

# 2025 NATIONAL REAL ESTATE STRATEGIES CONFERENCE

April 23, 2025  
Wisconsin Club  
Milwaukee, Wis.

Annual Sponsors:



**MARQUETTE**  
UNIVERSITY

**Vieth Institute for  
Real Estate Leadership**

# AGENDA

- 1:00 p.m.      **Check-in and registration**
- 1:30            **Welcome**  
Andy Hunt, Vieth Director, Center for Real Estate (CRE), Marquette University
- Opening Remarks**  
Michael Riopel, Chair, Center for Real Estate Advisory Board,  
Associate General Council, Northwestern Mutual
- Keynote Introduction**  
Andrew DeGuire, James H. Keyes Dean of Business Administration,  
Marquette University
- 1:45            **Keynote Speaker:** *“The Future of Great Lakes Real Estate - Lessons Learned from the world’s largest industrial real estate owner”*  
Jonathan Rudersdorf, President of the Central Region, Prologis  
Moderators, fireside chat: Andrew DeGuire, Keyes Dean of Business; Matt Waters, President, MU Commercial Real Estate Club
- 2:45            **Student Speaker:** Jimena Perez, freshman real estate major  
*Joined by Marquette students, including the Real Estate Asset Program and case competition teams*
- 3:00            **Networking Break**
- 3:15            **Student Speaker:** Charlie Clark, sophomore, real estate and AIM-FinTech double major
- 4:10            **Panel: “The Future of Great Lakes Real Estate: data centers, water and climate”**  
Moderator: Andy Hunt, Marquette University  
Steve Disse, Colliers International  
Sarah Fox, Marquette Law School  
Kate Phillips, WEC Energy Group  
Brandon Zick, Ceres Partners
- 4:30            **Networking reception**
- 5:30 p.m.      **Conference Ends**

# KEYNOTE SPEAKER



**Jonathan Rudersdorf** | President, Central Region, Prologis

Jonathan “Rudy” Rudersdorf is President of the Central Region, responsible for all activities including deployment, development, and operations in the central United States. The Central Region comprises of roughly 300 million square feet across ten markets: Chicago, Dallas, Houston, Cincinnati, Columbus, Indianapolis, Louisville, Nashville, Austin and San Antonio. Mr. Rudersdorf previously served as SVP, Head of Operations for the Central Region, overseeing strategic planning, leasing, disposition strategy, and managing a team of 160 employees. Before this, he was Vice President, Market Officer for Columbus and Cincinnati at Prologis, responsible for strategy, disposition, acquisition, and operational activities. Prior to joining Prologis, he was a Senior Associate at CBRE Inc., specializing in industrial real estate globally. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Marquette University.



**Andrew DeGuire** | James H. Keyes Dean of Business Administration, Marquette University

Andrew DeGuire is the James H. Keyes Dean of the College of Business Administration at Marquette University. He previously served as vice president of corporate strategy at Northwestern Mutual and held leadership roles at Quad/Graphics and Johnson Controls. DeGuire co-authored *Betting the Company: Complex Negotiation Strategies for Law and Business*, was named a “40 Under 40” winner, and serves on the board of Association for Corporate Growth Wisconsin. He holds an Honors B.A. in economics from Marquette and an M.A. in international economics and finance from Brandeis, with additional studies at LSE and Copenhagen Business School.



**Matt Waters** | President, Marquette University Commercial Real Estate Club

Matt Waters is a junior at Marquette University studying commercial real estate and finance. He is part of the 2026 Real Estate Asset Program cohort and a recipient of the prestigious Eisenberg Scholarship, awarded to only four undergraduates nationwide. In April, he helped Marquette’s team win 1st place in the 2025 Eisenberg Foundation case competition. Matt has served on the Commercial Real Estate Club’s executive board since 2024 and became president in January 2025. Matt is a native of LaCrosse, Wisconsin.



**Jimena Perez** | Student Speaker, Freshman Real Estate Student

Jimena Perez is a freshman at Marquette University studying commercial real estate and finance. She was also a member of the 2024 cohort of the MKE CRE Summer High School Immersion Program, a week-long camp for high school students of color interested in pursuing careers in commercial real estate. Jimena is a Milwaukee native.

# SPEAKERS



**Charlie Clark** | Student Speaker, Sophomore Real Estate Student

Charlie Clark is a sophomore at Marquette University studying commercial real estate and AIM – FinTech track. He is also a member of the 2027 cohort of the Real Estate Asset Program, the \$2 million real estate investment program for students run through the Vieth Institute for Real Estate Leadership. Charlie is a native of Petoskey, Michigan.



**Steve Disse** | Principal and Vice Chair, Colliers International

Steve Disse has been with Colliers for 29 years and serves as a principal of the Chicago office, focusing on investment sales of industrial and office properties in Chicago and the Midwest, ranging from \$5 million to \$300 million. Teaming with Jeff Devine, they form Chicago's most active industrial investment sales team, holding a 50 to 60 percent market share and closing over billions in sales in just the last five years alone. Steve is the recipient of several transaction of the year awards and sits on several boards, including the investment committee for Marquette University's nationally-renown Real Estate Asset Program. He holds an undergraduate degree from Marquette and a graduate degree from UW-Madison.



**Sarah Fox** | Associate Professor of Law, Marquette University Law School

Professor Sarah Fox's scholarship focuses on the intersections of environmental law, property, and land use, particularly the unique environmental issues facing cities and the capacity of local governments to solve those problems. She holds a cum laude J.D. and an L.L.M. in Advocacy, with honors, from Georgetown University Law Center, and a summa cum laude B.A. from the University of Oklahoma. Prior to joining Marquette, she was an Associate Professor at Northern Illinois University College of Law, a Visiting Associate Professor at the University of Iowa Law School, and a clinical teaching fellow at Georgetown. She also clerked for the Honorable Claire V. Eagan and practiced law in New York.

# SPEAKERS



**Kate Phillips** | Senior Corporate Council, WEC Energy Group

With over 27 years of experience in Wisconsin energy and utility matters for WEC Energy Group, Kate Phillips has successfully assisted in the development, permitting, and construction of the \$7 billion Power the Future program, including the Elm Road Generating Station and significant renewable investments. Throughout her career, she has navigated complex regulatory matters for WEC utilities, including Wisconsin Electric Power Company, Wisconsin Gas LLC, and Wisconsin Public Service Corporation, and expanded her practice to Minnesota for Minnesota Energy Resources. She holds bachelors and law degrees from the University of Wisconsin – Madison.



**Brandon Zick** | Chief Investment Officer, Ceres Partners

Brandon Zick manages all investments at Ceres Partners, including Ceres Farms flagship farmland fund and Ceres Food & Agriculture private equity strategies, overseeing valuation analysis, due diligence, portfolio management, and acquisition negotiations. Before joining Ceres in 2010, he was Vice President of Strategic Acquisitions at Morgan Stanley Investment Management and began his career as a finance associate at Lehman Brothers. Brandon serves on the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago Advisory Council and the Small Business, Agriculture & Labor sub-council. He holds a B.B.A. in finance with a Japanese concentration from the University of Notre Dame and is a Chartered Alternative Investment Analyst.



**Andrew Hunt** | Director, Vieth Institute for Real Estate Leadership, Marquette University

Working closely with the real estate program faculty, Andy is responsible for carrying out the mission of the Vieth Institute and oversight of all day to day administration of the Institute's programs, activities and outreach. Prior to joining Marquette, Andy held roles in acquisitions with Real Capital Solutions (RCS) in Boulder, Colorado, investment and transaction management throughout the Americas with Prologis in Denver, Colorado and brokerage with UGL Equis (now Cushman & Wakefield) in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Andy received a B.S. and his MBA from Marquette University.

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## THANK YOU

Thank you to our conference sponsors who continue to be strong partners of the Vieth Institute for Real Estate Leadership. Special thanks to the Advisory Board members listed below who were instrumental in the planning of this conference:

Mike Riopel, Northwestern Mutual  
Molly McShane, The McShane Companies  
Bill Loftus, SPACECO, Inc.  
David Krill, Marquette University (Associated Bank - retired)  
Perry Vieth, Ceres Partners  
Greg Warsek, Associated Bank  
Michelle Panovich, MichDon Properties

Thanks to our Marquette team members who made today possible as well!

Melanie Roepke  
Layne Collins  
Mary Daly  
Drew Stathus  
Andrew Goldstein  
Andrew DeGuire  
Kris Ropella, Ph.D.  
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## BE THE DIFFERENCE – GET INVOLVED

The Vieth Institute faculty and staff are always seeking help with job and internship placements, mentoring and shadowing opportunities for students, resume reviews and mock interviews, site tour leaders, Real Estate Club speakers and much more. Email Andy Hunt or Melanie Roepke to discuss getting involved: [andrew.hunt@marquette.edu](mailto:andrew.hunt@marquette.edu) or [melanie.roepke@marquette.edu](mailto:melanie.roepke@marquette.edu)

## SAVE THE DATE

### Chicago Leadership Breakfast

Late September, 2025  
Union League Club of Chicago

### Real Estate Golden Eagle Gala

Friday, Nov. 7, 2025  
Marcus Center for the Performing Arts

## Stay up-to-date on all Vieth Institute for Real Estate Leadership news and events!



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