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| **SIM turns 50 - 2018** |

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| Yes, believe it or not, SIM turned 50 this year. It all began 50 years ago in Chicago thanks to a wonderful individual who had the foresight and vision to know how important the "networking" and soft skills were for Technology Leaders - Dick Dooley. I met Dick many years ago when he was hosting roundtables on leadership in Chicago. Dick not only helped found SIM, he also began the first RLF Leadership Forum 25 years ago. What a visionary!!  I attended the SIM Connect Live annual conference in Dallas last week. It was a great event to celebrate 50 years of the founding of an organization that now has over 5000 members across the country. Dick Dooley was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award and on the evening prior to the conference he talked about the beginnings of SIM. He still speaks highly of the vision he had 50 years ago. IT needs to be a driving force in the success of the businesses they are part of. IT needs to have leaders that will collaborate with their business partners and have a valued seat at the table. Nothing has changed, except that it is even more important today as the world is more complex, and the need for people in IT to solve difficult business challenges in a global economy is in great demand.  The conference was attended by 500+ members from across the country. We also celebrated the graduations of 260+ RLF (Regional Leadership Forum) participants from 2017. There were dozens of past graduates of RLF in attendance to share the excitement of meeting the new group of graduates. The RLF "network" is alive and well!! If you haven't attended RLF, or sponsored an individual to attend the RLF Program, you should seriously consider it. [www.rlf-leadership.org](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0014b2K4rI1wYp_s0qcG2ZJ-HS7c_1tkRcprMjhD0zbALknsvqTc6H_HENt2liyWBS1p6xcDzqDpWsWtCr-HEzXRPNI6vHVifgrt7CsvCXZg6KhXKpiWqEeKyz5pY3Nm6H9GRsVwkqJjGog1QqoYscraF65cZtDiXPj2Ttumb4frwm0xU9bNvwpgQ==&c=z4RcMLt7q8aoTi9DPcv7jixJl0aqTUHm32STMguINY-SoOmlliXEVg==&ch=q5Tjx5UlMdbVytvlVi8N5NciCkBanVEar0s12w5RIRVCQkg4cHdICA==)   So, SIM Chicago is 50 years old this year; yes, the oldest chapter across the country. This is where it all started. Today, the chapter is vibrant as ever, and offers our members an awesome opportunity to engage and learn from your peers. We offer 20+ events and opportunities for you to engage and see how you can bring more value to your organizations. SIM Chicago has persevered and has sustained quite well over the past 50 years. I look forward to Chicago continuing to lead the way across the SIM Chapters. Please support our Chapter and attend our upcoming Programs. [www.sim-chicago.org/events](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0014b2K4rI1wYp_s0qcG2ZJ-HS7c_1tkRcprMjhD0zbALknsvqTc6H_HNb3LX5uwIJL5jVstljDsmURn8WfxcfEi0nIxHMLBhTcafOVqzsTs_I9bkO-sCRt7i5d9vbPv5VwYdsm6I2KG4qeB46uum4-yIm-peH0FtnOZEnp6XX-I9raIxtk2Qo2EQ==&c=z4RcMLt7q8aoTi9DPcv7jixJl0aqTUHm32STMguINY-SoOmlliXEVg==&ch=q5Tjx5UlMdbVytvlVi8N5NciCkBanVEar0s12w5RIRVCQkg4cHdICA==) |

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| [Mark Griesbaum](mailto:mark.griesbaum@sim-chicago.org)  **Trustee** |

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