

Position: Institutional Board Member

Name: Todd Adkins

Institution: University of Kentucky

Title: Director for Risk Management



Biography: Todd Adkins is the Director for Risk Management at the University of Kentucky where he oversees campus, healthcare, research, and athletics risk mitigation efforts. With his experience in higher education, Todd is able to successfully navigate the leadership channels and achieve positive, impactful results which has enabled Todd to represent the Risk Management Department on numerous committees across the University.

Please describe your past Risk Management experience and previous involvement with URMIA.

With over 20 years experience working with complex higher education issues, I've had to evolve to keep current on the ever-changing Risk Management landscape. This has transformed me into a lifelong learner and student of risk. I've participated on the Newcomer Task Force by helping to organize and present information at several New Member-First Timer sessions at the Annual Conference. I've served on the Membership Committee, multiple National Conference Committees and presented and moderated at several National conferences.

What leadership skills and talents make you a good candidate?

To be a good Risk Manager, you need to earn the respect needed from all levels of an organization. This is how Risk Management gets elevated in an organization. Todd understands the needs and concerns of every organizational level and can leverage this knowledge to effectively organize work flows to achieve goals both efficiently and while building relationships. While there are many ways to complete a task, Todd's methodology of team building combined with effective decision making makes him a valued asset.

How would you get the membership more active in URMIA?

To encourage greater engagement, we need to be mindful of the learning curve involved with new Risk Managers. The needs for seasoned full-time, dedicated professionals differs greatly from the needs of an attendee who may split their time between Risk Management and other disciplines. This difference should not only be recognized at the national conference level with different "tracks" but also create resources which have pertinent information in appropriate depth so no matter what level of knowledge you have, you will be able to find something of value.

Briefly outline your vision for continuing to move URMIA forward.

During the current COVID crisis, Risk Management has expanded in scope. Now, we're more involved with campus restart plans, distance learning, and managing a rapidly-evolving landscape – all while maintaining our core responsibilities. How can all this be done effectively? As a Board member, I would encourage URMIA to further develop avenues for Risk Managers to regularly share their success stories with the membership. "What are you doing well and how does it work" is a simple, but powerful question. There's value is being able to show your Administration how success is being achieved and let the member institutions determine the parts of that success which best fit into their organization.