

# NIRI New York Minute

February 2020

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- [Climate Disclosures: The Stakes Are Rising Across Asset Managers](#)
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- [Welcoming 7 new chapter members](#)

## Warm Winter, Cool Programs!

The coats are off! It's been a warm winter in New York thus far in 2020 and climate change, sustainability and stakeholder engagement are queued up to dominate the strategies of top asset managers. Larry Fink's [2020 letter to CEOs](#) stated that climate change will be at the center of BlackRock's investment strategy going forward. State Street is beginning [to tie climate disclosures to director voting decisions](#). And JPMorgan and Goldman Sachs have signed on as [founding members](#) of the Climate Leadership Council advocating for a nationwide U.S. tax on carbon dioxide emissions. Take advantage of NIRI's resources on sustainability and ESG disclosure to prepare your management team for the not so new news.

In January, we had an excellent turnout at our event, "Uncovering What Portfolio Managers Want From IROs". Buy-side panelists shared their perspectives on investment philosophy, approach to risk management and key factors they consider when evaluating a potential investment. Attendees left with actionable takeaways on financial reporting, disclosure and building relationships with investors, [read the recap](#).

Looking ahead, IR Magazine is hosting the annual [IR Magazine Awards – US](#) on Wednesday, March 25, 2020 at Cipriani, 25 Broadway, New York, NY. Make your reservation today, our friend Ian Richman and his team throw one of the all-time great celebrations of our industry.

Also note that early registration rates for the NIRI Annual Conference – June 14 - 17, 2020 at the Fontainebleau Miami Beach in Florida – ends on March 31, 2020. Visit

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Crisis Communications – When the “You Know What” Hits the Fan**

Thurs, April 2 at 5:30pm

*An engaging panel  
discussion on crisis and  
reputational risk  
management.*

### **NextGen: Speed**

#### **Mentoring**

Thurs, March 5 at 6:30 PM

*Informal discussion with  
senior leaders in investor  
relations.*

### **Annual Half Day Seminar**

Fri, May 15 at 8:15 AM

*Stay tuned for more info!*

[See entire calendar](#)

[NIRI](#) to lock in your early bird rate. The NIRI NY chapter will host a special event for our members and we hope to see you there!

We're excited to see you all at our spring events and extend an especially warm welcome our new members listed below. If you have a colleague who is thinking of joining, we would be happy to discuss the benefits of membership with them personally.

Alexandra Deignan

President, NIRI New York

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Stay connected with the NIRI NY chapter by following us on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and checking out the latest information on our [website](#).

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## PARTNER PERSPECTIVE



In the current environment of “Say on Pay,” heightened shareholder activism, along with intensifying interest in environmental, social and governance (ESG) and sustainability, companies are exploring ways to improve shareholder communications through their proxy statements. In this article, DFIN proxy expert Ron Schneider dives deeper on proxy themes, such as board diversity and executive compensation, which are major topics of investor interest. Learn more [here](#).

## NEW MEMBERS

Lisa DeFrancesco, Intercept Pharmaceuticals

David Farkas, FTI Consulting

Ilya Grozovsky, Mohawk Group

Thomas Kiehn, EM

Beth Kite, Estee Lauder

Michael McCarthy, Fidelity Management & Research Company

Amy Young, Ariel Investments