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RLI Awards Steeves Memorial Scholarship to Bradley Students

RLI has awarded the 2011 James D. Steeves CPCU Memorial Scholarship at Bradley University to Candace Esken of Washington, Illinois and Melissa Sholl of Bartonville.

Esken, who graduated from Bradley in May with a degree in business management and administration with a concentration in legal studies, is a two-time recipient of the Steeves scholarship. She currently is a graduate student at Bradley pursuing an MBA. She has been a member of the Bradley Student Senate, Phi Chi Theta, Student Advisory Committee, Student Business Leadership Council and Pre-Law Club. She is currently working as an intern at RLI.

Sholl is a senior actuarial science-business major and a member of the Bradley chapter of Gamma Iota Sigma, a fraternity for risk management, insurance and actuarial science majors. She plans to pursue a career in actuarial science in Central Illinois.

The scholarships, awarded since 2000, are named after the late James D. Steeves, a chartered property casualty underwriter (CPCU) and vice president of property underwriting for RLI. Awards have been made to full-time undergraduate students of Bradley University who excel academically and are pursuing coursework in the areas of risk management, actuarial science or accounting.

Recipients of the Steeves scholarship are also provided the opportunity for internships with RLI, which provide practical experience in the field of property and casualty insurance.

RLI, a specialty insurance company, offers a diversified portfolio of property and casualty coverages and surety bonds serving niche or underserved markets. RLI operates in all 50 states from office locations across the country. RLI's insurance subsidiaries – RLI Insurance Company, Mt. Hawley Insurance Company and RLI Indemnity Company – are rated A+ "Superior" by A.M. Best Company and A+ "Strong" by Standard & Poor's. RLI's newest subsidiary, Contractors Bonding and Insurance Company, is rated A "Excellent" by A.M. Best Company. RLI is recognized as one of the insurance industry's top performing companies by its designation as a Ward's 50® Top P&C Performer and has been a member of the group for 21 straight years since the list's inception in 1991.

Bradley is a private, independent university in Peoria, Illinois, offering 6,000 students the choice of more than 100 academic programs. This size provides students extensive resources not available at most small colleges and the personal attention not commonly found at large universities.

For additional information, contact Lisa Gates, Director, Communications Services at (309) 692-1000 or at Lisa.Gates@rlicorp.com or visit our website at www.rlicorp.com.

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