

I was honored to be one of two students selected to attend the Troy University Surplus Lines Symposium this year in Birmingham, Alabama. This experience opened my eyes to a completely new side of the insurance industry. The symposium gave me the chance to meet several different companies and talk to them about upcoming internships and job opportunities.

When I arrived in Birmingham on Friday, there was a career fair with about 10 companies all within the surplus line of the insurance industry. This gave me the opportunity to meet several recruiters and learn more about the career opportunities that the surplus line has to offer. All of the companies that I met during the career fair had either an internship opportunity, job opportunity or both. I was able to talk extensively with MacDuff Underwriters and Peachtree Specialty Risk Brokers. The networking opportunity this symposium gave me could potentially lead to an internship or even a job opportunity upon graduation.

After meeting the different companies on the first day, the second day consisted of various informative speakers about the surplus line. These speakers gave me extremely valuable information about this side of the insurance industry, the side which few people know much about. It was exciting to hear about the different products the surplus line insures, such as, cyber liability, million dollar hotels on the coast, the Super Bowl, and a whole lot more. Another opportunity the Troy Symposium provided me with is the opportunity to network with students from other universities. It was interesting to hear about what other students were accomplishing and opportunities that they have within their school programs.

Overall, The Troy University Surplus Lines Symposium was an amazing experience. Over the two days, I learned valuable information about the insurance industry and gain a lot of new contacts, both of these will help me in my future career path. If any student is looking to learn more about the excess and surplus lines or simply wanting to learn more about what the insurance industry has to offers, I highly recommend attending the symposium.