

OUR TRAVELING TALES INDIANAPOLIS

Four students from the **Weidner Property Management and Real Estate (WPM+RE) program** received travel awards to attend the **IREM Global Summit** this October in **Indianapolis, IN**, joining over 700 attendees from around the nation, to participate in the three-day conference themed around "The power of purpose."

The power of purpose

IREM® Global Summit
October 6 - 9, 2024 | Indianapolis, IN



As in previous years, this year's conference aimed to connect members of the Institute of Real Estate Management (IREM) and provide an array of events, including education sessions, regional networking, and an industry awards gala. IREM also hosted keynote speakers like **Mina Starsiak Hawk**, star of HGTV's "Good Bones", who shared how she started her home renovation company *Two Chicks and a Hammer* and insights about her time working on the show, which was based in her home city of Indianapolis. Coined "The Final Lap," this year's Global Summit marked the last time the event would be hosted in its current format, as the organization moves toward a new event in 2025 termed, **PropertyCon**.



UAA students **Anika Syren**, **Jericho Braga**, **Micha Francisco**, and **Stephen Zukowski**, along with WPM+RE director, Terry Fields, represented the university at this year's event. IREM does an incredible job of welcoming university students from around the country to this professional event and planning meaningful opportunities for them to learn and engage. To kick off this year's conference, IREM planned a student **site tour of OneAmerica Tower**, a 38-story commercial property in the heart of Indianapolis's central business district.



In addition to the property tour, IREM invited students to contribute during the Next Gen Advisory Counsel committee meeting and hosted a breakout session titled, **"The next steps to propel your career journey: A student networking opportunity."** Here, students engaged in roundtable discussions with industry leaders, advising on careers on residential and commercial real estate management. This event was a highlight for Stephen, who remarked, *"I feel as though I have gained a greater view of property management as a whole and now carry a better understanding of my future career."*



The IREM Alaska chapter is part of Region 12, which includes Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming, and Montana. One of the great benefits of the Global Summit is the ability for professionals from across the region to gather and share insights from their respective markets. Region meetings and a dinner event also provided students with opportunities to network with industry leaders like **Mindy Gronbeck, the Executive Vice President of Property Operations for Hawkins Company in Boise, ID and the 2025 President-elect for IREM, nationally.**



Education is at the heart of IREM mission, and the Global Summit offered a variety of **breakout sessions** for participants to attend. This year saw presentations on artificial intelligence, electric car charging stations, and more. The event closed out with an **Awards Gala** to recognize industry leaders and welcome the incoming IREM President. Jericho remarks, *"My favorite part of the trip was all of the connections made and the ability to learn from professionals from all over the US. It has helped me gain a better understanding and created lasting memories with my peers. I had a blast!"*



PropertyCon
An IREM® Education Experience
April 23-25, 2025
Boston, MA

The WPM+RE Program offers students travel awards to attend national IREM events. Applications for **2025 WPM+RE Awards** will be available in December 2024 and will include travel awards for next year's events like **PropertyCon in Boston, MA**. If you're interested in learning more about the WPM+RE Program, e-mail Terry Fields at tjfields@alaska.edu for academic advising, additional education resources, and information on program awards and opportunities.

