



Chapter News

March/April 2025

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE BY DIANA RICH

RIMS is 75 years young! Founded in 1950, the society has grown to encompass risk and insurance professionals throughout the world. I have been a longstanding member of RIMS and have seen the organization evolve and grow over time.

This year, the global risk community is gathering at Riskworld in Chicago from May 4-7. The estimated 12,000 attendees will connect with industry leaders, explore cutting-edge education sessions, and discover innovative solutions in the Marketplace to safeguard the futures of their organizations. The keynote speaker is Martha Stewart, providing her perspective on resilience and business strategy live and in person. [Registration is open now.](#)

OCRIMS is continuing its commitment to professional development and networking within our local community. OCRIMS Vice President Michael Cabrea, and his programming committee are working on events for the rest of the year. Check www.OCRIMS.org for upcoming events. Do note, however, that there will not be a formal golf tournament this July.

I recently attended the California Legislative Delegation's 17th Annual RIMS on the Mall event in Sacramento and benefitted greatly from the experience. Check out this PDF file for full details: [RIMS on the Mall 2025 Thank You.pdf](#)

RIMS ON THE MALL – RECAP

April 8th and 9th marked the California Legislative Delegation's 17th Annual RIMS on the Mall event in Sacramento, and all who attended benefitted greatly from the experience. Check out the attached PDF file for full details and also click this [link](#).

RECORD-BREAKING 244 STUDENTS FROM 61 UNIVERSITIES COMPETE IN THE SPENCER-RIMS RISK MANAGEMENT CHALLENGE

The Spencer-RIMS Student Risk Management Challenge judging committee, including **Cynthia Garcia** from our Chapter, has selected eight university teams to advance to the next stage and compete for the top honor at RISKWORLD in Chicago. The annual global competition challenges university teams to develop and present risk management strategies for a real-world business case study.

[Get full details on the Risk Management Challenge](#)

TWO USC STUDENTS AMONG 20 EXCEPTIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT STUDENTS INVITED TO RISKWORLD

RIMS has presented 20 students, including two from USC, with a 2025 Anita Benedetti Student Involvement Program grant (ABSIP). The program, sponsored by The Spencer Educational Foundation, recognizes the achievements of outstanding undergraduate and graduate risk management students, providing them with funds for travel expenses, complimentary hotel accommodations and registration to RISKWORLD in Chicago.

[Read the rest of this story](#)

RIMS LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT 2025

The RIMS Legislative Summit 2025 was held March 19th and 20th in Washington, DC. RIMS members met with the US Chamber of Commerce on the 19th and kicked off with a Chapter Leaders Meeting which allowed for cross collaboration and sharing of best practices. This was followed by briefings from US Chamber lobbyists, as well as an outside law firm retained by RIMS to support the society's legislative efforts. The focus was on how to effectively engage lawmakers on key issues to advocate on behalf of the risk management industry.

On March 20th, RIMS members spent the day meeting with Senate and House of Representative staff members. The four key issues at hand are:

Association Tax Reform: - RIMS opposes broad-based efforts to eliminate the tax-exempt status of 501(c) organizations. What's the issue? Many of the tax benefits adopted by the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 are set to expire in September 2025. Assuming Congress elects to extend those tax cuts, the cost to the federal treasury is anticipated to be \$4.7 trillion. To avoid going off a "tax cliff," Congress will need to find new tax revenue streams. This, coupled with the argument that many nonprofits operate like for profits, has led policymakers to consider levying 21% corporate income tax rate on nonprofit net revenue.

Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act (HR 1151/S 756) - RIMS supports this bipartisan Act which would allow the expansion of qualified expenses under the 529 savings plans to include postsecondary training and professional certifications. What's the issue? Training and credentials are ineligible for 529s. America's workforce is comprised mostly of middle-skill jobs that require no more than a high school education but not a bachelor's degree, according to the National Skills Coalition. A differentiator amid the 21st century workforce is postsecondary credentialing for workers with or without a two or four-year college degree.

National Flood Insurance Program - RIMS supports several enhancements to the current NFIP: Multi-year reauthorization; allow for the purchase of blanket policies; expand commercial coverage to betterments and improvements; improve adjuster qualifications; and privatization support with specific concerns addressed. What's the issue? As part of the Continuing Resolution that funds the federal government, the NFIP is almost certain to be reauthorized whenever it is set to expire. However, the issue is that the reauthorization process doesn't seem to allow Congress time to consider and adopt changes to the program that would create more stability and efficiencies for program insureds.

Third Party Litigation Funding - RIMS Supports the Litigation Transparency Act of 2025 (HR 1109) which would require disclosure and production of all third party litigation funding agreements in federal litigation. What's the issue? There are many. TPLF raises ethical concerns as the funders may not act in the best interest of the plaintiffs. There are also potential conflicts of interest as funders may have incentives to pursue goals that are not in the best interest of the plaintiffs. Foreign adversaries could use TPLF to influence the US legal system. And TPLF can drive up settlement costs and prolong litigation (even when the plaintiff would prefer to settle).

RISKWORLD 2025

RISKWORLD 2025 is only a couple of weeks away! The activities and festivities continue to take shape as the event draws near. Featured speakers include none other than Martha Stewart, as well as Rachel DeAlto, Ryan Harris, and Holly Ransom.

[RISKWORLD](#)

SPENCER EVENTS AT RISKWORLD

Registration is Open for Spencer Events at RISKWORLD:

[Spencer-CNA Pickleball Social](#)

[Spencer-Gallagher Golf Tournament](#)

[Spencer Soirée](#)

[Spencer-Sedgwick 5K Fun Run](#)

RIMS AND THE IIA AIM TO BROADEN AND ACCELERATE COMPETENCIES

As expectations rise for both risk management professionals and internal auditors, RIMS and The Institute for Internal Auditors (The IIA) have entered into an agreement to provide both professional communities with greater access to career-building and program-advancing learning experiences.

RIMS and The IIA will offer their respective memberships a selection of the other association's [virtual, on-demand webinars and workshops](#).

[Read the full write-up](#)

AS CYBERATTACKS RISE, REPUTATION IMPACTS DRAW INCREASING CONCERN

Of 2,150 cybersecurity professionals surveyed by Hiscox, over 67% said their organization experienced an increase in cyberattacks in the past year.

[Read the rest of this write-up](#)

COMPANIES RETHINKING DEI PROGRAMS IN THE NEW POLITICAL CLIMATE

According to a *Resume.org* survey of organizations that had a DEI program in 2024, one in eight companies are eliminating or reducing their DEI programs in 2025.

[Get the full details](#)

RIMS REPORT - THE PRE-MORTEM METHOD: LEARNING FROM FAILURE WITHOUT ACTUALLY FAILING

Unlike post-mortem analysis, a pre-mortem risk assessment attempts to learn from failure before a project even begins, according to RIMS new Executive Report titled, "*The Pre-Mortem Method:*

Learning From Failure Without Actually Failing."

[Learn more and download the report](#)

THE DEFINITIVE GUIDE TO GRC

Learn more about the principles of GRC, the benefits of an effective GRC program, and how technology can make it easier in this must-have guide.

[Guide to GRC](#)

LOS ANGELES DELIVERY COMPANY OWNERS TO REPAY MORE THAN \$2 MILLION AFTER WORKERS' COMP SCHEME LEFT EMPLOYEES UNPROTECTED

A Los Angeles couple were sentenced after a California Department of Insurance investigation found they underreported more than \$21 million in employee payroll for their delivery companies. The pair were sentenced to 10 years of felony probation and also ordered to pay \$2,254,748 in restitution for unpaid workers' compensation insurance premiums.

[Learn more](#)

APPOINTMENT OF MELISSA FLORES, CHSWC EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Melissa Flores has been appointed as the Executive Officer for the Commission on Health and Safety and Workers' Compensation (CHSWC) effective March 11th. Flores previously spent 21 years at the California Housing Finance Agency (CalHFA) where she held various managerial roles, most recently Assistant Director of Board Relations and External Communications.

[Read more about the appointment](#)

CALIFORNIA ANNOUNCES \$25 MILLION INVESTMENT TO ENSURE WORKER SAFETY

The Department of Industrial Relations has announced \$25 million in funding for the California Workplace Outreach Project to [support 89 community-based organizations](#) across the state. This initiative educates workers about their rights and promotes workplace safety.

[Get more details](#)

MITCH STEIGER REAPPOINTED TO THE CALIF. COMMISSION ON HEALTH & SAFETY & WORKERS' COMPENSATION AND RE-ELECTED AS 2025 CHAIR

The California Commission on Health and Safety and Workers' Compensation (CHSWC) has announced the reappointment of Commissioner Mitch Steiger. Commissioner Steiger was reappointed by the Senate Rules Committee on March 12th, and his term runs through December 2028. Steiger will continue serving as a labor representative. Commissioner Steiger was also unanimously reelected to serve as the Chair of the Commission for 2025. The election was held at the February 28th public CHSWC meeting.

[Get more details](#)

DWC ISSUES NOTICE OF SECOND 15-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR UTILIZATION REVIEW AND RELATED REGULATIONS

The Division of Workers' Compensation has issued a second notice of public comment period beginning on April 17th for modifying the text of proposed amendments to the Utilization Review and Related Regulations. The affected regulations are Title 8, California Code of Regulations, sections 9767.6, 9781, 9785, 9785.6, 9786, 9792.6.1, 9792.7, 9792.9.1, 9792.9.2, 9792.9.3, 9792.9.5, 9792.9.8, 9792.9.10.5, 9792.10.8, and 9792.11.

[Get full details and instructions for commenting](#)

DWC POSTS REMINDER FOR THE RETURN-TO-WORK SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

The Division of Workers' Compensation has provided a reminder of application requirements for the Return-to-Work Supplement Program (RTWSP).

[Get the full details](#)

BETTER TOGETHER: THE MARRIAGE OF INSURABLE RISK AND BUSINESS CONTINUITY

April 24 11:00 am–12:00 pm PDT
RIMS Member FREE | Nonmember \$50

Traditional silos between insurable risk and business continuity are no longer sustainable in today's evolving risk landscape. Risk managers must mitigate financial exposures and ensure operational resilience in the face of disruptions. Join industry experts as they discuss the evolving role of risk managers, key data-sharing opportunities, and the essential metrics that bridge the gap between insurance and business continuity for a more resilient organization.

[Lean more and register](#)

RIMS WESTERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

The RIMS Western Regional Conference is scheduled for Oct. 1-3 in the Bay Area. Planning is currently underway and speakers and sponsors are being sought.

[Get full details on the event](#)

BRING RIMS TRAINING TO YOUR ORGANIZATION

Looking to advance your team with specialized risk management training? RIMS is offering training resources that will bring unmatched expertise tailored to your needs and geared towards your schedule.

To learn more, send an email to PD@RIMS.org

RIMS ONLINE APPAREL STORE

RIMS is thrilled to announce the launch of the **RIMS Online Apparel Store** as part of the celebration honoring **RIMS' 75th Anniversary!** This initiative provides a great opportunity to showcase your pride and represent our organization at events and meetings. The store is open now through **Dec.31st**.

Access the store: <https://rims.buyproforma.com/#/>



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