggest and most influential companies on the globe.

NIRI Seattle is proud to advance the cause and goals of IR professionals as the industry evolves. We generate unique, progressive content alongside regular NIRI On the Rocks mixers. Given the time constraints of our members, we judge success not by the total attendance at any one event but our ability to produce a variety of diverse opportunities that that drives unique value for each member throughout the year.

Randall Hopkins
Head of Capital Markets Reform and Innovation
Nasdaq
President, NIRI Seattle
NIRI Silicon Valley Chapter

**FOUNDED: 1970s**

The creation of the annual Spring Seminar significantly impacted the history of the chapter and today represents the best of what it offers members. This day-long educational event covers all aspects of IR, from best practices to stock performance drivers to managing through activist investor campaigns. Speakers included noted economists, c-level executives, buy-side portfolio managers, sell-side analysts, nationally known authors, former Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) agents and, of course, accomplished IROs and service providers. The event draws 100 to 150 IROs, service providers, and sponsors from across the country each year and is the largest educational IR event on the West Coast.

Our partnership with NIRI San Francisco to create the dual-membership NIRI NorCal Chapter increased membership growth 20 percent during the past year. We believe working together to find innovative ways support and engage members across Northern California is essential to the future success of all three chapters.

*Meghan M. O’Leary*

Head of Investor Relations, SVB Financial Group

*President, NIRI Silicon Valley Chapter*

NIRI Twin Cities Chapter

**FOUNDED: 1971**

For us, every month’s program feels like history in the making. Executive leaders and IR professionals know, recognize, and support each other in our market and NIRI’s contribution to the advancement of the IR profession is held in high regard. Whether due to the area’s unflinching camaraderie in a sub-zero climate or the chapter’s broad contribution to the IR profession, NIRI Twin Cities earns elevated respect. Our stellar programming receives attention and participation of the U.S. Attorney’s Office, FBI, Financial Executives International, International Association of Business Communicators, Public Relations Society of America, CFA Institute, American Society of Corporate Secretaries, colleges, and local media. When we turn heads, we’ve advanced the IR profession.

The Twin Cities chapter represents a spectrum from an unusually high concentration of the Fortune 500 companies to microcaps (14 of 51 members represent Fortune companies). Nine of our 17 board members are Fortune company IROs who help fuel the enthusiasm, programs, networking, and discussions in our chapter. Combined with a strengthened treasury due to stronger sponsorships, the board provides substantial chapter events as must-attend and value-added opportunities.

*Bernadette McCormick*

Regional Manager, Business Wire

*President, NIRI Twin Cities*

NIRI Virtual Chapter

**FOUNDED: 2003**

The NIRI Virtual Chapter held its first “reality” meeting at the 2004 annual conference in Phoenix – a Desert Dinner, at which many of us wore a NIRI Virtual denim shirt because we’d never met in person before! Since then, the chapter has been known as much for its fun activities as for its invaluable and innovative online educational programming. The Virtual Chapter is one of the most innovative chapters – the only one to offer CPE credits, we also conduct board meetings by video and will introduce video to our member events in the Fall 2019. Many of our early leaders remain with us today, a testament to the lasting value of our offerings.

The NIRI Virtual chapter is a thriving community and is now the second-largest NIRI chapter. The chapter remains at the forefront of the investor relations ecosystem, continuing to innovate with its programming, member engagement and thought leadership.

*Rebecca Updegraph*

*President, NIRI Virtual Chapter*