UICI Form 10-K March 14, 2006

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

#### Form 10-K

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES þ **EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934** 

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2005.

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES 0 **EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 [NO FEE REQUIRED]** For the transition period from

Commission file no. 001-14953

to

#### **UICI**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware** 

(State or other jurisdiction of *Incorporation or organization)* 9151 Grapevine Highway

North Richland Hills, Texas (Address of principal executive offices) 75-2044750

(IRS Employer Identification No.) 76180

(Zip Code)

Registrant s telephone number, including area code: (817) 255-5200

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

**Title of Each Class** 

Name of Each Exchange on Which Registered

Common Stock, \$0.01 par value

New York Stock Exchange

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None (Title of class)

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes  $\flat$  No o

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes o No b

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes b No o

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of Registrant s knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K b

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act).

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act). Yes o No b

As of June 30, 2005, the last business day of the registrant s most recently completed second fiscal quarter, the aggregate market value of shares of common stock held by non-affiliates was \$954.6 million based on the number of shares held by non-affiliates (32,065,498) and the reported closing market price of the common stock on the New York Stock Exchange on such date of \$29.77. The number of shares outstanding of \$0.01 par value Common Stock, as of February 23, 2006 was 46,627,669.

#### DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

None

#### **PART I**

#### Item 1. Business

#### Introduction

UICI and its subsidiaries are collectively referred to throughout this Annual Report on Form 10-K as the *Company* or *UICI* and may also be referred to as *we*, *us* or *our*.

We offer insurance (primarily health and life) to niche consumer and institutional markets. Through our subsidiaries we issue primarily health insurance policies, covering individuals and families, to the self-employed, association group, voluntary employer group and student markets. During 2005, 2004 and 2003, we generated health insurance premiums in the amount of approximately \$1.856 billion, \$1.813 billion and \$1.547 billion, respectively, representing 87%, 88% and 85%, respectively, of our total revenues in such periods.

Through our Self-Employed Agency Division, we offer a broad range of health insurance products for self-employed individuals and individuals who work for small businesses. Our basic hospital-medical and catastrophic hospital expense plans are designed to accommodate individual needs and include traditional fee-for-service indemnity (choice of doctor) plans and preferred provider organization (PPO) plans, as well as other supplemental types of coverage. Commencing in 2005, we began to offer on a selective state-by-state basis a new suite of consumer driven health plans for the individual market, utilizing the consumer driven health plan features and methodology acquired in October 2004 as part of our purchase of HealthMarket, Inc. (a Norwalk, Connecticut-based provider of consumer driven health plans (CDHPs) to the small business (2 to 50 member) market).

We market these products to the self-employed and individual markets through independent contractor agents associated with UGA-Association Field Services (a wholly-owned marketing division of the Company) and Cornerstone America (a wholly-owned marketing division of the Company), which are our dedicated agency sales forces that primarily sell the Company s products. We believe that we have the largest direct selling organization in the health insurance field, with approximately 1,800 independent writing agents selling health insurance to the self-employed market in 44 states.

Through our Student Insurance Division, we offer tailored health insurance programs that generally provide single school year coverage to individual students at colleges and universities. We also provide an accident policy for students at public and private schools in pre-kindergarten through grade 12. In the student market, we sell our products through in-house account executives that focus on colleges and universities on a national basis. We believe that we provide student insurance plans to more universities than any other single insurer. We distribute these products to the college and university market primarily through an in-house employee sales force.

Our Star HRG Division specializes in the design, marketing and administration of limited-benefit health insurance plans for entry-level, high turnover, part-time and hourly employees. We market and sell these products directly to our employer clients through our dedicated sales force of Star HRG employees and through independent insurance brokers and consultants retained by the employer client.

Through our Life Insurance Division, we also issue universal life, whole life and term life insurance products to individuals in four markets that we believe are underserved: the self-employed market, the middle income market, the Hispanic market and the senior market. We distribute these products directly to individual customers through our UGA and Cornerstone agents and other independent agents contracted through two key unaffiliated marketing companies. These two marketing companies, in turn, distribute our life products through managing general agent

(MGA) networks.

ZON Re USA LLC (an 82.5%-owned subsidiary) underwrites, administers and issues accidental death, accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D), accident medical and accident disability insurance products, both on a primary and on a reinsurance basis. We distribute these products through professional reinsurance intermediaries and a network of independent commercial insurance agents, brokers and third party administrators ( TPAs ).

UICI is a holding company, and we conduct our insurance businesses through our wholly owned insurance company subsidiaries, The MEGA Life and Health Insurance Company (MEGA), Mid-West National Life

Insurance Company of Tennessee (Mid-West) and The Chesapeake Life Insurance Company (Chesapeake). MEGA is an insurance company domiciled in Oklahoma and is licensed to issue health, life and annuity insurance policies in all states except New York. Mid-West is an insurance company domiciled in Texas and is licensed to issue health, life and annuity insurance policies in Puerto Rico and all states except Maine, New Hampshire, New York, and Vermont. Chesapeake is an insurance company domiciled in Oklahoma and is licensed to issue health and life insurance policies in all states except New Jersey, New York and Vermont.

Our principal insurance subsidiaries are rated by A.M. Best, Fitch and Standard & Poor s ( S&P ). Set forth below are financial strength ratings of the principal insurance subsidiaries.

	A.M. Best	Fitch	S&P
MEGA	A- (Excellent)	A (Strong)	A- (Strong)
Mid-West	A- (Excellent)	A (Strong)	A- (Strong)
Chesapeake	A- (Excellent)	Not Rated	BBB+ (Good)

In the table above, the A.M. Best s ratings carry a negative outlook and the Fitch and S&P ratings carry a watch negative outlook.

In evaluating a company, independent rating agencies review such factors as the company s capital adequacy, profitability, leverage and liquidity, book of business, quality and estimated market value of assets, adequacy of policy liabilities, experience and competency of management, and operating profile. A.M. Best s ratings currently range from A++ (Superior) to F (Liquidation). A.M. Best s ratings are based upon factors relevant to policyholders, agents, insurance brokers and intermediaries and are not directed to the protection of investors. Fitch s ratings provide an overall assessment of an insurance company s financial strength and security, and the ratings are used to support insurance carrier selection and placement decisions. Fitch s ratings range from AAA (Exceptionally Strong) to D (Distressed). S&P s financial strength rating is a current opinion of the financial security characteristics of an insurance organization with respect to its ability to pay under its insurance policies and contracts in accordance with their terms. Standard & Poor s financial strength ratings range from AAA (Extremely Strong) to CC (Extremely Weak).

Standard & Poor s Rating Services has assigned to UICI a counterparty credit rating of BBB— with a watch negative outlook. S&P s counterparty credit rating is a current opinion of an obligor s overall financial capacity to pay its financial obligations. Standard & Poor s counterparty credit ratings range from AAA (Extremely Strong) to CC (Currently Highly-Vulnerable).

Our operating segments for financial reporting purposes include (a) the Insurance segment, which includes the businesses of the Company s Self-Employed Agency Division, the Student Insurance Division, Star HRG Division, the Life Insurance Division and Other Insurance and (b) Other Key Factors, which includes investment income not otherwise allocated to the Insurance segment, realized gains and losses, interest expense on corporate debt, general expenses relating to corporate operations, variable stock compensation and other unallocated items.

Our principal executive offices are located at 9151 Grapevine Highway, North Richland Hills, Texas 76180-5605, and our telephone number is (817) 255-5200.

Our periodic SEC filings, including our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, and if applicable, amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 are available through our web site at www.uici.net free of charge as soon as reasonably practicable after such material is electronically filed with, or furnished to, the SEC.

## Recent Developments Blackstone Transaction

On September 15, 2005, UICI entered into a merger agreement, pursuant to which affiliates of The Blackstone Group, Goldman Sachs Capital Partners and DLJ Merchant Banking Partners will acquire UICI in a cash merger, with UICI being the surviving corporation in the merger. In the proposed transaction, substantially all current stockholders of UICI (other than certain members of management and UICI s independent insurance agents holding shares through UICI s agent stock accumulation plans) will receive \$37.00 per share in cash. Completion of the

transaction is subject to shareholder approval, receipt of insurance regulatory approvals, the receipt of certain financing and other conditions. The parties currently expect the transaction to close on or about April 3, 2006.

The board of directors has fixed February 13, 2006 as the record date for a special meeting of stockholders called to be held on Wednesday, March 29, 2006, at which the holders of the Company s Common Stock will be asked, among other things, to approve the merger agreement.

## **Insurance Segment**

## Self-Employed Agency Division

Through our Self-Employed Agency Division, we offer a broad range of health insurance products for the self-employed market (*i.e.*, self-employed individuals and individuals who work for small businesses) and products for the small (2-15 members) employer group market.

The Self-Employed Agency Division generated revenues of \$1.526 billion, \$1.496 billion and \$1.338 billion (72%, 72% and 73% of our total revenue) in 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively.

Products for the Self-Employed Market

We offer a broad range of health insurance products for self-employed individuals and individuals who work for small businesses. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, there were approximately 12 million self-employed individuals in the United States at the end of 2002. We currently have in force approximately 350,000 health policies issued or coinsured by the Company. We believe that there is significant opportunity to increase our penetration in this market.

## Health Insurance Products

#### Traditional Health Products

Our traditional health insurance plan offerings for the self-employed market have included the following:

Our Basic Hospital-Medical Expense Plan has a \$1.0 million lifetime maximum benefit for all injuries and sicknesses and \$500,000 lifetime maximum benefit for each injury or sickness. Covered expenses are subject to a deductible. Covered hospital room and board charges are reimbursed at 100% up to a pre-selected daily maximum. Covered expenses for inpatient hospital miscellaneous charges, same-day surgery facility, surgery, assistant surgeon, anesthesia, second surgical opinion, doctor visits, and ambulance services are reimbursed at 80% to 100% up to a scheduled maximum. This type of health insurance policy is of a scheduled benefit nature, and as such, provides benefits equal to the lesser of the actual cost incurred for covered expenses or the maximum benefit stated in the policy. These limitations allow for more certainty in predicting future claims experience, and, as a result, we expect that future premium increases for this policy will be less than future premium increases on our catastrophic policy.

Our Preferred Provider Plan incorporates managed care features of a preferred provider organization, which are designed to control health care costs through negotiating discounts with a PPO network. Benefits are structured to encourage the use of providers with which we have negotiated lower fees for the services to be provided. The savings from these negotiated fees reduce the costs to the individual policyholders. The policies that provide for the use of a PPO impose greater policyholder cost sharing if the policyholder uses providers outside of the PPO network.

Our Catastrophic Hospital Expense Plan provides a \$2.0 million lifetime maximum for all injuries and sicknesses and a lifetime maximum benefit for each injury or sickness ranging from \$500,000 to \$1.0 million. Covered expenses are subject to a deductible and are then reimbursed at a benefit payment rate ranging from 50% to 100% as determined by the policy. After a pre-selected dollar amount of covered expenses has been reached, the remaining expenses are reimbursed at 100% for the remainder of the period of confinement per calendar year. The benefits for this plan tend to increase as hospital care expenses increase and, as a result, premiums on these policies are subject to increase as overall hospital care expenses rise.

Each of our health insurance products is available with a menu of various options (including various deductible levels, coinsurance percentages and limited riders that cover particular events such as outpatient accidents, and doctors visits), enabling the insurance product to be tailored to meet the insurance needs and the budgetary constraints of the policyholder. We offer as an optional benefit an Accumulated Covered Expense (ACE) rider that provides for catastrophic coverage on our Scheduled/Basic plans for covered expenses under the contract that generally exceed \$75,000 or, in certain cases, \$100,000. The ACE rider pays benefits at 100% after the stop loss is reached up to the aggregate maximum amount of the contract.

## Consumer Driven Health Plan (CDHP) Products

Commencing in the first quarter of 2005, we began to offer on a selective state-by-state basis a new suite of consumer driven health plans for the individual market, utilizing the consumer driven health plan features and methodology acquired in October 2004 as part of our purchase of substantially all of the operating assets of HealthMarket Inc. (a Norwalk, Connecticut-based provider of consumer driven health plans (CDHPs) to the small business (2 to 50 member) market).

Through HealthMarket, we have developed software systems and support services that enable the complete design and administration of consumer driven health plans, which incorporate features that enable consumers to assume a greater role in making health care decisions. Information is published on the internet and is available through customer support via the telephone to assist our customers in obtaining the optimum benefits from their insurance coverage in terms of both access and cost.

Focusing on the cost side of the healthcare equation, our Consumer Preference Plan CDHP product includes multiple benefit options for consumers (such as deductibles and coinsurance), benefits that are based on a Maximum Allowable Charge (a MAC) (which is the total fee that will be considered under the terms of the policy for a particular service), and other powerful information tools, including advanced websites that provide access to information about provider cost and quality.

As of January 1 2006, the Consumer Preference Plan had been approved for issuance in Alabama, Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, Mississippi, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming and the District of Columbia.

Focusing as well on healthcare utilization, the Company s Smart Consumer Plan CDHP product enables consumers to exert an even higher level of control over healthcare decisions. The Smart Consumer Plan product focuses on episodes of care through episode allowances. There are more than 100 specific medical conditions and procedures for which we have calculated an episode allowance, which is a stated dollar limit for treatment of the condition or procedure from beginning to end. The episode allowance limits the amount that will be considered a covered expense under the policy. Episode allowances are only intended for conditions where the Company believes it is reasonable to ask consumers to be involved in decisions regarding their care and to make choices that can impact costs.

As of January 1 2006, the Smart Consumer Plan had been approved for issuance in Alabama, Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, Mississippi, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming and the District of Columbia.

These products are issued and sold by our subsidiaries, The MEGA Life and Health Insurance Company and Mid-West National Life Insurance Company of Tennessee, and distributed by independent agents associated with our UGA Association Field Services and Cornerstone America marketing divisions.

#### 2006 New Product Introductions

In the first quarter of 2006, we intend to introduce a new portfolio of health insurance products to the self-employed market. This new product portfolio includes a new Basic Medical/Surgical Expense Plan and two versions of a Catastrophic Expense PPO Plan:

Our new Basic Medical/Surgical Expense Plan has a \$2.0 million lifetime benefit for all injuries and sicknesses and \$500,000 lifetime maximum benefit for each injury or sickness. Covered expenses are covered subject to a deductible and coinsurance. Covered inpatient and outpatient hospital charges are reimbursed up to pre-selected per-injury or sickness maximums. Surgeon, assistant surgeon, anesthesia, second surgical opinion, and ambulance services are also reimbursed to a scheduled maximum. Additional benefits are available through riders and include prescription drugs, emergency services and wellness care, among others. This type of health insurance policy is of a scheduled benefit nature, and as such, provides benefits equal to the lesser of the actual cost incurred for covered expenses or the maximum benefit stated in the policy. These limitations allow for more certainty in predicting future claims experience, and, as a result, we expect that future premium increases for this policy will be lower than premium increases on our more comprehensive policies.

Our new Catastrophic Expense PPO Plan provides a \$5.0 million lifetime maximum for all injuries and sicknesses and a maximum benefit for each injury or sickness of \$1.0 million. This plan incorporates features of a preferred provider organization, which are designed to control health care costs through negotiating provider discounts with a PPO network. Benefits are structured to encourage the use of providers with which we have negotiated lower fees for the services to be provided. Covered expenses are subject to a deductible and are then reimbursed at a benefit payment rate as determined by the policy. After a pre-selected dollar amount of covered expenses has been reached, the remaining expenses are reimbursed at 100% for the remainder of the period of confinement per calendar year. As a premium and cost savings measure, this new plan limits payment for diagnostic services (X-rays and laboratory) to those diagnostic services that take place within 21 days of, and are directly related to, a hospitalization or outpatient surgery.

Our second new PPO Plan provides a \$5.0 million lifetime maximum for all injuries and sicknesses and a maximum benefit for each injury or sickness of \$1.0 million. This plan also incorporates features of a preferred provider organization. Covered expenses are subject to a deductible and are then reimbursed at a benefit payment rate as determined by the policy. After a pre-selected dollar amount of covered expenses has been reached, the remaining expenses are reimbursed at 100% for the remainder of the period of confinement per calendar year.

Subject to receipt of applicable regulatory approvals, these new products will be issued and sold by our subsidiaries, The MEGA Life and Health Insurance Company and Mid-West National Life Insurance Company of Tennessee, and distributed by independent agents associated with our UGA Association Field Services and Cornerstone America marketing divisions.

## **Ancillary Products**

We have also developed and offer new ancillary product lines that provide protection against short-term disability, as well as a combination product that provides benefits for life, disability and critical illness. These products have been designed to further protect against risks to which our core self-employed customer is typically exposed.

#### Marketing and Sales

Our marketing strategy in the self-employed market is to remain closely aligned with our dedicated agent sales forces. Substantially all of the health insurance products issued by our insurance company subsidiaries are sold through independent contractor agents associated with us. We believe that we have the largest direct selling organization in the health insurance field, with approximately 1,800 independent writing agents selling health insurance to the self-employed market in 44 states.

Our agents are independent contractors, and all compensation that agents receive from us for the sale of insurance is based upon the agents levels of sales production. UGA Association Field Services (UGA) and Cornerstone America (Cornerstone) (the principal marketing divisions of MEGA and Mid-West, respectively) are each organized into geographical regions, with each geographical region having a regional director, two additional levels of field leaders and writing agents (*i.e.*, the agents that are not involved in leadership of other agents).

UGA and Cornerstone are each responsible for the recruitment and training of their field leaders and writing agents. UGA and Cornerstone generally seek persons with previous sales experience. The process of recruiting agents is extremely competitive. We believe that the primary factors in successfully recruiting and retaining effective agents and field leaders are our practices regarding advances on commissions, the quality of the sales leads provided, the availability and accessibility of equity ownership plans, the quality of the products offered, proper training, and agent incentives and support. Classroom and field training with respect to product content is required and made available to the agents under the direction of our regulated insurance subsidiaries.

We provide health insurance products to consumers in the self-employed market in 44 states. As is the case with many of our competitors in this market, a substantial portion of our products are issued to members of various independent membership associations that act as the master policyholder for such products. The two principal membership associations in the self-employed market that make available to their members our health insurance products are the National Association for the Self-Employed and the Alliance for Affordable Services. The associations provide their membership access to a number of benefits and products, including health insurance underwritten by us. Subject to applicable state law, individuals generally may not obtain insurance under an association s master policy unless they are also members of the association. The agreements with these associations requiring the associations to continue as the master policyholder for our policies and to make our products available to their respective members are terminable by us and the associations upon not less than one year—s advance notice to the other party. While we believe that we are providing association group coverage in full compliance with applicable law, changes in our relationship with the membership associations and/or changes in the laws and regulations governing so-called—association group—insurance (particularly changes that would subject the issuance of policies to prior premium rate approval and/or require the issuance of policies on a—guaranteed issue—basis) could have a material adverse impact on our financial condition, results of operations and/or business.

UGA agents and Cornerstone agents also act as field service representatives (FSRs) for the associations. In this capacity the FSRs enroll new association members and provide membership retention services. For such services, we and the FSRs receive compensation. Specialized Association Services, Inc. (a company controlled by the adult children of the late Ronald L. Jensen, UICI s former Chairman) provides administrative and benefit procurement services to the associations. One of our subsidiaries (UICI Marketing, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary and our direct marketing group) generates new membership sales prospect leads for both UGA and Cornerstone for use by the FSRs (agents). UICI Marketing also provides video and print services to the associations and to Specialized Association Services, Inc. *See* Note K of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements. In addition to health insurance premiums derived from the sale of health insurance, we receive fee income from the associations, including fees associated with enrollment and member retention services, fees for association membership marketing and administrative services and fees for certain association member benefits.

UICI Marketing, Inc. generates sales prospect leads for UGA and Cornerstone for use by their agents. UICI Marketing administers a call center (located in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma) staffing approximately 60 tele-service representatives. UICI Marketing has developed a marketing pool of approximately nine million prospects from various data sources. Prospects initially identified by UICI Marketing that are self-employed, small business owners or individuals may become a qualified lead by responding through one of UICI Marketing s traditional and internet lead channels and by expressing an interest in learning more about health insurance. We believe that UGA and Cornerstone agents, possessing the qualified leads contact information, are able to achieve a higher close rate than is the case with

### Policy Design and Claims Management

Our traditional indemnity health insurance products are principally designed to limit coverages to the occurrence of significant events that require hospitalization. This policy design, which includes high deductibles, reduces the number of covered claims requiring processing, thereby serving as a control on administrative expenses. We seek to price our products in a manner that accurately reflects our underwriting assumptions and targeted margins, and we rely on the marketing capabilities of our dedicated agency sales forces to sell these products at prices consistent with these objectives.

We maintain administrative centers with full underwriting, claims management and administrative capabilities. We believe that by processing our own claims we can better assure that claims are properly processed and can utilize the claims information to periodically modify the benefits and coverages afforded under our policies.

We have also developed an actuarial data warehouse, which is a critical risk management tool that provides our actuaries with rapid access to detailed exposure, claim and premium data. This analysis tool enhances the actuaries ability to design, monitor and adequately price all of the Self-Employed Agency Division s insurance products.

## **Provider Network Arrangements**

The Company enrolls its indemnity customers in selected PPO networks to obtain discounts on provider services that would otherwise not be available. In situations where a customer does not obtain services from a contracted provider, the Company applies various usual and customary fees, which limit the amount paid to providers within specific geographic areas.

We believe that access to provider network contracts is a critical factor in controlling medical costs, since there is often a significant difference between a network-negotiated rate and the non-discounted rate. To this end, we access networks of hospitals and physicians through a variety of relationships with third party network providers. During 2005, approximately 77% of submitted claims were adjudicated through provider networks. In addition, we have retained a pharmacy benefits management company that has approximately 55,000 participating pharmacies nationwide. We also utilize co-payments, coinsurance, deductibles and annual limits to manage prescription drug costs.

## Acquisition of Health Blocks

Historically, the Company from time to time acquired and may continue to acquire closed (i.e., no new policies) blocks of health insurance policies or companies that own such blocks. These opportunities were pursued on a case-by-case basis, and revenues from such blocks have generally not represented a material portion of SEA Division revenue.

## Products for the Small Employer Group Market

During 2004, we announced our intent to enter the small (2-15 members) employer group market with a new suite of products incorporating our recently-acquired HealthMarket consumer driven health plan (CDHP) features and methodology. Small U.S. employers pay approximately \$400 billion of health premiums each year, representing approximately one-half of the total employer-funded market. As the most price sensitive segment of the group health insurance market, we believe that this segment offers significant growth opportunities. Subject to receipt of applicable regulatory approvals, these products will be issued and sold by our subsidiary, The MEGA Life and Health Insurance Company, and distributed by independent agents associated with our UGA—Association Field Services marketing division. We believe that our agents—existing customer relationships with small business owners may provide us with a

favorable competitive advantage in the market. In the first quarter of 2005, we began to offer our Consumer Advantage Plan to small (2-50 members) employer group consumers in selected urban markets in Texas, Georgia and Michigan. At January 1, 2006, the Consumer Advantage Plan had also been approved for issuance in Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Illinois, Missouri, Nevada, Ohio and Tennessee.

In addition, we intend to continue to utilize and grow the existing network of independent brokers to distribute HealthMarket products to the larger small (2-50 members) employer group market. Subject to applicable regulatory approvals, products to be distributed through the brokerage community will be issued by our subsidiary, The

Chesapeake Life Insurance Company. At the time of our acquisition of substantially all of the operating assets of HealthMarket Inc. in October 2004, HealthMarket s insurance subsidiary had utilized brokers to enroll in its consumer driven health plans over 2,400 companies with an aggregate of approximately 38,000 members. At February 1, 2006, the Company had executed agreements with approximately 1,100 independent insurance brokers to represent Chesapeake in connection with the sale of products to the small (2-50 member) employer group market.

To date, the Company has generated only nominal revenues from the sale of health insurance products to the small employer group market.

#### **Student Insurance Division**

Our Student Insurance Division (based in St. Petersburg, Florida) offers tailored health insurance programs that generally provide single school year coverage to individual students at colleges and universities. We also provide an accident policy for students at public and private schools in pre-kindergarten through grade 12.

#### Market

The student market consists primarily of students attending colleges and universities in the United States and, to a lesser extent, students attending public and private schools in grades pre-kindergarten through grade 12. Generally, our marketing efforts have been focused on college students whose circumstances are such that health insurance may not otherwise be available through their parents. In particular, older undergraduate, graduate and international students often have a need to obtain insurance as first-time buyers, as many schools require proof of insurance as a requirement for enrollment. According to industry sources, there are approximately 2,100 four-year universities and colleges in the United States, which have a combined enrollment of approximately 9.5 million students. Typically, a carrier must be approved and endorsed by the educational institution as a preferred vendor of health insurance coverage to the institution s students. We believe that we have been authorized by more universities to provide student health insurance plans than any other single insurer.

#### **Products**

Our student insurance programs are designed to meet the requirements of each individual school. The programs generally provide coverage for one school year (which typically runs from September through the succeeding August) and the maximum benefits available to any individual student enrolled in the program range from \$10,000 to \$1.0 million, depending on the coverage level desired by the school.

Our Student Insurance division underwrites, manages and pays claims and administers policies for about 75% of all of its school clients. Selected school clients have elected to administer and pay claims through independent third party administrators (TPAs) with respect to student insureds attending their schools.

Our Student Insurance division had revenues of \$290.4 million, \$306.3 million and \$249.1 million in 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively, representing approximately 14%, 15% and 14% of our consolidated revenues in each such year.

## Marketing and Sales

We market our student insurance products to colleges and universities on a national basis through in-house account executives whose compensation is based primarily on commissions. Account executives make presentations to the appropriate school officials and if we are selected, we are endorsed as the provider of health insurance for students attending that school.

The pre-kindergarten through grade 12 business is marketed nationwide, primarily through third party agents and brokers.

## Star HRG Division

Our Star HRG Division, with principal offices in Phoenix, Arizona, specializes in the development, marketing, and administration of limited-benefit plans for entry level, high turnover, hourly employees. The Star HRG Division

reported revenues of \$146.6 million, \$150.5 million and \$118.2 million in the years ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively, representing approximately 7%, 7% and 6% of our consolidated revenues in each such year.

#### Market

Star HRG focuses its marketing efforts on the employer-based segment within two distinct markets: mid-size companies employing 100-1,499 eligible employees and larger employers with 1,500 or more eligible employees. Star HRG s primary product offering is marketed under the trademark name of Starbridge. It is offered to large and mid-size companies and constitutes an affordably priced group of limited-benefit plans designed to meet the needs of entry level, high turnover, hourly employees. The plans include consumer-decision tools and are designed to meet the needs of full or part-time employees who are in non-benefited classes and for newly hired individuals who are not yet eligible for full-time benefits. Target industries include national and regional restaurant chains, retail and convenience stores, service stations, call centers, and various other outlets of the service/hospitality industries.

Star HRG s newest product initiative, Fundamental Care, is an enhanced limited-benefit medical plan designed to fill the gap between voluntary, limited-benefit plans and comprehensive major medical plans. The Fundamental Care plan is designed for employers with a large population of skilled hourly workers who cannot afford to offer their employees a major medical plan. With rates as much as 25-40% less than that of a comprehensive major medical plan, the plan is available for mid-to-large groups with a minimum of 100 employees. Fundamental Care provides insureds up to \$50,000 in medical coverage each coverage year. Some benefits include coverage for day-to-day medical needs such as doctor visits, surgery, hospitalization, maternity, wellness care, lab/x-rays, and prescriptions.

#### **Products**

Product offerings under Star HRG programs include affordable limited-benefit medical, dental, term life, accidental death benefits, and short-term disability, as well as access to discounted prescription, vision, and other health care related networks and services.

#### Marketing and Sales

Star HRG markets its products in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Star HRG markets directly to potential employer-group clients through its dedicated sales force of 17 Star HRG employees. Clients often retain independent insurance agents, brokers, or consultants to facilitate the sales process. Managing General Agents are also utilized to distribute Star HRG s products to the insurance agent/broker marketplace.

Star HRG s sales efforts are supplemented by a full-service enrollment center located in Phoenix, Arizona. To increase plan participation, the enrollment center utilizes direct mail pieces, interactive voice response technology and an in-bound/out-bound call center enrollment team.

## Life Insurance Division

Our Life Insurance Division offers life insurance products to individuals. At December 31, 2005, the Life Insurance Division (which is based in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma) had nearly \$5.8 billion of net life insurance in force and over 300,000 individual policyholders. The Life Insurance Division, which grew historically through acquisitions of closed blocks of life insurance and annuity policies, has more recently shifted its focus and has begun to build new distribution channels and to market and sell newly designed life insurance products. In 2005, 2004 and 2003, the Life Insurance Division generated revenues of \$93.5 million, \$76.0 million and \$68.3 million, respectively, representing 4% of our total revenue in each such year.

## Markets Served

The Life Insurance Division offers its life insurance products to demographically growing market segments that we have identified as underserved, including the self-employed market, the middle-income market, the Hispanic market and the senior market.

#### **Products**

The Life Insurance Division s products are tailored to meet the specific needs of customers in each of its targeted markets. We offer universal life insurance and term insurance products to individuals in the self-employed market. We offer other term plans, as well as two universal life products, to meet the needs of individuals in the middle-income market and the Hispanic market. We also offer a whole life product, a graded whole life and a modified whole life product to assist seniors in meeting their needs to cover final expenses.

#### Distribution

The Life Insurance Division distributes its products primarily through two distribution channels. Commencing in the second quarter of 2002, our UGA and Cornerstone agents began to market our universal life and term products to individuals in the self-employed market. In 2003, the Life Insurance Division also entered into new marketing relationships with two independent marketing companies to distribute our products through networks of managing general agents (MGAs). One marketing company offers universal life and term products to middle-income buyers, as well as through agencies that specialize in sales to Hispanic buyers. The second marketing company offers our whole life product line exclusively for seniors. At year-end 2005, these two marketing organizations had contracted over 13,000 independent agents to distribute our products.

## Marketing and Sales

With the help of agents associated with UGA and Cornerstone, the Life Insurance Division seeks to leverage our significant health insurance customer base by positioning itself to offer those customers (self-employed individuals) universal life and term life products designed to fit their changing needs. The two independent marketing companies with which we have contracted offer their agents product lines to cover the needs of the middle-income market, the Hispanic market and the senior market. The Life Insurance Division has also developed a needs analysis software selling system, Blueprint for Life. This selling tool allows the agent to accurately and quickly identify the amount of insurance that should be carried by an individual. We believe that the Blueprint for Life provides a much needed and valuable service to the middle-income buyer, who has often been overlooked or underserved by other distributors of life insurance products.

#### Former College Fund Life Division

Through our former College Fund Life Insurance Division, we previously offered an interest-sensitive whole life insurance product that was generally issued with an annuity rider and a child term rider. The child term rider included a special provision under which we committed to provide private student loans to help fund the named child s higher education if certain restrictions and qualifications are satisfied. Student loans were available in amounts up to \$30,000 for students attending undergraduate school and up to \$30,000 for students attending graduate school. Loans made under this rider are not funded or supported by the federal government.

Effective May 31, 2003, we closed our College Fund Life Division and discontinued offering the College Fund Life product, including the child term rider that committed us to provide private student loans to help fund the named child s higher education. Despite the close of the College Fund Life Division, we continue to have outstanding commitments to fund student loans for the years 2006 through 2026 with respect to policies previously issued. *See* Notes H and L of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

#### Other Insurance

Through our 82.5%-owned subsidiary, ZON Re USA LLC ( ZON Re ), we underwrite, administer and issue accidental death, accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D), accident medical and accident disability insurance products, both on a primary and on a reinsurance basis. In the year ended December 31, 2005, ZON Re generated revenues of \$34.8 million and operating income of \$4.7 million.

ZON Re underwrites and manages accident reinsurance programs on behalf of MEGA for primary life, accident and health and property and casualty insurers that wish to transfer risk for certain types of primary accident programs. Accident reinsurance provides reimbursement to primary insurance carriers for covered losses resulting

from accidental bodily injury or accidental death. For its reinsurance programs, ZON Re targets national, regional and middle market insurers in the United States and Canada. ZON Re distributes accident reinsurance products through a network of professional reinsurance intermediaries. ZON Re underwrites on behalf of MEGA both treaty and facultative accident reinsurance programs, which may be offered on either a quota share or excess of loss basis. The Company has determined, as a matter of policy, that MEGA s exposure on any single reinsurance contract issued by it and underwritten by ZON Re will not exceed \$1.0 million per person and \$10.0 million per event.

ZON Re also underwrites and distributes a limited portfolio of primary accident insurance products issued by Chesapeake. These products are designed for direct purchase by banks, associations, employers and affinity groups and are distributed through a national network of independent commercial insurance agents, brokers and third party administrators (TPAs). The Company has determined, as a matter of policy, that Chesapeake s maximum exposure on any single primary insurance contract issued by it and underwritten by ZON Re will not exceed \$1.0 million per person.

## **Discontinued Operations**

Over the past three years we have actively endeavored to simplify our business by closing and/or disposing of assets and operations not otherwise related to our core health and life insurance operations, including the operations of our former Academic Management Services Corp. ( AMS ) subsidiary (which we sold in November 2003), our former Senior Market Division, and our former Special Risk Division. *See Item 7* Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

#### **Ceded Reinsurance**

Our insurance subsidiaries reinsure portions of the coverages provided by their insurance products with other insurance companies on both an excess-of-loss and coinsurance basis. The maximum retention by us on one individual in the case of life insurance is \$200,000 for MEGA, Mid-West and Chesapeake. We use reinsurance for our health insurance business solely for limited purposes. Reinsurance agreements are intended to limit an insurer s maximum loss.

#### **Competition**

In each of our lines of business, we compete with other insurance companies or service providers, depending on the line and product, although we have no single competitor who competes against us in all of the business lines in which we operate. With respect to the business of our Self-Employed Agency Division, the market is characterized by many competitors, and our main competitors include health insurance companies, health maintenance organizations and the Blue Cross/ Blue Shield plans in the states in which we write business. With respect to our Student Insurance and Star HRG businesses, we compete with subsidiaries and units of larger, national insurance providers. While we are among the largest competitors in terms of market share in many of our business lines, in some cases there are one or more major market players in a particular line of business.

Competition in our businesses is based on many factors, including quality of service, product features, price, scope of distribution, scale, financial strength ratings and name recognition. We compete, and will continue to compete, for customers and distributors with many insurance companies and other financial services companies. We compete not only for business and individual customers, employer and other group customers, but also for agents and distribution relationships. Some of our competitors may offer a broader array of products than our specific subsidiaries with which they compete in particular markets, may have a greater diversity of distribution resources, may have better brand recognition, may from time to time have more competitive pricing, may have lower cost structures or, with respect to insurers, may have higher financial strength or claims paying ratings. Organizations with sizable market share or

provider-owned plans may be able to obtain favorable financial arrangements from health care providers that are not available to us. Some may also have greater financial resources with which to compete. In addition, from time to time, companies enter and exit the markets in which we operate, thereby increasing competition at times when there are new entrants. For example, several large insurance companies have recently entered the market for individual health insurance products. We may lose business to

competitors offering competitive products at lower prices, or for other reasons, which could materially adversely affect our future results of operations and financial condition.

## **Regulatory and Legislative Matters**

## **Insurance Regulation**

State Regulation

Our insurance subsidiaries are subject to extensive regulation in their states of domicile and the other states in which they do business under statutes that typically delegate broad regulatory, supervisory and administrative powers to insurance departments. The method of regulation varies, but the subject matter of such regulation covers, among other things, the amount of dividends and other distributions that can be paid by the insurance subsidiaries without prior approval or notification; the granting and revoking of licenses to transact business; trade practices, including with respect to the protection of consumers; disclosure requirements; privacy standards; minimum loss ratios; premium rate regulation; underwriting standards; approval of policy forms; claims payment; licensing of insurance agents and the regulation of their conduct; the amount and type of investments that the insurance subsidiaries may hold, minimum reserve and surplus requirements; risk-based capital requirements; and compelled participation in, and assessments in connection with, risk sharing pools and guaranty funds. Such regulation is intended to protect policyholders rather than investors.

Our insurance subsidiaries are required to file detailed annual statements with the state insurance regulatory departments and are subject to periodic financial and market conduct examinations by such departments. The most recently completed financial examination for MEGA in Oklahoma (MEGA s domicile state) was completed as of and for the two-year period ended December 31, 2003. The most recently completed financial examination for Mid-West in Tennessee (Mid-West s state of domicile until 2005) was completed as of and for the four-year period ended December 31, 2003. The most recently completed financial examination for Chesapeake in Oklahoma (Chesapeake s domicile state) was completed as of and for the three-year period ended December 31, 2003.

State insurance departments have also periodically conducted and continue to conduct market conduct examinations of UICI s insurance subsidiaries. As of December 31, 2005, either or both of MEGA and Mid-West were subject to ongoing market conduct examinations and/or open inquiries with respect to marketing practices in 13 states. State insurance regulatory agencies have authority to levy monetary fines and penalties resulting from findings made during the course of such market conduct examinations. Historically, our insurance subsidiaries have from time to time been subject to such fines and penalties, none of which individually or in the aggregate have had a material adverse effect on our results of operations or financial condition.

In March 2005, UICI received notification that the Market Analysis Working Group of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners had chosen the states of Washington and Alaska to lead a multi-state market conduct examination of UICI s principal insurance subsidiaries, The MEGA Life and Health Insurance Company, Mid-West National Life Insurance Company of Tennessee and The Chesapeake Life Insurance Company. That examination commenced in May 2005 and is ongoing. While we do not currently believe that the multi-state market conduct examination will have a material adverse effect upon our consolidated financial position or results of operations, state insurance regulatory agencies have authority to levy monetary fines and penalties resulting from findings made during the course of such examinations.

On March 8, 2005, the Office of the Insurance Commissioner of the State of Washington issued a cease and desist order that prohibits MEGA from selling a previously approved health insurance product to consumers in the State of Washington. On April 27, 2005, the Washington Department of Insurance granted MEGA s and Mid-West s request for

approval of a policy form and rates associated with a new health insurance product to be offered to consumers in the State of Washington. The Company commenced offering the new product in the second quarter of 2005. UICI does not believe that the issuance of the cease and desist order by the Washington Insurance Commissioner had a material adverse effect upon its consolidated results of operations or financial condition.

State regulation of health insurance products varies from state to state, although all states regulate premium rates, policy forms and underwriting and claims practices to one degree or another. Most states have special rules for health insurance sold to individuals and small groups. For example, a number of states have passed or are

considering legislation that would limit the differentials in rates that insurers could charge for health care coverage between new business and renewal business for small groups with similar demographics. Every state has also adopted legislation that would make health insurance available to all small employer groups by requiring coverage of all employees and their dependents, by limiting the applicability of pre-existing conditions exclusions, by requiring insurers to offer a basic plan exempt from certain benefits as well as a standard plan, or by establishing a mechanism to spread the risk of high risk employees to all small group insurers. The U.S. Congress and various state legislators have from time to time proposed changes to the health care system that could affect the relationship between health insurers and their customers, including external review. In addition, various states are considering the adoption of play or pay laws requiring that employers either offer health insurance or pay a tax to cover the costs of public health care insurance. We cannot predict with certainty the effect that any proposals, if adopted, or legislative developments could have on our insurance businesses and operations.

A number of states have enacted new health insurance legislation over the past several years. These laws, among other things, mandate benefits with respect to certain diseases or medical procedures, require health insurers to offer an independent external review of certain coverage decisions and establish health insurer liability. There has also been an increase in legislation regarding, among other things, prompt payment of claims, privacy of personal health information, health insurer liability, prohibition against insurers including discretionary clauses in their policy forms and relationships between health insurers and providers. We expect that this trend of increased legislation will continue. These laws may have the effect of increasing our costs and expenses.

We provide health insurance products to consumers in the self-employed market in 44 states. As is the case with many of our competitors in this market, a substantial portion of our products is issued to members of various independent membership associations that act as the master policyholder for such products. During 2004, we and our insurance company subsidiaries resolved a nationwide class action lawsuit challenging the nature of the relationship between our insurance companies and the membership associations that make available to their members our insurance companies health insurance products. *See* Note L of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements. While we believe that we are providing association group coverage in full compliance with applicable law, changes in our relationship with the membership associations and/or changes in the laws and regulations governing association group insurance (particularly changes that would subject the issuance of policies to prior premium rate approval and/or require the issuance of policies on a guaranteed issue basis) could have a material adverse impact on our financial condition, results of operations and/or business.

Many states have also enacted insurance holding company laws that require registration and periodic reporting by insurance companies controlled by other corporations. Such laws vary from state to state, but typically require periodic disclosure concerning the corporation that controls the controlled insurer and prior notice to, or approval by, the applicable regulator of inter-corporate transfers of assets and other transactions (including payments of dividends in excess of specified amounts by the controlled insurer) within the holding company system. Such laws often also require the prior approval for the acquisition of a significant ownership interest (i.e., 10% or more) in the insurance holding company. UICI (the holding company) and our insurance subsidiaries are subject to such laws, and we believe that we and such subsidiaries are in compliance in all material respects with all applicable insurance holding company laws and regulations.

Under the risk-based capital initiatives adopted in 1992 by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC), insurance companies must calculate and report information under a risk-based capital formula. Risk-based capital formulas are intended to evaluate risks associated with asset quality, adverse insurance experience, losses from asset and liability mismatching, and general business hazards. This information is intended to permit regulators to identify and require remedial action for inadequately capitalized insurance companies, but it is not designed to rank adequately capitalized companies. At December 31, 2005, the risk-based capital ratio of each of our domestic insurance subsidiaries significantly exceeded the ratio for which regulatory corrective action would be required.

The states in which our insurance subsidiaries are licensed have the authority to change the minimum mandated statutory loss ratios to which they are subject, the manner in which these ratios are computed and the manner in which compliance with these ratios is measured and enforced. Loss ratios are commonly defined as incurred claims divided by earned premiums. Most states in which our insurance subsidiaries write insurance have

adopted the loss ratios recommended by the NAIC, but frequently the loss ratio regulations do not apply to the types of health insurance issued by our subsidiaries. We are unable to predict the impact of (i) any changes in the mandatory statutory loss ratios for individual or group policies to which we may become subject, or (ii) any change in the manner in which these minimums are computed or enforced in the future. Such changes could result in a narrowing of profit margins and adversely affect our business and results of operations. We have not been informed by any state that our insurance subsidiaries do not meet mandated minimum ratios, and we believe that we are in compliance with all such minimum ratios. In the event that we are not in compliance with minimum statutory loss ratios mandated by regulatory authorities with respect to certain policies, we may be required to reduce or refund premiums, which could have a material adverse effect upon our business and results of operations.

The NAIC and state insurance departments are continually reexamining existing laws and regulations, including those related to reducing the risk of insolvency and related accreditation standards. To date, the increase in solvency-related oversight has not had a significant impact on our insurance business.

## Federal Regulation

In 1945, the U.S. Congress enacted the McCarran-Ferguson Act, which declared the regulation of insurance to be primarily the responsibility of the individual states. Although repeal of McCarran-Ferguson is debated in the U.S. Congress from time to time, the federal government generally does not directly regulate the insurance business. However, federal legislation and administrative policies in several areas, including healthcare, pension regulation, age and sex discrimination, financial services regulation, securities regulation, privacy laws, terrorism and federal taxation, do affect the insurance business.

## The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA)

As with other lines of insurance, the regulation of health insurance historically has been within the domain of the states. However, HIPAA and the implementing regulations promulgated thereunder by the Department of Health and Human Services impose obligations for issuers of health and dental insurance coverage and health and dental benefit plan sponsors. HIPAA requires certain guaranteed issuance and renewability of health insurance coverage for individuals and small employer groups (generally 50 or fewer employees) and limits exclusions based on pre-existing conditions. Most of the insurance reform provisions of HIPAA became effective for plan years beginning on or after July 1, 1997.

HIPAA also establishes requirements for maintaining the confidentiality and security of individually identifiable health information and new standards for electronic health care transactions. The Department of Health and Human Services promulgated final HIPAA regulations in 2002. The privacy regulations required compliance by April 2003, the electronic transactions regulations by October 2003 and the security regulations by April 2005. As have other entities in the health care industry, we have incurred substantial costs in meeting the requirements of these HIPAA regulations and expect to continue to incur costs to maintain compliance. We have worked diligently to comply with these regulations within the time periods required and believe that we have complied.

HIPAA is a far-reaching and complex issue and proper interpretation and practice under the law continue to evolve. Consequently, our efforts to measure, monitor and adjust our business practices to comply with HIPAA are ongoing. Failure to comply could result in regulatory fines and civil lawsuits. Knowing and intentional violations of these rules may also result in federal criminal penalties.

UICI is continuously reviewing the potential impact of the HIPAA privacy and security regulations on its operations, including its information technology and security systems. There can be no assurance that the restrictions and duties imposed by the final rules on the privacy and security of individually-identifiable health information will not have a

material adverse effect on UICI s business and future results of operations.

## **USA PATRIOT Act**

On October 26, 2001, the International Money Laundering Abatement and Anti-Terrorist Financing Act of 2001 was enacted into law as part of the USA PATRIOT Act. The law requires, among other things, that financial institutions adopt anti-money laundering programs that include policies, procedures and controls to detect and

prevent money laundering, designate a compliance officer to oversee the program and provide for employee training, and periodic audits in accordance with regulations proposed by the U.S. Treasury Department. Proposed Treasury regulations governing portions of our life insurance business would require us to develop and implement procedures designed to detect and prevent money laundering and terrorist financing. We remain subject to U.S. regulations that prohibit business dealings with entities identified as threats to national security. We have licensed software to enable us to detect and prevent such activities in compliance with existing regulations and we are developing policies and procedures designed to comply with the proposed regulations should they come into effect.

There are significant criminal and civil penalties that can be imposed for violation of Treasury regulations. We believe that the steps we are taking to comply with the current regulations and to prepare for compliance with the proposed regulations should be sufficient to minimize the risks of such penalties.

#### CAN SPAM Act

From time to time the Company utilizes, either directly or through third party vendors, e-mail to identify prospective sales leads for use by its agents. The federal CAN SPAM Act, which became effective January 1, 2004 and is administered and enforced by the Federal Trade Commission, establishes national standards for sending bulk, unsolicited commercial e-mail. While targeting and prohibiting e-marketers to send unsolicited commercial e-mail with falsified headers, the CAN SPAM Act permits the use of unsolicited commercial e-mail if and as long as the message contains an opt-out mechanism, a functioning return e-mail address, a valid subject line indicating the e-mail is an advertisement and the legitimate physical address of the mailer. While the Company has taken what it believes are reasonable steps to ensure that it, and the various third party vendors with which it does business, are in full compliance with the CAN SPAM Act, failure to comply with the provisions of the CAN SPAM Act could result in regulatory fines and civil lawsuits.

## Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act

The Financial Services Modernization Act of 1999 (the so-called Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, or GLBA) includes several privacy provisions and introduced new controls over the transfer and use of individuals nonpublic personal data by financial institutions, including insurance companies, insurance agents and brokers and certain other entities licensed by state insurance regulatory authorities.

GLBA provides that there is no federal preemption of a state s insurance related privacy laws if the state law is more stringent than the privacy rules imposed under GLBA. Accordingly, selected state insurance regulators or state legislatures have adopted rules that limit the ability of insurance companies, insurance agents and brokers and certain other entities licensed by state insurance regulatory authorities to disclose and use non-public information about consumers to third parties. These limitations require the disclosure by these entities of their privacy policies to consumers and, in some circumstances, will allow consumers to prevent the disclosure or use of certain personal information to an unaffiliated third party. Pursuant to the authority granted under GLBA to state insurance regulatory authorities to regulate the privacy of nonpublic personal information provided to consumers and customers of insurance companies, insurance agents and brokers and certain other entities licensed by state insurance regulatory authorities, the National Association of Insurance Commissioners has recently promulgated a new model regulation called Privacy of Consumer Financial and Health Information Regulation. Some states issued this model regulation before July 1, 2001, while other states must pass certain legislative reforms to implement new state privacy rules pursuant to GLBA. In addition, GLBA requires state insurance regulators to establish standards for administrative, technical and physical safeguards pertaining to customer records and information to (a) ensure their security and confidentiality, (b) protect against anticipated threats and hazards to their security and integrity, and (c) protect against unauthorized access to and use of these records and information. The privacy and security provisions of GLBA have significantly affected how a consumer s nonpublic personal information is transmitted through and used by diversified

financial services companies and conveyed to and used by outside vendors and other unaffiliated third parties.

### Legislative Developments

Legislation has been introduced in the U.S. Congress that would allow state-chartered and regulated insurance companies, such as our insurance subsidiaries, to choose instead to be regulated exclusively by a federal insurance regulator. We do not believe that such legislation will be enacted during the current Congressional term.

Numerous proposals to reform the current health care system have been introduced in the U.S. Congress and in various state legislatures. Proposals have included, among other things, modifications to the existing employer-based insurance system, a quasi-regulated system of *managed competition* among health insurers, and a single-payer, public program. Changes in health care policy could significantly affect our business. For example, federally mandated, comprehensive major medical insurance, if proposed and implemented, could partially or fully replace some of our current products. Furthermore, legislation has been introduced from time to time in the U.S. Congress that could result in the federal government assuming a more direct role in regulating insurance companies.

There is also legislation pending in the U.S. Congress and in various states designed to provide additional privacy protections to consumer customers of financial institutions. These statutes and similar legislation and regulations in the United States or other jurisdictions could affect our ability to market our products or otherwise limit the nature or scope of our insurance operations.

The NAIC and individual states have been studying small face amount life insurance for the past three years. Some initiatives that have been raised at the NAIC include further disclosure for small face amount policies and restrictions on premium to benefit ratios. The NAIC is also studying other issues such as *suitability* of insurance products for certain customers. This may have an effect on our pre-funded funeral insurance business. Suitability requirements such as a customer assets and needs worksheet could extend and complicate the sale of pre-funded funeral insurance products.

We are unable to evaluate new legislation that may be proposed and when or whether any such legislation will be enacted and implemented. However, many of the proposals, if adopted, could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, cash flows or results of operations, while others, if adopted, could potentially benefit our business.

Recently, the insurance industry has experienced substantial volatility as a result of current litigation, investigations and regulatory activity by various insurance, governmental and enforcement authorities concerning certain practices within the insurance industry. These practices include the payment of contingent commissions by insurance companies to insurance brokers and agents and the extent to which such compensation has been disclosed, the solicitation and provision of fictitious or inflated quotes, the use of inducements to brokers or companies in the sale of group insurance products, and the accounting treatment for finite reinsurance or other non-traditional or loss mitigation insurance products. We have received inquiries and informational requests from insurance departments in certain states in which our insurance subsidiaries operate. We cannot predict at this time the effect that current litigation, investigations and regulatory activity will have on the insurance industry or our business.

The NAIC and several states have recently proposed regulations and/or laws that would that would prohibit agent/broker practices that have been the focus of recent investigations of broker compensation in the State of New York. The NAIC has adopted a Compensation Disclosure Amendment to its Producers Licensing Model Act which, if adopted by the states, would require disclosure by agents/brokers to customers that insurers will compensate such agents/brokers for the placement of insurance and documented acknowledgement of this arrangement in cases where the customer also compensates the agent/broker. Some larger states, including California and New York, are considering additional provisions that would require the disclosure of the amount of compensation and/or require (where an agent/broker represents more than one insurer) placement of the best coverage. We cannot predict how many states, if any, may promulgate the NAIC amendment or similar regulations or the extent to which these

regulations may have an adverse impact on our business.

## **Employees**

We had approximately 2,700 employees at February 14, 2006. We consider our employee relations to be good. Agents associated with our UGA and Cornerstone field forces constitute independent contractors and are not employees of the Company.

## Item 1A. Risk Factors

The following factors could impact the Company s business and financial prospects:

## UICI may lose business to competitors offering competitive products at lower prices.

We compete, and will continue to compete, for customers and distributors with many insurance companies and other financial services companies. We compete not only for business and individual customers, employer and other group customers, but also for agents and distribution relationships. Our competitors may offer a broader array of products than we do, have a greater diversity of distribution resources, have better brand recognition, have more competitive pricing or, have higher financial strength or claims paying ratings. Competitors with sizable market share or provider-owned plans may be able to obtain favorable financial arrangements from health care providers that are not available to us.

# Failure to accurately estimate medical claims and health care costs may have a significant impact on the Company s business and results of operation.

If we are unable to accurately estimate medical claims and control health care costs, our results of operations may be materially and adversely affected. We estimate the cost of future medical claims and other expenses using actuarial methods based upon historical data, medical inflation, product mix, seasonality, utilization of health care services and other relevant factors. We establish premiums based on these methods. The premiums we charge our customers generally are fixed for one-year periods, and costs we incur in excess of our medical claim projections generally are not recovered in the contract year through higher premiums.

# Failure of our insurance subsidiaries to maintain their current insurance ratings could materially adversely affect UICI s business and results of operations.

Our principal insurance subsidiaries are currently rated by A.M. Best Company, Fitch and Standard & Poor s. If our insurance subsidiaries are not able to maintain their current rating by A.M. Best Company, Fitch and/or Standard & Poor s, our results of operations could be materially adversely affected. Decreases in operating performance and other financial measures may result in a downward adjustment of the rating of our insurance subsidiaries assigned by A.M. Best Company, Fitch or Standard & Poor s. Other factors beyond our control, such as general downward economic cycles and changes implemented by the rating agencies, including changes in the criteria for the underwriting or the capital adequacy model, may also result in a decrease in the rating. A downward adjustment in rating by A.M. Best Company, Fitch and/or Standard & Poor s of our insurance subsidiaries could have a material adverse effect on our business and results of operations.

Changes in our relationship with membership associations that make available to their members our health insurance products and/or changes in the laws and regulations governing so-called association group insurance could materially adversely affect UICI s business and results of operations.

As is the case with many of our competitors in the self-employed market, a substantial portion of our health insurance products is issued to members of various independent membership associations that act as the master policyholder for such products. The two principal membership associations in the self-employed market that make available to their members our health insurance products are the National Association for the Self-Employed and the Alliance for Affordable Services. The associations provide their members access to a number of benefits and products, including health insurance underwritten by us. Subject to applicable state law, individuals generally may not obtain insurance under an association s master policy unless they are also members of the association. The agreements with these

associations requiring the associations to continue as the master policyholder for our policies and to make our products available to their respective members are terminable by us or the association upon not less than one year s advance notice to the other party.

Our UGA agents and Cornerstone America agents also act as field service representatives (FSRs) for the associations, in which capacity the FSRs enroll new association members and provide membership retention services. For such services, we and the FSRs receive compensation. Specialized Association Services, Inc. (a company controlled by the adult children of the late Ronald L. Jensen (UICI s former Chairman)) provides

17

administrative and benefit procurement services to the associations. One of our subsidiaries (UICI Marketing, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary and our direct marketing group) generates new membership sales prospect leads for both UGA and Cornerstone for use by the FSRs (agents). UICI Marketing also provides video and print services to the associations and to Specialized Association Services, Inc. In addition to health insurance premiums derived from the sale of health insurance, we receive fee income from the associations, including fees associated with enrollment and member retention services, fees for association membership marketing and administrative services and fees for certain association member benefits.

While we believe that we are providing association group coverage in full compliance with applicable law, changes in our relationship with the membership associations and/or changes in the laws and regulations governing so-called association group—insurance, particularly changes that would subject the issuance of policies to prior premium rate approval and/or require the issuance of policies on a guaranteed issue—basis, could have a material adverse impact on our financial condition, results of operations and/or business.

Our domestic insurance subsidiaries are currently the subject of a multi-state market conduct examination, and an adverse finding or outcome from that examination could adversely affect our results of operations and financial condition.

In March 2005, UICI received notification that the Market Analysis Working Group of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners had chosen the states of Washington and Alaska to lead a multi-state market conduct examination of UICI s principal insurance subsidiaries, The MEGA Life and Health Insurance Company, Mid-West National Life Insurance Company of Tennessee and The Chesapeake Life Insurance Company. That examination commenced in May 2005 and is ongoing. While we do not currently believe that the multi-state market conduct examination will have a material adverse effect upon our consolidated financial position or results of operations, state insurance regulatory agencies have authority to levy monetary fines and penalties resulting from findings made during the course of such examinations.

Negative publicity regarding our business practices and about the health insurance industry in general may harm our business and adversely affect our results of operations and financial condition.

The health and life insurance industry and related products and services we provide attracts negative publicity from consumer advocate groups and the media. Negative publicity may result in increased regulation and legislative scrutiny of industry practices as well as increased litigation, which may further increase our costs of doing business and adversely affect our profitability by impeding our ability to market our products and services, requiring us to change our products or services or increasing the regulatory burdens under which we operate.

UICI s failure to secure and enhance cost-effective health care provider network contracts may result in a loss of insureds and/or higher medical costs and adversely affect UICI s results of operations.

Our results of operations and competitive position could be adversely affected by our inability to enter into or maintain satisfactory relationships with networks of hospitals, physicians, dentists, pharmacies and other health care providers. The failure to secure cost-effective health care provider network contracts may result in a loss of insureds or higher medical costs. In addition, the inability to contract with provider networks, the inability to terminate contracts with existing provider networks and enter into arrangements with new provider networks to serve the same market, and/or the inability of providers to provide adequate care, could adversely affect our results of operations.

UICI s inability to obtain funds from its insurance subsidiaries may cause it to experience reduced cash flow, which could affect the Company s ability to pay its obligations to creditors as they become due.

We are a holding company, the principal assets of which are our investments in our separate operating subsidiaries, including our regulated insurance subsidiaries. Our ability to fund our cash requirements is largely dependent upon our ability to access cash from our subsidiaries. Our insurance subsidiaries are subject to regulations that limit their ability to transfer funds to us. If we are unable to obtain funds from our insurance

subsidiaries, we will experience reduced cash flow, which could affect our ability to pay our obligations to creditors as they become due.

# A failure of our information systems to provide timely and accurate information could adversely affect our business and results of operations.

Information processing is critical to our business, and a failure of our information systems to provide timely and accurate information could adversely affect our business and results of operations. The failure to maintain an effective and efficient information system or disruptions in our information system could cause disruptions in our business operations, including (a) failure to comply with prompt pay laws; (b) loss of existing insureds; (c) difficulty in attracting new insureds; (d) disputes with insureds, providers and agents; (e) regulatory problems; (f) increases in administrative expenses; and (g) other adverse consequences.

# Changes in government regulation could increase the costs of compliance or cause us to discontinue marketing our products in certain states.

We conduct business in a heavily regulated industry, and changes in government regulation could increase the costs of compliance or cause us to discontinue marketing our products in certain states. Some of the new federal and state regulations promulgated under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, or HIPAA, relating to health care reform require us to implement changes in our programs and systems in order to maintain compliance. We have incurred significant expenditures as a result of HIPAA regulations and expect to continue to incur expenditures as various regulations become effective.

#### We may not have enough statutory capital and surplus to continue to write business.

Our continued ability to write business is dependent on maintaining adequate levels of statutory capital and surplus to support the policies we write. Our new business writing typically results in net losses on a statutory basis during the early years of a policy. The resulting reduction in statutory surplus, or surplus strain, limits our ability to seek new business due to statutory restrictions on premium to surplus ratios and statutory surplus requirements. If we cannot generate sufficient statutory surplus to maintain minimum statutory requirements through increased statutory profitability, reinsurance or other capital generating alternatives, we will be limited in our ability to realize additional premium revenue from new business writing, which could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations or, in the event that our statutory surplus is not sufficient to meet minimum premium to surplus and risk-based capital ratios in any state, we could be prohibited from writing new policies in such state.

# Our reserves for current and future claims may be inadequate and any increase to such reserves could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

We calculate and maintain reserves for current and future claims using assumptions about numerous variables, including our estimate of the probability of a policyholder making a claim, the severity and duration of such claim, the mortality rate of our policyholders, the persistency or renewal of our policies in force and the amount of interest we expect to earn from the investment of premiums. The adequacy of our reserves depends on the accuracy of our assumptions. We cannot assure you that our actual experience will not differ from the assumptions used in the establishment of reserves. Any variance from these assumptions could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

#### Litigation may result in financial losses or harm our reputation and may divert management resources.

Current and future litigation may result in financial losses, harm our reputation and require the dedication of significant management resources. We are regularly involved in litigation. The litigation naming us as a defendant ordinarily involves our activities as an insurer. In recent years, many insurance companies, including us, have been named as defendants in class actions relating to market conduct or sales practices.

For our general claim litigation, we maintain reserves based on experience to satisfy judgments and settlements in the normal course. Management expects that the ultimate liability, if any, with respect to general claim litigation, after consideration of the reserves maintained, will not be material to the consolidated financial condition of the Company. Nevertheless, given the inherent unpredictability of litigation, it is possible that an adverse outcome in certain claim litigation involving punitive damages could, from time to time, have a material adverse effect on our consolidated results of operations in a period, depending on the results of our operations for the particular period.

If we fail to comply with extensive state and federal regulations, we will be subject to penalties, which may include fines and suspension and which may adversely affect our results of operations and financial condition.

We are subject to extensive governmental regulation and supervision. Most insurance regulations are designed to protect the interests of policyholders rather than stockholders and other investors. This regulation, generally administered by a department of insurance in each state in which we do business, relates to, among other things:

approval of policy forms and premium rates;

standards of solvency, including risk-based capital measurements, which are a measure developed by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners and used by state insurance regulators to identify insurance companies that potentially are inadequately capitalized;

licensing of insurers and their agents;

restrictions on the nature, quality and concentration of investments;

restrictions on transactions between insurance companies and their affiliates;

restrictions on the size of risks insurable under a single policy;

requiring deposits for the benefit of policyholders;

requiring certain methods of accounting;

prescribing the form and content of records of financial condition required to be filed; and

requiring reserves for losses and other purposes.

State insurance departments also conduct periodic examinations of the affairs of insurance companies and require the filing of annual and other reports relating to the financial condition of insurance companies, holding company issues and other matters. Our business depends on compliance with applicable laws and regulations and our ability to maintain valid licenses and approvals for our operations. Regulatory authorities have broad discretion to grant, renew, or revoke licenses and approvals. Regulatory authorities may deny or revoke licenses for various reasons, including the violation of regulations. In some instances, we follow practices based on our interpretations of regulations, or those that we believe to be generally followed by the industry, which may be different from the requirements or interpretations of regulatory authorities. If we do not have the requisite licenses and approvals and do not comply with applicable regulatory requirements, the insurance regulatory authorities could preclude or temporarily suspend us from carrying on some or all of our activities or otherwise penalize us. That type of action could have a material adverse effect on our business. Our failure to comply with new or existing government regulation could subject us to significant fines and penalties. Our efforts to measure, monitor and adjust our business practices to comply with current laws are ongoing. Failure to comply with enacted regulations could result in significant fines, penalties, or the

loss of one or more of our licenses. As governmental regulation changes, the costs of compliance may cause us to change our operations significantly, or adversely impact the health care provider networks with which we do business, which may adversely affect our business and results of operations. Also, changes in the level of regulation of the insurance industry (whether federal, state or foreign), or changes in laws or regulations themselves or interpretations by regulatory authorities, could have a material adverse effect on our business.

20

# Applicable insurance laws may make it difficult to effect a change of control of UICI.

Under the insurance laws of most states, before a person can acquire control of a U.S. insurance company, prior written approval must be obtained from the insurance commissioner of the state where the domestic insurer is domiciled. Generally, state statutes provide that control over a domestic insurer is presumed to exist if any person, directly or indirectly, owns, controls, holds with the power to vote, or holds proxies representing, 10% or more of the voting securities of the domestic insurer. Before granting approval of an application to acquire control of a domestic insurer, a state insurance commissioner will typically consider such factors as the financial strength of the applicant, the integrity of the applicant s board of directors and executive officers, the applicant s plans for the future operations of the domestic insurer and any anti-competitive results that may arise from the completion of the acquisition of control. This requirement may make it difficult to effect a change of control of the surviving corporation in the future.

#### Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments

None

## Item 2. Properties

We currently own and occupy our executive offices located at 9151 Grapevine Highway, North Richland Hills, Texas 76180-5605 comprising in the aggregate approximately 281,000 square feet of office and warehouse space. In addition, we lease office space at various locations.

## Item 3. Legal Proceedings

See Note L of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, the terms of which are incorporated by reference herein.

#### Item 4. Submissions of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders

None.

### **PART II**

# Item 5. Market for Registrant s Common Stock and Related Stockholder Matters

The Company s shares are traded on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) under the symbol UCI. The table below sets forth on a per share basis, for the period indicated, the high and low closing sales prices of the Common Stock on the NYSE.

	High	Low
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2004		
1st Quarter	\$ 15.00	\$ 12.70
2nd Quarter	23.81	14.56
3rd Quarter	33.05	21.93
4th Quarter	35.84	24.00
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2005		
1st Quarter	\$ 33.25	\$ 24.10
2nd Quarter	30.56	21.90

3rd Quarter	36.17	29.35
4th Quarter	36.40	35.47

As of February 13, 2006, there were approximately 10,600 holders of record of Common Stock.

21

On August 18, 2004, the Company s Board of Directors adopted a policy of issuing a regular semi-annual cash dividend on shares of its common stock. In accordance with the dividend policy, on August 18, 2004, the Company s Board of Directors declared a regular semi-annual cash dividend of \$0.25 on each share of Common Stock, which dividend was paid on September 15, 2004 to shareholders of record at the close of business on September 1, 2004. On February 9, 2005, the Company s Board of Directors declared a regular semi-annual cash dividend of \$0.25 per share and a special cash dividend of \$0.25 per share. The regular and special dividend were paid on March 15, 2005 to shareholders of record at the close of business on February 21, 2005. On July 28, 2005, the Company s Board of Directors declared a regular semi-annual cash dividend of \$0.25 on each share of Common Stock. The cash dividend was paid on September 15, 2005 to shareholders of record at the close of business on August 22, 2005.

Following execution on September 15, 2005, of a definitive agreement contemplating the acquisition of the Company in a cash merger by a group of private equity firms, the Company does not anticipate declaring or paying additional dividends on shares of its common stock.

In addition, dividends paid by the Company s domestic insurance subsidiaries to the Company out of earned surplus in any year that are in excess of limits set by the laws of the state of domicile require prior approval of state regulatory authorities in that state. *See* Note J of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

During the year ended December 31, 2005, the Company did not issue any shares of unregistered common stock.

#### **Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities**

Set forth in the table below is certain information with respect to purchases of shares of the Company s common stock in the open market during each of the months in the year ended December 31, 2005 (a) pursuant to the authority granted under the Company s previously announced share repurchase program (*see* discussion below under the caption Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Share Repurchase Program ), (b) to facilitate agent-participants contributions to, and to satisfy the Company s commitment to issue its shares upon vesting of matching credits under, the stock accumulation plans established for the benefit of the Company s agents (*see* Note M of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements), and (c) by the trustee for the Company s Employee Stock Ownership and Retirement Savings Plan (which reflects shares purchased with employee contributions as well as the portion attributable to the Company s matching contributions):

				Total Number of Shares Purchased as	Maximum Number of Shares That May
	Total Number	,	Average	Part of Publicly Announced	yet be Purchased Under the Plans
	of Shares	Average Price Paid per		Plans or	or
Period	Purchased		Share	Programs	Programs
01/01/05-01/31/05	82,570	\$	32.67		929,000
02/01/05-02/28/05	116,479		30.07		929,000
03/01/05-03/31/05	123,573		27.37		929,000
04/01/05-04/30/05	385,755		22.88	310,900	618,100
05/01/05-05/31/05	96,696		24.42		618,100

	Edgar Filing	: UICI - Form 10-K	•	
06/01/05-06/30/05	62,879	27.34		618,100
07/01/05-07/31/05	53,046	30.60		618,100
08/01/05-08/31/05	49,196	32.18		618,100
09/01/05-09/30/05	52,036	31.78		618,100
10/01/05-10/31/05	46,926	35.92		618,100
11/01/05-11/30/05	42,278	36.08		618,100
12/01/05-12/31/05	33,921	36.01		618,100
Total	1,145,355(1)	\$ 27.75	310,900(2)	
		22		

- (1) The number of shares purchased other than through a publicly announced plan or program includes 335,542 shares purchased with respect to the UICI Employee Stock Ownership and Savings Plan; 483,594 shares purchased with respect to the stock accumulation plans established for the benefit of the Company s agents and 15,319 shares purchased with respect to UICI restricted stock plans.
- (2) In November 1998 the Company announced the authorization to repurchase 4,500,000 shares, and the Company reconfirmed the repurchase program on February 28, 2001 and February 11, 2004. The Company announced the authorization to repurchase an additional 1,000,000 shares under the program on April 28, 2004. The repurchase program has no expiration date.

### Securities Authorized for Issuance under Equity Compensation Plans

The following table sets forth certain information with respect to common stock that may be issued under UICI s equity compensation plans as of December 31, 2005:

			Number of Securities Remaining Available for Future
	Number of Securities to Be Issued upon Exercise of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights	Weighted-Average Exercise  Price of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights	Issuance Under Equity  Compensation Plans (Excluding Securities Reflected in Column (a))
Plan Category	(a)	(b)	(c)
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders Equity compensation plans not approved by	2,360,706(1)	\$ 6.31	4,921,384(2)
security holders	-0-	\$ 0.00	-0-
Total	2,360,706		4,921,384

- (1) Includes 624,481 stock options exercisable at a weighted average exercise price of \$23.86 under the UICI 1987 Stock Option Plan. Also includes 1,100,915 shares issuable upon vesting of matching credits granted to participants under the Agency Matching Total Ownership Plan II (AMTOP II), 628,004 shares issuable upon vesting of matching credits granted to participants under the Matching Agency Contribution Plan I (MAC I) and 7,306 shares issuable upon vesting of matching credits granted to participants under the Matching Agency Contribution Plan II (MAC II) in each case at a deemed exercise price of \$-0-.
- (2) Includes securities available for future issuance as follows: UICI 1987 Stock Option Plan, 2,071,414 shares; 2000 Restricted Stock Plan, 44,941 shares; 2001 Restricted Stock Plan, 123,755 shares; 2005 Restricted Stock Plan,

100,000 shares; Agency Matching Total Ownership Plan I (AMTOP I), 20,398 shares; Agency Matching Total Ownership Plan II (AMTOP II), 1,455,304 shares; Matching Agency Contribution Plan I (MAC I), 762,878 shares; Matching Agency Contribution Plan II (MAC II), 342,694 shares.

# Item 6. Selected Financial Data

The following selected consolidated financial data as of and for each of the five years in the period ended December 31, 2005 has been derived from the audited Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company. The following data should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and the notes thereto and *Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations* included herein.

	Year Ended December 31, 2005 2004 2003 2002 2001										
			ousa		per s		s an		erating ratios)		
T. C. A. A. D. A.											
Income Statement Data:											
Revenues from continuing operations	\$	2,121,218	\$	2,069,109	\$	1,825,162	Φ	1,380,033	\$	973,095	
Income from continuing	Ф	2,121,210	Ф	2,009,109	Ф	1,623,102	Ф	1,360,033	φ	973,093	
operations before income											
taxes		313,150		221,149		131,916		76,759		73,163	
Income from continuing		313,130		221,149		131,510		70,737		73,103	
operations		202,970		145,881		87,324		51,054		49,484	
Income (loss) from		<b>_0_,</b> ,,,		1.0,001		07,62.		01,00		.,,	
discontinued operations		531		15,677		(72,990)		953		(6,592)	
Net income	\$	203,501	\$	161,558	\$	14,334	\$	46,863	\$	42,892	
Per Share Data:											
Earnings per share from											
continuing operations:											
Basic earnings per common											
share	\$	4.40	\$	3.16	\$	1.88	\$	1.08	\$	1.06	
Diluted earnings per common											
share	\$	4.31	\$	3.07	\$	1.82	\$	1.05	\$	1.03	
Earnings (loss) per share from											
discontinued operations:											
Basic earnings (loss) per	Φ.	0.04		0.24	4	(4.75)	Φ.	0.00		(0.4.1)	
common share	\$	0.01	\$	0.34	\$	(1.57)	\$	0.02	\$	(0.14)	
Diluted earnings (loss) per	ф	0.01	ф	0.22	Φ	(1.50)	ф	0.02	Ф	(0.12)	
common share	\$	0.01	\$	0.33	\$	(1.52)	\$	0.02	\$	(0.13)	
Earnings per share:											
Basic earnings per common share	\$	4.41	\$	3.50	\$	0.31	\$	0.99	\$	0.92	
Diluted earnings per common	φ	4.41	Ψ	3.30	Ψ	0.51	Ψ	0.99	Ψ	0.92	
share	\$	4.32	\$	3.40	\$	0.30	\$	0.96	\$	0.90	
Operating Ratios:	Ψ	7.52	Ψ	3.40	Ψ	0.50	Ψ	0.70	Ψ	0.70	
Health Ratios:											
Loss ratio(1)		57%	)	61%	)	65%		63%		64%	
Expense ratio(1)		31%		33%		34%		34%		34%	
Combined health ratio		88%	)	94%	)	99%		97%		98%	

Edgar Filing: UICI - Form 10-K

#### **Balance Sheet Data:**

Total investments, cash and					
cash overdraft(2)	\$ 1,774,188	\$ 1,710,589	\$ 1,579,131	\$ 1,355,918	\$ 1,231,860
Total assets	2,371,530	2,345,658	2,126,959	1,915,188	1,676,711
Total policy liabilities	1,174,264	1,258,671	1,184,984	1,028,969	891,361
Total debt	15,470	15,470	18,951	7,922	23,511
Student loan credit facilities	130,900	150,000	150,000	150,000	100,000
Stockholders equity	871,081	714,145	587,568	585,050	534,572
Stockholders equity per					
share(3)	\$ 19.05	\$ 15.18	\$ 12.15	\$ 11.76	\$ 10.81

- (1) The health loss ratio represents benefits, claims and settlement expenses related to health insurance policies stated as a percentage of earned health premiums. The health expense ratio represents underwriting, policy acquisition costs and insurance expenses related to health insurance policies stated as a percentage of earned health premiums.
- (2) Does not include restricted cash. See Note A of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.
- (3) Excludes the unrealized gains (losses) on securities available for sale, which gains are reported in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) as a separate component of stockholders equity.

#### Item 7. Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

The following discussion of our historical results of operations and of our liquidity and capital resources should be read in conjunction with the Selected Financial Data and the Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company and related notes thereto included herein.

#### Overview

We offer insurance (primarily health and life) to niche consumer and institutional markets. Through our subsidiaries we issue primarily health insurance policies, covering individuals and families, to the self-employed, association group, voluntary employer group and student markets, and life insurance policies to markets that we believe are underserved. We believe that we have the largest direct selling organization in the health insurance field, with approximately 1,800 independent writing agents selling health insurance to the self-employed market in 44 states.

The Company s revenues consist primarily of premiums derived from sales of its indemnity, PPO, student group and voluntary employer group health plans and from life insurance policies. Revenues also include investment income derived from our investment portfolio and other income, which consists primarily of income derived by the Self-Employed Agency Division from ancillary services and membership marketing and administrative services provided to the membership associations that make available to their members the Company s health insurance products.

Premiums on health insurance contracts are recognized as earned over the period of coverage on a pro rata basis. Premiums on traditional life insurance are recognized as revenue when due.

Set forth in the table below is premium by insurance division for each of the past three fiscal years:

	Year Ended December 31,						
	2005 2004		2003				
		(In thousands)					
Premium:							
Self-Employed Agency Division	\$ 1,394,644	\$ 1,355,328	\$ 1,192,688				
Student Insurance Division	282,486	297,036	239,574				
Star HRG Division	144,612	145,749	114,428				
Life Insurance Division	61,936	46,503	36,413				
Other Insurance	33,856	14,127	150				
Total premium	\$ 1,917,534	\$ 1,858,743	\$ 1,583,253				

The Company s expenses consist primarily of insurance claims expense and expenses associated with the underwriting and acquisition of insurance policies. Claims expenses consist primarily of payments to physicians, hospitals and other health care providers under health policies and include an estimated amount for incurred but not reported or paid claims. Underwriting, policy acquisition costs and insurance expenses consist of direct expenses incurred across all insurance lines in connection with issuance, maintenance and administration of in-force insurance policies, including amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs, commissions paid to agents, administrative expenses and premium taxes. The Company also incurs other direct expenses in connection with generating income derived by the

Self-Employed Agency Division from ancillary services and membership marketing and administrative services provided to the membership associations that make available to their members the Company s health insurance products.

The Company establishes liabilities for benefit claims that have been reported but not paid and claims that have been incurred but not reported under health and life insurance contracts. These claim liabilities are developed using actuarial principles and assumptions that consider a number of items, including historical and current claim payment patterns, product variations, the timely implementation of appropriate rate increases and seasonality. *See* discussion below, Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates *Claims Liabilities* and Note F of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

In connection with various stock-based compensation plans that we maintain for the benefit of our employees and independent agents, we record non-cash variable stock-based compensation expense in amounts that depend and fluctuate based upon the market performance of the Company s common stock. *See* discussion below under the caption Variable Stock-Based Compensation and Note M of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements. The accounting treatment of the Company s agent plans has resulted and will continue to result in unpredictable stock-based compensation charges, primarily dependent upon future fluctuations in the quoted price of UICI common stock.

Our business segments for financial reporting purposes include (a) the Insurance segment, which includes the businesses of the Company s Self-Employed Agency Division, the Student Insurance Division, the Star HRG Division, the Life Insurance Division and Other Insurance (consisting of the Company s ZON Re, USA LLC accident insurance/reinsurance business, which commenced operations in the third quarter of 2003); and (b) Other Key Factors, which includes investment income not allocated to the Insurance segment, realized gains or losses on sale of investments, interest expense on corporate debt, general expenses relating to corporate operations, minority interest, variable stock-based compensation and operations that do not constitute reportable operating segments (including the Company s investment in Healthaxis, Inc. until sold on September 30, 2003). In 2005, the incremental costs associated with the pending acquisition of the Company by a group of private equity investors were also reflected in the results of the Other Key Factors segment.

On September 15, 2005, UICI entered into a merger agreement, pursuant to which affiliates of The Blackstone Group, Goldman Sachs Capital Partners and DLJ Merchant Banking Partners will acquire UICI in a cash merger, with UICI being the surviving corporation in the merger. The Board of Directors of the Company has established February 13, 2006 as the record date for determining stockholders entitled to notice of or to vote at a special meeting of stockholders to be held on March 29, 2006 for the purpose of adopting the merger agreement. Completion of the transaction is subject to insurance regulatory approvals, the receipt of certain financing and other conditions. The parties currently expect the transaction to close on or about April 3, 2006.

### **Results of Operations** Overview

During 2005, the Company s financial condition, cash flow and results from operations were impacted by the following key factors and developments:

#### Favorable Results at SEA Division

The Company s 2005 results from continuing operations benefited from the strong performance of its SEA Division, which reported record operating income in 2005 of \$310.5 million, compared to operating income of \$260.7 million in 2004. Results at the Company s SEA Division in 2005 reflected a favorable loss ratio and increased renewal premium revenue, with which is associated a lower commission rate compared to the commission rate on first year premium revenue.

# Improved Results at Student Insurance Division

The Company s 2005 results from continuing operations benefited from improved results at its Student Insurance Division (which offers tailored health insurance programs that generally provide single school year coverage to individual students at colleges and universities). The Company s Student Insurance Division reported operating losses of \$(8.9) million in 2005, compared to operating losses of \$(49.5) million in 2004, reflecting a significant improvement in loss experience on the Student Insurance book of business, lower administrative expenses as a percentage of earned premium and better utilization of network service agreements with healthcare providers.

# **Results of Operations**

The table below sets forth certain summary information about our operating results for each of the three most recent fiscal years:

		2005	Year Percentage Increase (Decrease)	Enc	ded Decemb	Percentage Increase (Decrease)		2003
		2002	•	llar	s in thousar	• •		2000
D								
Revenue Premiums:								
Health	\$	1,855,969	2%	\$	1,812,892	17%	\$	1,547,233
Life premiums and other	Ψ	1,033,707	270	Ψ	1,012,072	1770	Ψ	1,547,255
considerations		61,565	34%		45,851	27%		36,020
Considerations		01,505	3470		43,031	2170		30,020
Total premium		1,917,534	3%		1,858,743	17%		1,583,253
Investment income		97,788	14%		85,868	11%		77,661
Other income		106,656	(9)%		117,827	(4)%		124,537
Gains (losses) on sale of investments		(760)	NM		6,671	NM		39,711
Total revenues		2,121,218	3%		2,069,109	13%		1,825,162
Benefits and Expenses								
Benefits, claims, and settlement								
expenses		1,092,136	(4)%		1,134,901	9%		1,045,640
Underwriting, policy acquisition								
costs, and insurance expenses		625,633	(1)%		632,132	12%		563,574
Variable stock compensation expense								
(benefit)		7,214	(50)%		14,307	NM		(459)
Other expenses		77,076	22%		63,203	(20)%		79,264
Interest expense		6,009	76%		3,417	13%		3,016
Losses in Healthaxis, Inc. investment			NM			NM		2,211
Total benefits and expenses		1,808,068	(2)%		1,847,960	9%		1,693,246
Income from continuing operations								
before income taxes		313,150	42%		221,149	68%		131,916
Federal income taxes		110,180	46%		75,268	69%		44,592
		,			,	2,7,5		,
Income from continuing operations Income (loss) from discontinued		202,970	39%		145,881	67%		87,324
		531	NM		15 677	NM		(72,990)
operations (net of income tax benefit)		331	1/1/1		15,677	NM		(12,990)
Net income	\$	203,501	NM	\$	161,558	NM	\$	14,334

NM: not meaningful

27

Income from continuing operations before federal income taxes (operating income) for each of the Company s business segments and divisions in 2005, 2004 and 2003 was as follows:

	Year	r 31,		
	2005	2004	2003	
		(In thousands)		
Operating income (loss)				
Insurance:				
Self-Employed Agency Division	\$ 310,466	\$ 260,745	\$ 109,079	
Student Insurance Division	(8,870)	(49,482)	(9,783)	
Star HRG Division	1,434	3,320	1,910	
Life Insurance Division	8,580	4,362	(2,350)	
Other Insurance(1)	4,658	1,415	(705)	
Total Insurance	316,268	220,360	98,151	
Other Key Factors Investment income on equity, realized gains and				
losses, general corporate expenses and other (including interest on				
corporate debt)	13,153	15,096	33,306	
Merger transaction costs(2)	(9,057)			
Variable stock-based compensation	(7,214)	(14,307)	459	
Total Other Key Factors	(3,118)	789	33,765	
Total operating income	\$ 313,150	\$ 221,149	\$ 131,916	

- (1) Reflects results of a subsidiary (ZON Re USA LLC) established in the third quarter of 2003 to underwrite, administer and issue accidental death, accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D), accident medical and accident disability insurance products, both on a primary and on a reinsurance basis.
- (2) Includes the incremental costs associated with the pending acquisition of the Company by a group of private equity investors.

### 2005 Compared to 2004

UICI reported revenues and income from continuing operations in 2005 of \$2.121 billion and \$203.0 million (\$4.31 per diluted share), respectively, compared to 2004 revenues and income from continuing operations of \$2.069 billion and \$145.9 million (\$3.07 per diluted share), respectively. Reflecting results from discontinued operations, the Company reported overall 2005 net income of \$203.5 million (\$4.32 per diluted share), compared to 2004 net income of \$161.6 million (\$3.40 per diluted share).

## **Continuing Operations**

*Revenues.* UICI s revenues increased to \$2.121 billion in 2005 from \$2.069 billion in 2004, an increase of \$52.1 million, or 3%. The Company s revenues were particularly impacted by the following factors:

The Company generated a 2% increase in health premium revenue (to \$1.856 billion in 2005 from \$1.813 billion in 2004), which increase was primarily attributable to the assumption of existing health policies acquired in October 2004 as part of the HealthMarket acquisition.

Life premiums and other considerations increased by 34%, to \$61.6 million in 2005 from \$45.9 million in 2004. This increase was attributable primarily to sales of newly-designed life products through its relationships with its two independent marketing companies.

Due to a 6% year over year increase in the book value of invested assets and an increase in the yield on short-term and other investments, investment income increased to \$97.8 million in 2005 compared to \$85.9 million in 2004.

Other income (consisting primarily of income derived by the SEA Division from ancillary services and membership marketing and administrative services provided to the membership associations that make available to their members the Company s health insurance products) decreased by 9% to \$106.7 million in 2005 from \$117.8 million in 2004. The decrease was primarily related to a year over year decrease in new business for which the Company receives membership marketing and administrative fees.

The Company recognized losses on sale of investments of \$(760,000) in 2005 compared to gains on sales of investments of \$6.7 million in 2004. The 2005 losses were primarily attributable to the impairment of certain fixed maturities written down in the fourth quarter of 2005.

*Expenses.* UICI s total expenses decreased to \$1.808 billion in 2005 from \$1.848 billion in 2004, a decrease of \$39.9 million, or 2%. The Company s expenses were particularly impacted by the following factors:

Benefits, claims and settlement expenses decreased by 4% to \$1.092 billion in 2005 from \$1.135 billion in 2004. Benefits, claims and settlement expenses decreased primarily as a result of a significant improvement in the loss experience at the Student Insurance Division and a decrease in loss ratio at its Self-Employed Agency Division. The actual claim payment experience during 2005 with respect to prior periods at the its Self-Employed Agency Division was more favorable than originally estimated when the claim liabilities were established in 2004.

Underwriting costs, policy acquisition costs and insurance expenses decreased by 1% to \$625.6 million in 2005 from \$632.1 million in 2004. The decrease is primarily due to the expenses incurred at the Student Insurance Division in 2004 related to the inefficiencies in its previous claims system including an impairment charge in the amount of \$(6.6) million principally associated with the abandonment of computer hardware and software assets associated with its claims processing system.

The Company maintains for the benefit of its employees and independent agents various stock-based compensation plans, in connection with which it records non-cash variable stock-based compensation expense (benefit) in amounts that depend and fluctuate based upon the market performance of the Company s common stock. In 2005, the Company recognized a non-cash stock based compensation expense in the amount of \$(7.2) million, compared to non-cash stock based compensation expense of \$(14.3) million in 2004. The decrease is principally due to the smaller change in share price during 2005 (from \$33.90 to \$35.51) compared to 2004 (from \$13.28 to \$33.90) and a decrease in the amount of unvested credits to 1,571,952 from 1,904,526.

Other expenses (consisting primarily of direct expenses incurred by the Company in connection with providing ancillary services and membership marketing and administrative services provided to the membership associations that make available to their members the Company s health insurance products and general expenses relating to corporate operations) increased by 22%, to \$77.1 million in 2005 from \$63.2 million in 2004. The majority of the increase is attributed to incremental costs in the amount of \$(9.1) million associated with the pending acquisition of the Company by a group of private equity investors.

Total interest expense increased by 76%, to \$6.0 million in 2005 from \$3.4 million in 2004, primarily due to an increase in the interest rates associated with student loan indebtedness (consisting of borrowings incurred to fund student loan obligations under the Company s College Fund Life Division program *see* Note H of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements).

*Operating Income.* Operating income increased by 42%, to \$313.2 million in 2005 from \$221.1 million in 2004. As discussed more fully below, the Company s 2005 results from continuing operations benefited from a significant

year-over-year increase in operating income at its SEA Division (from \$260.7 million in 2004 to \$310.5 million in 2005).

The Company s business segments for financial reporting purposes include (a) the Insurance segment, which includes the businesses of the Company s Self-Employed Agency Division, the Student Insurance Division, the Star HRG Division, the Life Insurance Division and Other Insurance; and (b) Other Key Factors, which includes investment income not allocated to the Insurance segment, realized gains or losses on sale of investments, interest

29

expense on corporate debt, general expenses relating to corporate operations, minority interest, variable stock-based compensation and operations that do not constitute reportable operating segments (including the Company s investment in Healthaxis, Inc. until sold on September 30, 2003). In 2005, the incremental costs associated with the pending acquisition of the Company by a group of private equity investors were also reflected in the results of the Other Key Factors segment.

#### Self-Employed Agency Division

Set forth below is certain summary financial and operating data for the Company s Self-Employed Agency (SEA) Division for each of the three most recent fiscal years:

	Year Ended December 31, Percentage Percentage							
		2005	Increase (Decrease)		2004	Increase (Decrease)		2003
		2003	` /	ıllaı	rs in thousan	` /		2003
			(1)	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	is in thousan	<b>u</b> s)		
Revenues:								
Earned premium revenues	\$	1,394,644	3%	\$	1,355,328	14%	\$	1,192,688
Investment income(1)		32,725	(3)%		33,640	8%		31,230
Other income		98,599	(8)%		107,231	(6)%		114,429
Total revenues Expenses:		1,525,968	2%		1,496,199	12%		1,338,347
Benefits expenses		718,502	(2)%		736,678	0%		736,101
Underwriting and acquisition		, 10,502	(2) / c		720,070	0 70		750,101
expenses		445,411	0%		445,737	4%		428,403
Other expenses(1)		51,589	(3)%		53,039	(18)%		64,764
Total expenses		1,215,502	(2)%		1,235,454	1%		1,229,268
Operating income	\$	310,466	19%	\$	260,745	139%	\$	109,079
Other operating data:								
Loss ratio(2)		51.5%	(5)%		54.4%	(12)%		61.7%
Expense ratio(2)		32.0%	(3)%		32.9%	(8)%		35.9%
Combined health ratio		83.5%	(4)%		87.3%	(11)%		97.6%
Operating margin(3) Average number of writing agents		22.3%	16%		19.2%	111%		9.1%
in period		2,045	(12)%		2,329	(9)%		2,551
Submitted annualized volume(4)	\$	727,522	(12)%	\$	860,377	(4)%	\$	895,159
Submitted annualized volume(4)	Ψ	121,322	(13)/0	ψ	000,577	(4) //	Ψ	0/3,13/

<sup>(1)</sup> Allocations of investment income and certain general expenses are based on a number of assumptions and estimates, and the business division s reported operating results would change if different methods were applied.

- (2) The health loss ratio represents benefits, claims and settlement expenses related to health insurance policies stated as a percentage of earned health premiums. The health expense ratio represents underwriting, policy acquisition costs and insurance expenses related to health insurance policies stated as a percentage of earned health premiums.
- (3) Operating margin is defined as operating income as a percentage of earned premium revenue.
- (4) Submitted annualized premium volume in any period is the aggregate annualized premium amount associated with health insurance applications submitted by the Company s agents in such period for underwriting by the Company.

For 2005, the SEA Division reported operating income of \$310.5 million compared to operating income of \$260.7 million in 2004. Operating income at the SEA Division as a percentage of earned premium revenue (*i.e.*, operating margin) in 2005 was 22.3% compared to 19.2% in 2004.

Operating income at the SEA Division in 2005 was positively impacted by an increase in earned premium revenue, a lower loss ratio (from 54.4% in 2004 to 51.5% in 2005) resulting from favorable claims experience, and a decrease in commission expenses as a percentage of earned premium. Earned premium revenue at the SEA Division increased to \$1.395 billion in 2005, compared to earned premium revenue of \$1.355 billion in 2004. However, the increase in premium is primarily attributable to the assumption during the fourth quarter of 2004 of small group policies originally issued by HealthMarket s wholly owned insurance subsidiary during the fourth quarter of 2004. During 2005, the premium from the traditional health products issued by the SEA Division decreased approximately 1% due to the decline in submitted annualized premium volume.

Results at the SEA Division in 2005 reflected a benefit in the amount of \$33.3 million recorded in the third quarter of 2005 attributable to a refinement of the Company s estimate for its claim liability on its health insurance products. The largest portion of the adjustment (approximately \$21.0 million) was attributable to a refinement of the estimate of the unpaid claim liability for the most recent incurral months. The Company utilizes anticipated loss ratios to calculate the estimated claim liability for the most recent incurral months. Despite negligible premium rate increases implemented on its most popular scheduled health insurance products, the SEA Division has continued to observe favorable claims experience and, as a result, loss ratios have not increased as rapidly as anticipated. This favorable claims experience has been reflected in the refinement of the anticipated loss ratios used in estimating the unpaid claim liability for the most recent incurral months. The remaining portion of the adjustment to the claim liability (approximately \$12.3 million) was attributable to an update of the completion factors used in the developmental method of estimating the unpaid claim liability to reflect more current claims administration practices. The SEA Division s results for the year ended December 31, 2005 also reflected a favorable claim liability adjustment in the amount of \$7.6 million recorded in the first quarter of 2005 attributable to a refinement of an estimate for the Company s claim liability established with respect to a product rider that provides for catastrophic coverage on the SEA Division s scheduled health insurance products. Results at the SEA Division in 2004 reflected the reduction in the amount of \$47.8 million of claim liabilities established in 2003 in response to a rapid pay down in 2003 of an excess pending claims inventory.

As a result of the favorable claims experience associated with the SEA Division s health insurance products, during the fourth quarter of 2005 the Company implemented reduced premium rates (average 15% reduction) on new business in a number of markets.

The increase in operating margin in 2005 compared to 2004 was attributable primarily to the year-over-year increase in earned premium, lower loss ratio and a decrease in the effective commission rate (due to a decrease in the amount of first year premium relative to renewal premium, which carries a lower commission rate compared to commissions on first year premium). These factors favorably impacting operating margin in 2005 were offset by higher administrative expenses as a percentage of premium (which resulted from certain administrative costs associated with the previously announced multi-state market conduct review) and incremental administrative costs associated with the Company s small group business acquired in November 2004.

In 2005, total SEA Division submitted annualized premium volume decreased by 15.4%, to \$727.5 million in 2005 from \$860.4 million in 2004. The decrease in submitted annualized premium volume can be attributed primarily to a reduction in the average number of writing agents per week in the field (from 2,329 in 2004 to 2,045 in 2005).

In response to the decline in submitted annualized premium volume experienced in 2005, at the end of 2005 the SEA Division commenced several new initiatives designed to increase the average number of writing agents and agent productivity. These initiatives included the creation of commission incentives designed to recognize outstanding sales performance and a significant redesign of the unit shealth insurance products. For the first six weeks of 2006, the average number of writing agents per week has increased approximately 20% over the average number of writing agents per week for the fourth quarter of 2005. In addition, through the first six weeks of 2006, the productivity of our writing agents (measured as the number of submitted health applications per writing agent) has increased

approximately 5.3% over productivity in the corresponding period of 2005. As a result of these factors, submitted annualized premium volume in the first six weeks of 2006 has increased over submitted annualized premium volume in the corresponding period of 2005.

#### Student Insurance Division

Set forth below is certain summary financial and operating data for the Company s Student Insurance Division for each of the three most recent fiscal years:

	Year Ended December 31,							
			Percentage			Percentage		
			Increase			Increase		
		2005	(Decrease)		2004	(Decrease)		2003
			(Dol	lars	s in thousan	ds)		
Revenues:								
Earned premium revenues	\$	282,486	(5)%	\$	297,036	24%	\$	239,574
Investment income(1)		6,121	1%		6,089	22%		5,008
Other income		1,771	(45)%		3,200	(29)%		4,489
Total revenues		290,378	(5)%		306,325	23%		249,071
Expenses:								
Benefits expenses		222,306	(16)%		265,698	33%		200,510
Underwriting and acquisition								
expenses(1)		76,942	(15)%		90,109	54%		58,344
Total expenses		299,248	(16)%		355,807	37%		258,854
Operating income (loss)	\$	(8,870)	NM	\$	(49,482)	NM	\$	(9,783)
Other operating data:								
Loss ratio(2)		78.7%	(12)%		89.4%	7%		83.7%
Expense ratio(2)		27.2%	(11)%		30.4%	25%		24.3%
Combined health ratio		105.9%	(12)%		119.8%	11%		108.0%
Operating margin(3)		(3.1)%	NM		(16.7)%	NM		(4.1)%

- (1) Allocations of investment income and certain general expenses are based on a number of assumptions and estimates, and the business division s reported operating results would change if different methods were applied.
- (2) The health loss ratio represents benefits, claims and settlement expenses related to health insurance policies stated as a percentage of earned health premiums. The health expense ratio represents underwriting, policy acquisition costs and insurance expenses related to health insurance policies stated as a percentage of earned health premiums.
- (3) Operating margin is defined as operating income as a percentage of earned premium revenue.

NM: not meaningful

The Company s Student Insurance Division (which offers tailored health insurance programs that generally provide single school year coverage to individual students at colleges and universities) reported operating losses of \$(8.9) million in 2005 compared to operating losses of \$(49.5) million in 2004.

Results for 2005 at the Student Insurance Division reflected a significant improvement in loss experience on the Student Insurance book of business. The loss ratio decreased to 78.7% in 2005, from 89.4% in 2004. For 2005, operating results also benefited from lower administrative expenses as a percentage of earned premium and from better utilization of network service agreements with healthcare providers. Results in 2004 also reflected a second quarter impairment charge in the amount of \$(6.3) million, which was principally associated with the abandonment of computer hardware and software assets associated with a claims processing system.

Earned premium revenue at the Student Insurance Division decreased to \$282.5 million in 2005, from \$297.0 million in 2004. The decrease in premium reflected, in part, the non-renewal in the 2005-2006 school year of certain accounts that had performed poorly in the 2004-2005 school year.

#### Star HRG Division

Set forth below is certain summary financial and operating data for the Company s Star HRG Division (which designs, markets and administers limited benefit health insurance plans for entry level, high turnover, and hourly employees) for each of the three most recent fiscal years:

	Year Ended December 31,									
			Percentage			Percentage				
			Increase			Increase				
		2005	(Decrease)		2004	(Decrease)		2003		
		(Dollars in thousands)								
Revenues:										
Earned premium revenues	\$	144,612	(1)%	\$	145,749	27%	\$	114,428		
Investment income(1)		703	(14)%		817	18%		695		
Other income		1,323	(66)%		3,897	26%		3,090		
Total revenues		146,638	(3)%		150,463	27%		118,213		
Expenses:										
Benefits expenses		92,135	(1)%		92,754	22%		75,951		
Underwriting and acquisition expenses(1)		53,069	(2)%		54,389	35%		40,352		
Total expenses		145,204	(1)%		147,143	27%		116,303		
Operating income (loss)	\$	1,434	(57)%	\$	3,320	74%	\$	1,910		
Other operating data:										
Loss ratio(2)		63.7%	0%		63.6%	(4)%		66.4%		
Expense ratio(2)		36.7%	(2)%		37.4%	6%		35.2%		
Combined health ratio		100.4%	(1)%		101.0%	(1)%		101.6%		
Operating margin(3)		1.0%	(57)%		2.3%	35%		1.7%		

- (1) Allocations of investment income and certain general expenses are based on a number of assumptions and estimates, and the business division s reported operating results would change if different methods were applied.
- (2) The health loss ratio represents benefits, claims and settlement expenses related to health insurance policies stated as a percentage of earned health premiums. The health expense ratio represents underwriting expenses, policy acquisition costs and insurance expenses related to health insurance policies stated as a percentage of earned health premiums.
- (3) Operating margin is defined as operating income as a percentage of earned premium revenue.

The Company s Star HRG Division reported operating income in 2005 in the amount of \$1.4 million, compared to operating income of \$3.3 million in 2004. The loss ratio associated with the Star HRG business increased slightly to 63.7% in 2005 from 63.6% in 2004, and the underwriting and acquisition expense ratio decreased slightly to 36.7% in

2005 from 37.4% in 2004. The decrease in Other income from 2004 to 2005 was associated with the decrease in administrative fees on business underwritten by a third party insurance carrier and a decrease in fees received on ancillary products.

Earned premium revenue at the Star HRG Division was \$144.6 million in 2005, compared to \$145.7 million in 2004.

33

#### Life Insurance Division

Set forth below is certain summary financial and operating data for the Company s Life Insurance Division for each of the three most recent fiscal years:

	Year Ended December 31,								
		Percentage Increase		Percentage Increase					
	2005	(Decrease)	2004	(Decrease)	2003				
		(Dollars in thousands)							
Revenues:									
Earned premium revenues	\$ 61,936	33%	\$ 46,503	28%	\$ 36,413				
Investment income(1)	30,157	9%	27,625	(10)%	30,610				
Other income	1,433	(23)%	1,861	51%	1,236				
Total revenues Expenses:	93,526	23%	75,989	11%	68,259				
Benefits expenses	39,684	18%	33,613	2%	33,018				
Underwriting and acquisition expenses(1)	40,401	13%	35,680	0%	35,678				
Interest expense	4,861	108%	2,334	22%	1,913				
Total expenses	84,946	19%	71,627	1%	70,609				
Operating income (loss)	\$ 8,580	97%	\$ 4,362	286%	\$ (2,350)				

(1) Allocations of investment income and certain general expenses are based on a number of assumptions and estimates, and the business division s reported operating results would change if different methods were applied.

The Company s Life Insurance Division reported operating income in 2005 of \$8.6 million compared to operating income of \$4.4 million in 2004. The year-over-year increase in operating income was attributable to an increase in revenue and a decrease in fixed administrative costs as a percentage of earned premium revenue.

For the year ended December 31, 2005, the Company s Life Insurance Division generated annualized paid premium volume (*i.e.*, the aggregate annualized life premium amount associated with new life insurance policies issued by the Company) in the amount of \$32.9 million compared to \$32.7 million in the corresponding 2004 period. Annualized paid premium volume for the fourth quarter of 2005 was negatively impacted by a slowdown in agent recruitment by the two independent marketing companies that distribute our products through networks of managing general agents (MGAs), who were waiting for the 2006 introduction of new life products.

#### Other Insurance

During 2003, through a newly formed company, ZON Re USA LLC (an 82.5%-owned subsidiary), we began to underwrite, administer and issue accidental death, accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D), accident medical and accident disability insurance products, both on a primary and on a reinsurance basis. In 2005, ZON Re generated

revenues and operating income of \$34.8 million and \$4.7 million, respectively, compared to revenues and operating income of \$14.4 million and \$1.4 million, respectively, in 2004.

#### Other Key Factors

The Company s Other Key Factors segment includes investment income not otherwise allocated to the Insurance segment, realized gains and losses, interest expense on corporate debt, variable stock compensation and other unallocated items and general expenses relating to corporate operations. In 2005, the incremental costs associated with the pending acquisition of the Company by a group of private equity investors were also reflected in the results of the Other Key Factors segment.

The Company s Other Key Factors segment reported operating losses of \$(3.1) million in 2005, compared to operating income of \$789,000 in 2004. The increase in operating losses in 2005 in the Other Key Factors segment was primarily attributable to a decrease in net realized gains associated with the Company s investment portfolio

(from \$7.6 million in net realized gains in 2004 to \$(760,000) in net realized losses in 2005), an increase in general corporate expenses of \$(6.3) million and incremental costs in the amount of \$(9.1) million associated with the pending acquisition of the Company by a group of private equity investors. These unfavorable factors were partially offset by a \$12.8 million increase in investment income on equity and a \$7.1 million year-over-year decrease in variable stock-based compensation expense associated with the various stock accumulation plans established by the Company for the benefit of its independent agents (from \$14.3 million in 2004 to \$7.2 million in 2005).

## Discontinued Operations

The Company reported income from discontinued operations in 2005 the amount of \$531,000, net of tax (\$0.01 per diluted share) compared to income from discontinued operations of \$15.7 million, net of tax (\$0.33 per diluted share) in 2004.

Results from discontinued operations for 2004 reflected a pre-tax gain in the amount of \$7.7 million generated from the sale of the remaining uninsured student loan assets held by the Company s former Academic Management Services Corp. subsidiary (which the Company disposed of in November 2003), and a favorable resolution of a dispute related to the Company s former Special Risk Division that resulted in pre-tax income in the amount of \$10.7 million.

#### 2004 Compared to 2003

UICI reported revenues and income from continuing operations in 2004 of \$2.069 billion and \$145.9 million (\$3.07 per diluted share), respectively, compared to 2003 revenues and income from continuing operations of \$1.825 billion and \$87.3 million (\$1.82 per diluted share), respectively. Reflecting results from discontinued operations, the Company reported overall 2004 net income of \$161.6 million (\$3.40 per diluted share), compared to 2003 net income of \$14.3 million (\$0.30 per diluted share).

#### Continuing Operations

*Revenues.* UICI s revenues increased to \$2.069 billion in 2004 from \$1.825 billion in 2003, an increase of \$243.9 million, or 13.4%. The Company s revenues were particularly impacted by the following factors:

The Company generated a 17% increase in health premium revenue (to \$1.813 billion in 2004 from \$1.547 billion in 2003), which increase resulted from new business, as well as increased renewal business derived from new health business originally written in 2001 and 2002.

Life premiums and other considerations increased by 27%, to \$45.9 million in 2004 from \$36.0 million in 2003. This increase was attributable primarily to sales of newly-designed life products through its relationships with its two independent marketing companies.

Due to a 10% year over year increase in invested assets, investment income increased to \$85.9 million in 2004 compared to \$77.7 million in 2003.

Other income (consisting primarily of income derived by the SEA Division from ancillary services and membership marketing and administrative services provided to the membership associations that make available to their members the Company s health insurance products) decreased by 4%, to \$117.8 million in 2004 from \$124.6 million in 2003. The decrease was primarily related to a year over year decrease in new business for which the Company receives membership marketing and administrative fees.

The Company recognized gains on sale of investments of \$6.7 million in 2004 compared to \$39.7 million in 2003. The realized gains in 2003 resulted primarily from a \$40.4 million (pre-tax) gain generated in the fourth quarter of 2003 on the sale of a substantial portion of the Company s stake in AMLI Residential.

*Expenses.* UICI s total expenses increased to \$1.848 billion in 2004 from \$1.693 billion in 2003, an increase of \$154.7 million, or 9%. The Company s expenses were particularly impacted by the following factors:

Benefits, claims and settlement expenses increased by 9% to \$1.135 billion in 2004 from \$1.046 billion in 2003. Benefits, claims and settlement expenses grew at a rate lower than premium revenues primarily as a result of a decrease in loss ratio due in significant part to the reduction of claim liabilities established in 2003 at the Company s SEA Division in response to a rapid pay down of an excess pending claims inventory. The actual claim payment experience during 2004 with respect to prior periods at the SEA Division was lower than originally estimated when the claim liabilities were established in 2003.

Underwriting costs, policy acquisition costs and insurance expenses increased by 12% to \$632.1 million in 2004 from \$563.6 million in 2003, reflecting the increase in premium revenue, offset by the establishment in 2003 of significant accruals associated with then-pending litigation.

The Company maintains for the benefit of its employees and independent agents various stock-based compensation plans, in connection with which it records non-cash variable stock-based compensation expense (benefit) in amounts that depend and fluctuate based upon the market performance of the Company s common stock. In 2004, the Company recognized a non-cash stock based compensation expense in the amount of \$(14.3) million, compared to non-cash stock based compensation benefit of \$459,000 in 2003, principally due to the higher average price of UICI shares in 2004 compared to the average share price in 2003.

Other expenses (consisting primarily of direct expenses incurred by the Company in connection with providing ancillary services and membership marketing and administrative services provided to the membership associations that make available to their members the Company s health insurance products) decreased by 20%, to \$63.2 million in 2004 from \$79.3 million in 2003. The decrease is attributed to the decrease in enrollment of new association memberships relative to existing memberships; the direct expenses related to new ancillary services are higher than the costs of maintaining these ancillary services for existing business.

Total interest expense increased by 13%, to \$3.4 million in 2004 from \$3.0 million in 2003, primarily due to an increase in the borrowing rates associated with student loan borrowings (consisting of borrowings incurred to fund student loan obligations under the Company s College Fund Life Division program see Note H of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements).

*Operating Income.* Operating income increased by 68%, to \$221.1 million in 2004 from \$131.9 million in 2003. As discussed more fully below, the Company s 2004 results from continuing operations benefited from a significant year-over-year increase in operating income at its SEA Division (from \$109.1 million in 2003 to \$260.7 million in 2004). Operating income generated by the SEA Division was offset in part by significant operating losses in 2004 at the Company s Student Insurance Division and an increase in non-cash variable stock-based compensation expense.

# Self-Employed Agency Division

The SEA Division reported operating income of \$260.7 million in 2004, compared to operating income of \$109.1 million in 2003. Operating income at the SEA Division in 2004 was positively impacted by an increase in earned premium revenue, reduced administration and commission expenses as a percentage of earned premium, and a decrease in loss ratio resulting from favorable claims experience. Earned premium revenue at the SEA Division increased to \$1.355 billion in 2004 from \$1.193 billion in 2003.

The SEA Division s operating margin in 2004 was 19.2%, compared to 9.1% in 2003. The significant year-over-year increase in operating margin was attributable primarily to a decrease in the loss ratio, a decrease in general administrative expenses as a percentage of earned premium revenue and a decrease in the effective commission rate (due to a decrease in the amount of first year premium relative to renewal premium, which carries a lower commission rate compared to commissions on first year premium). In addition, 2003 results included a \$(25.0) million charge associated with a reassessment of loss accrual established for certain then-pending litigation.

The decrease in loss ratio (from 61.7% in 2003 to 54.4% in 2004) was due in significant part to the reduction in the amount of \$47.8 million during 2004 of claim liabilities established in 2003 in response to a rapid pay down in 2003 of an excess pending claims inventory. The actual claim payment experience during 2004 with respect to prior periods was lower than originally estimated when the claim liabilities were established in 2003. *See* discussion below under the caption Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates *Claims Liabilities Claims Liability Development Experience*. The decrease in loss ratio was also due in part to lower levels of incurred claims in 2004 compared to the prior year.

Submitted annualized premium volume (*i.e.*, the aggregate annualized premium amount associated with health insurance applications submitted by the Company s agents for underwriting by the Company) decreased by 4% (to \$860.4 million in 2004 from \$895.2 million in the 2003) compared to submitted annualized premium volume in the corresponding period in 2003. The decrease in submitted annualized premium volume in 2004 can be attributed to reduced production at the Company s agencies, resulting primarily from an 8.7% reduction in the average number of writing agents in the field during 2004 compared to the prior year. The Company s agencies took steps in the fourth quarter of 2004 to increase recruitment of new agents.

Results in 2004 at SEA include results at the Company's HealthMarket unit, which was acquired by the Company in October 2004 and provides consumer driven health plans to the small employer group market. Results at HealthMarket during 2004 were not material to overall operating results at SEA.

#### Student Insurance Division

The Company s Student Insurance Division (which offers tailored health insurance programs that generally provide single school year coverage to individual students at colleges and universities) reported operating losses of \$(49.5) million in 2004, compared to operating losses of \$(9.8) million in 2003. Results for 2004 at Student Insurance reflected an increase in the loss ratio, which was primarily attributable to a higher-than-expected amount of paid claims (which resulted from the reduction of the Student Insurance unit s claims inventory to levels more closely approximating historical levels), the failure of the Company s claim system to effectively utilize discounts afforded by the Company s network provider contracts and to an impairment charge in the amount of \$(6.6) million principally associated with the abandonment of computer hardware and software assets associated with its claims processing system. The Company has taken steps to modify its claims processing system to better utilize network provider discounts.

Earned premium revenue at the Student Insurance unit increased to \$297.0 million in 2004 from \$239.6 million in 2003 (a 24% increase). The Company s Student Insurance unit imposed significant rate increases for its 2004-2005 school year during 2004, however, the impact of such rate increases were not be fully realized until 2005.

#### Star HRG Division

The Company s Star HRG Division (which designs, markets and administers limited benefit health insurance plans for entry level, high turnover, and hourly employees) reported operating income for 2004 of \$3.3 million, compared to operating income of \$1.9 million in 2003. Profitability in 2004 was positively impacted by a decrease (to 63.6% in 2004 from 66.4% in 2003) in the loss ratio associated with the Star HRG book of business, which decreases can be attributed to rate increases implemented during 2004. The decrease in loss ratio in 2004 was partially offset by higher-than-expected administrative expenses (which were associated with certain technology initiatives) and increased marketing costs associated with new market initiatives.

Earned premium revenue at Star HRG increased to \$145.7 million in 2004 from \$114.4 million in 2003 (a 27% increase).

# Life Insurance Division

The Company s Life Insurance Division reported operating income in 2004 of \$4.4 million, compared to an operating loss of \$(2.4) million in 2003. The operating loss at the Company s Life Insurance Division in 2003 was primarily attributable to a claim accrual increase associated with the Company s former workers compensation business, a charge associated with the final resolution of litigation arising out of the closedown in 2001 of the

Company s former workers compensation business and costs associated with the closedown of the Company s College Fund Life Division operations.

The Company determined that, effective May 31, 2003, it would no longer issue new life insurance policies under the College Fund Life Division program and, effective June 30, 2003, it ceased all operations at the Company s Norcross, Georgia facility. In connection with such closedown and relocation to the Oklahoma City office, the Company incurred exit costs (consisting primarily of employee severance and relocation expenses and lease termination costs) in the amount of approximately \$1.1 million which costs were expensed as incurred in 2003.

During 2004, the Company s Life Insurance Division generated annualized paid premium volume (*i.e.*, the aggregate annualized life premium amount associated with new life insurance policies issued by the Company) in the amount of \$32.7 million, compared to \$9.8 million in 2003, reflecting the ramping up of sales of the Company s new life products that were introduced to the market in the second half of 2003.

#### Other Insurance

During 2003, through a newly formed company, ZON Re USA LLC (an 82.5%-owned subsidiary), we began to underwrite, administer and issue accidental death, accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D), accident medical and accident disability insurance products, both on a primary and on a reinsurance basis. In 2004, ZON Re generated revenues and operating income of \$14.4 million and \$1.4 million, respectively.

#### Other Key Factors

The Other Key Factors segment includes investment income not allocated to the Insurance segment, realized gains or losses on sale of investments, interest expense on corporate debt, general expenses relating to corporate operations, minority interest, variable stock-based compensation and operations that do not constitute reportable operating segments (including the Company s investment in Healthaxis, Inc. until sold on September 30, 2003).

The Company s Other Key Factors segment reported operating income of \$789,000 in 2004, compared to operating income of \$33.8 million in 2003. The decrease in operating income in the Other Key Factors segment in 2004 was primarily attributable to a \$32.1 million decrease in net realized gains (from \$39.7 million in net realized gains in 2003 to \$7.6 million in net realized gains in 2004) and a \$(14.8) million year-over-year increase (from a benefit in 2003 of \$459,000 to an expense in 2004 of \$(14.3) million, or \$(0.20) per diluted share, net of tax) in the expense related to variable stock-based compensation associated with the various stock accumulation plans established by the Company for the benefit of its independent agents. *See* Note M of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements *Agent Stock Accumulation Plans.* In connection with these plans, the Company records non-cash variable stock-based compensation expense (or records a benefit) in amounts that depend and fluctuate based upon the market performance of the Company s common stock. These unfavorable factors were offset by an \$8.2 million increase in 2004 in investment income on equity and a reduction of general corporate expenses of \$3.4 million. Results in 2003 reflected the recognition of realized gains in the amount of \$40.4 million (pre-tax) relating to the sale of a substantial portion of the Company s stake in AMLI Residential and a loss of \$(2.2) million, representing the Company s share of operating losses attributable to its investment in Healthaxis, Inc. (which the Company sold in the third quarter of 2003).

#### **Discontinued Operations**

The Company s reported results in 2004 and 2003 reflected income (loss) (net of tax) from discontinued operations (consisting of the Company s AMS unit, its Senior Market Division and its Special Risk Division) in the amount of \$15.7 million (\$0.33 per diluted share) and \$(73.0) million (\$(1.52) per diluted share), respectively.

Results from discontinued operations for the full year 2004 reflected a favorable resolution of a dispute relating to its former Special Risk Division (which resulted in pre-tax income in the amount of \$10.7 million recorded in the second quarter of 2004), a tax benefit associated with the reduction of a tax accrual and the release of a portion of the valuation allowance on the capital loss carryover due to the realization of capital gains during 2004, and a pre-tax gain recorded in the first quarter of 2004 in the amount of \$7.7 million generated from the sale of the remaining

uninsured student loan assets formerly held by the Company s former Academic Management Services Corp subsidiary (which the Company disposed of in November 2003). These favorable factors were offset in part by the recording in the second quarter of 2004 of a loss accrual with respect to multiple lawsuits that were filed arising out of UICI s announcement in July 2003 of a shortfall in the type and amount of collateral supporting securitized student loan financing facilities of the Company s former AMS subsidiary.

Results from discontinued operations in 2003 included losses (net of tax) from AMS in the amount of \$(64.2) million (which included a \$(61.2) million expense reflecting the estimated loss on disposal recorded in the third quarter of 2004) and the costs associated with the close down of the Company s former Senior Market Division.

#### **Variable Stock-Based Compensation**

The Company sponsors a series of stock accumulation plans established for the benefit of the independent insurance agents and independent sales representatives associated with its independent agent field forces, including UGA—Association Field Services and Cornerstone America. In connection with these plans, the Company has from time to time recorded and will continue to record non-cash variable stock-based compensation expense in amounts that depend and fluctuate based upon the market performance of the Company—s common stock. For financial reporting purposes, the Company reflects all non-cash variable stock based compensation associated with its agent stock plans in its—Other Key Factors—business segment. *See* Note M of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

The accounting treatment of the Company s agent plans has resulted and will continue to result in unpredictable non-cash stock-based compensation charges, primarily dependent upon future fluctuations in the quoted price of UICI common stock. These unpredictable fluctuations in stock based compensation charges may result in material non-cash fluctuations in the Company s results of operations. Unvested benefits under the agent plans vest in January of each year; accordingly, in periods of general appreciation in the quoted price of UICI common stock, the Company s cumulative liability, and corresponding charge to income, for unvested stock-based compensation is expected to be greater in each successive quarter during any given year.

#### Change in Claims and Future Benefit Liability Estimates Self-Employed Agency Division

#### 2005 Change in Claim Liability Estimates

Results at the SEA Division for the year ended December 31, 2005 reflected benefits attributable to refinements of the Company s estimate for its claim liability on its health insurance products. For financial reporting purposes, each of these refinements is considered to be a change in estimate, resulting from additional information and subsequent developments from prior periods. Accordingly, the financial impact of the refinements was accounted for in the respective periods that the refinements occurred.

Results at the SEA Division for the year ended December 31, 2005 reflected a benefit in the amount of \$33.3 million recorded in the third quarter of 2005 attributable to a refinement of the Company s estimate for its claim liability on its health insurance products. The largest portion of the adjustment (approximately \$21.0 million) was attributable to a refinement of the estimate of the unpaid claim liability for the most recent incurral months. The Company utilizes anticipated loss ratios to calculate the estimated claim liability for the most recent incurral months. Despite negligible premium rate increases implemented on its most popular scheduled health insurance products, the SEA Division has continued to observe favorable claims experience and, as a result, loss ratios have not increased as rapidly as anticipated. This favorable claims experience has been reflected in the refinement of the anticipated loss ratios used in estimating the unpaid claim liability for the most recent incurral months. The remaining portion of the adjustment to the claim liability (approximately \$12.3 million) was attributable to an update of the completion factors used in the developmental method of estimating the unpaid claim liability to reflect more current claims administration practices.

In addition, effective January 1, 2005, the Company s SEA Division made certain refinements to its claim liability calculations, the effect of which decreased claim liabilities and correspondingly increased operating income in the amount of \$7.6 million in the first quarter of 2005. Since 2000 the SEA Division has offered as an

optional benefit to its scheduled/basic health insurance products a rider that provides for catastrophic coverage for covered expenses under the base insurance contract that exceed \$100,000 or \$75,000, depending on the benefit level chosen. This rider pays benefits at 100% after the stop loss is reached, up to the aggregate maximum amount of the contract. Prior to January 1, 2005, the SEA Division utilized a technique that is commonly used to estimate claims liabilities with respect to developing blocks of business, until sufficient experience is obtained to allow more precise estimates. The Company believed that the technique produced appropriate reserve estimates in all prior periods. During the first quarter of 2005, the Company believed that there were sufficient claims paid on this benefit to produce a reserve estimate utilizing the completion factor technique. As a result, effective January 1, 2005, the SEA Division refined its technique used to estimate claim liabilities to utilize completion factors for older incurral dates. The technique continues to utilize anticipated loss ratios in the most recent incurral months. This completion factor technique is currently utilized with respect to all other blocks of the SEA Division s health insurance business.

## 2003 Change in Claims and Future Benefit Liability Estimates

Effective January 1, 2003, the Company s SEA Division made certain refinements to its claim and future benefit liability estimates, the net effect of which decreased claim and future policy benefit liabilities and correspondingly increased operating income reported by the SEA Division in the amount of \$4.8 million in the first quarter of 2003. Set forth below is a summary of the adjustments and changes in accounting estimates made by the Company.

## ROP Liability

The Company has issued certain health policies with a return-of-premium (ROP) rider, pursuant to which the Company undertakes to return to the policyholder on or after age 65 all premiums paid less claims reimbursed under the policy. The ROP rider also provides that the policyholder may receive a portion of the benefit prior to age 65. Prior to January 1, 2003, the Company established a liability for future ROP benefits, which liability was calculated by applying mid-terminal reserve factors (calculated on two-year preliminary term basis, using 5% interest, 1958 CSO mortality terminations, and level future gross premiums) to the current premium on a contract-by-contract basis. A claim offset was applied, on a contract-by-contract basis, solely with respect to an older closed block of policies, utilizing only claims paid to date, with no assumption of future claims.

The Company records an ROP liability to fund longer-term obligations associated with the ROP rider. This liability is impacted both by the techniques utilized to calculate the liability and the many assumptions underlying the calculation, including interest rates, policy lapse rates, premium rate increases on policies and assumptions with regard to claims paid. The Company had previously utilized a simplified estimation technique (described above) that it believed generated an appropriate ROP liability in the aggregate. However, the Company reviewed its ROP estimation technique in order to determine if refinements to the technique were appropriate. As a result of such review, and as more particularly described in the paragraph below, effective January 1, 2003, the ROP estimation technique was refined to utilize new mid-terminal reserve factors (calculated on a net level basis, using 4.5% interest, 1958 CSO mortality and assuming 10% annual increases in future gross premiums) and to apply these factors to the historical premium payments on a contract-by-contract basis.

The net premium assumption was revised from two-year preliminary term to net level in order to produce a more appropriate accrual for the liability of the ROP benefits in relation to the premiums. The interest rate assumption was reduced from 5% to 4.5% to reflect current investment yields. Since the ROP rider is primarily attached to attained-age rated health insurance products that are subject to periodic rate adjustment, the Company has determined as part of its ongoing review of the ROP estimation technique to increase its ROP liability to cover reasonably foreseeable changes to the future gross premium. Based on Company experience, the revised reserve factors incorporate an assumption of a 10% average annual increase in future gross premiums on such products. The estimation technique was also refined to use historical premiums and anticipated future premium increases in the

calculation of future benefits rather than calculating the liability only from the current gross premium. Finally, a claim offset for actual benefits paid through the reporting date is applied to the ROP liability for all policies on a contract-by-contract basis. In the original simplified estimation technique, the intent was to balance the offsetting effects of applying the two-year preliminary term factors to the current gross premiums, since the historical premium information was not available. Changes to the technique were made in 2003 when sufficient historical

40

premium information was available to refine the estimation calculation. Substantially all of the effect of this change in estimating the liability for future ROP benefits was attributable to the refinement of adding the assumption of a 10% average annual increase in the level of future gross premiums for attained-age rated health insurance products.

As a result of these changes, the liability for future ROP benefits increased, and operating income correspondingly decreased, by \$12.9 million during the first quarter of 2003.

Assumptions used in the estimation of the Company s ROP liability, such as interest or the annual increases in future gross premiums, will continue to be used in subsequent accounting periods for those benefits already issued, including the future gross premiums anticipated by the reserve factors. Changes in assumptions may be applied to newly issued policies as well as for adjustments in the level of premium for existing policies other than those already anticipated. The new assumptions used will be those appropriate at the time the change is made.

The ROP liabilities in the amount of \$88.1 million and \$86.0 million at December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively, are reflected in future policy and contract benefits on the Company s consolidated balance sheet.

#### Claims Liability Changes

The SEA Division utilizes the developmental method to estimate claims liabilities. Under the developmental method, completion factors are applied to claim payments in order to estimate the ultimate claim payments. These completion factors are derived from historical experience and are dependent on the incurred dates of the claim payments.

Prior to January 1, 2003, the Company utilized the original incurred date coding definition to establish the date a policy claim is incurred under the developmental method. Under the original incurred date coding definition, prior to the end of the period in which a health policy claim was made, the Company estimated and recorded a liability for the cost of all medical services related to the accident or sickness relating to the claim, even though the medical services associated with such accident or sickness might not be rendered to the insured until a later financial reporting period.

Due to the anticipation of a future increase in the level of favorable development associated with the growth in business, the SEA Division undertook an analysis of the liability estimation process. The Company believes that the developmental method is the standard methodology within the health insurance industry and therefore re-evaluated the key assumptions utilized under this method. As the Company gained more experience with the older blocks of business, the original incurred date coding assumption was re-examined. This re-examination resulted in the decision to utilize a new incurred date definition instead of the original incurred date definition for purposes of estimating claim liabilities for the SEA Division.

Effective January 1, 2003, the Company implemented a new incurred date coding definition to establish incurred dates under the developmental method in the SEA Division. Under this new incurred date coding definition, a break in service of more than six months will result in the establishment of a new incurred date for subsequent services. In addition, under this new incurred date coding definition, claim payments continuing more than thirty-six months without a six month break in service will result in the establishment of a new incurred date. This change in the incurred date definition assumption resulted in a reduction in the estimated claim liabilities at the SEA Division, and a corresponding increase in operating income, in the amount of \$12.3 million during the first quarter of 2003.

# Other Changes in Estimate

Several refinements in the claims liability calculation, all of which were treated as changes in accounting estimates, resulted in a further reduction of the claims liability, and corresponding increase in operating income, in the amount of \$5.4 million during the first quarter of 2003. This reduction in the claims liability was attributable primarily to the

effects of a change in estimate of the liability for excess pending claims. This change was necessary to maintain consistency with the historical data underlying the calculation of the new completion factors used in the claim development calculation. These completion factors are based on more recent experience with claims payments than the previous factors. This more recent experience has a greater number of pending claims. As a result, the new completion factors have built in a higher level of liabilities for pending claims. The release of a

portion of the excess pending claims liability reflects the additional pending claims included in the completion factors.

# **Quarterly Results**

The following table presents the information for each of the Company s fiscal quarters in 2005 and 2004. This information is unaudited and has been prepared on the same basis as the audited Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company included herein and, in management s opinion, reflects all adjustments necessary for a fair presentation of the information for the periods presented. The operating results for any quarter are not necessarily indicative of results for any future period.

	Dec	cember 3 2005	1Şep	tember 30 2005	, J	2005	2005	Dec		_	tember 30, 2004 nts)	, J	une 30, 2004	Ma	arch 31, 2004
Income Statement Data: Revenues from continuing operations Income from continuing operations before		515,744	\$	520,174	\$	545,908	\$ 539,392	\$	540,531	\$	516,674	\$	514,687	\$	497,217
federal income taxes Income from continuing		59,802		92,755		79,514	81,079		66,890		49,131		55,115		50,013
operations Income (loss) from discontinued	l	37,498		60,672		52,142	52,658		43,967		33,269		35,947		32,698
operations		971		373		173	(986)		1,904		1,623		6,457		5,693
Net income (loss) Per Share Data: Basic earnings (loss) per common share: Income from continuing				61,045	\$	52,315	\$ 51,672	\$	45,871	\$	34,892	\$	42,404	\$	38,391
operations	\$	0.81 0.02		1.31 0.01	\$	1.13 0.00	\$ 1.14 (0.02)	\$	0.96 0.04	\$	0.72 0.04	\$	0.78 0.14	\$	0.70 0.12

Edgar Filing: UICI - Form 10-K

Income (loss) from discontinued operations								
Net income (loss)	\$ 0.83	\$ 1.32	\$ 1.13	\$ 1.12	\$ 1.00	\$ 0.76	\$ 0.92	\$ 0.82
Diluted earnings (loss) per common share: Income from continuing								
operations Income (loss) from discontinued	\$ 0.80	\$ 1.29	\$ 1.11	\$ 1.11	\$ 0.93	\$ 0.71	\$ 0.76	\$ 0.68
operations	0.02	0.01	0.00	(0.02)	0.04	0.03	0.13	0.12
Net income (loss)	\$ 0.82	\$ 1.30	\$ 1.11	\$ 1.09	\$ 0.97	\$ 0.74	\$ 0.89	\$ 0.80

Computation of earnings (loss) per share for each quarter is made independently of earnings (loss) per share for the year.

# **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

## Consolidated

On a consolidated level, the Company s primary sources of liquidity have been premium revenues from policies issued, investment income, fees and other income, proceeds from corporate borrowings and borrowings to fund student loans. The primary uses of cash have been payments for benefits, claims and commissions under those policies, operating expenses, cash dividends to shareholders, stock repurchases and the funding of student loans. During 2005, the Company generated net cash from operations on a consolidated basis in the amount of \$185.4 million, compared to \$254.2 million in 2004 and \$300.6 million in 2003.

The Company s consolidated short and long-term indebtedness (all of which constituted indebtedness of the holding company) (exclusive of indebtedness secured by student loans) was \$15.5 million at December 31, 2005 and 2004.

At December 31, 2005 and 2004, the Company had an aggregate of \$130.9 million and \$150.0 million, respectively, of indebtedness outstanding under a secured student loan credit facility, which indebtedness is represented by Student Loan Asset-Backed Notes (the SPE Notes) issued by a bankruptcy-remote special purpose entity (the SPE). At December 31, 2005 and 2004, indebtedness outstanding under the secured student loan credit facility was secured by alternative (*i.e.*, non-federally guaranteed) student loans and accrued interest in the carrying amount of \$115.3 million and \$114.9 million, respectively, and by a pledge of cash, cash equivalents and other qualified investments in the amount of \$20.5 million and \$37.4 million, respectively. At December 31, 2005, \$12.2 million of such cash, cash equivalents and other qualified investments was available to fund the purchase from the Company of additional student loans generated under the Company s College First Alternative Loan program, which purchases may be made in accordance with the terms of the agreements governing the securitization until February 2007.

All indebtedness issued under the secured student loan credit facility is reflected as student loan indebtedness on the Company's consolidated balance sheet; all such student loans and accrued investment income pledged to secure such facility are reflected as student loan assets and accrued investment income, respectively, on the Company's consolidated balance sheet; and all such cash, cash equivalents and qualified investments specifically pledged under the student loan credit facility are reflected as restricted cash on the Company's consolidated balance sheet. The SPE Notes represent obligations solely of the SPE and not of the Company or any other subsidiary of the Company. For financial reporting and accounting purposes the student loan credit facility has been classified as a financing. Accordingly, in connection with the financing the Company has recorded and will in the future record no gain on sale of the assets transferred to the SPE.

The SPE Notes were issued by the SPE in three tranches (\$50.0 million of Series 2001A-1 Notes and \$50.0 million of Series 2001A-2 Notes issued on April 27, 2001, and \$50.0 million of Series 2002A Notes issued on April 10, 2002). The Series 2001A-1 Notes and Series 2001A-2 Notes have a final stated maturity of July 1, 2036; the Series 2002A Notes have a final stated maturity of July 1, 2037. However, the SPE Notes are subject to mandatory redemption in whole or in part (a) on the first interest payment date which is at least 45 days after February 1, 2007, from any monies then remaining on deposit in the acquisition fund not used to purchase additional student loans and (b) on the first interest payment date which is at least 45 days after July 1, 2005, from any monies then remaining on deposit in the acquisition fund received as a recovery of the principal amount of any student loan securing payment of the SPE Notes, including scheduled, delinquent and advance payments, payouts or prepayments. After July 1, 2005, the SPE Notes are also subject to mandatory redemption in whole or in part on each interest payment date from any monies received as a recovery of the principal amount of any student loan securing payment of the SPE Notes, including scheduled, delinquent and advance payments, payouts or prepayments. During 2005 the Company made principal payments in the aggregate amount of \$19.1 million on the Notes.

The SPE and the secured student loan facility were structured with an expectation that interest and recoveries of principal to be received with respect to the underlying student loans securing payment of the SPE Notes would be sufficient to pay principal of and interest on the SPE Notes when due, together with operating expenses of the SPE. This expectation was based upon analysis of cash flow projections, and assumptions regarding the timing of the financing of the underlying student loans to be held by the SPE, the future composition of and yield on the financed student loan portfolio, the rate of return on monies to be invested by the SPE in various funds and accounts established under the indenture governing the SPE Notes, and the occurrence of future events and conditions. There can be no assurance, however, that the student loans will be financed as anticipated, that interest and principal payments from the financed student loans will be received as anticipated, that the reinvestment rates assumed on the amounts in various funds and accounts will be realized, or other payments will be received in the amounts and at the times anticipated.

# **Holding Company**

UICI is a holding company, the principal assets of which are its investments in its separate operating subsidiaries, including its regulated insurance subsidiaries. The holding company s ability to fund its cash requirements is largely dependent upon its ability to access cash, by means of dividends or other means, from its subsidiaries. The laws governing the Company s insurance subsidiaries restrict dividends paid by the Company s domestic insurance subsidiaries in any year. Inability to access cash from its subsidiaries could have a material adverse effect upon the Company s liquidity and capital resources.

Set forth below is a summary statement of cash flows for UICI at the holding company level for each of the three most recent years:

			on Holding ded Decemb	
	2005	(In	2004 thousands)	2003
Cash and Cash Equivalents on hand at beginning of year Sources of Cash:	\$ 39,5	73 \$	37,840	\$ 22,429
Dividends from domestic insurance subsidiaries(1)	146,0	00	23,000	5,000
Dividends from offshore insurance subsidiaries	9,0	00	5,290	23,385
Dividends from non-insurance subsidiaries(2)	9,0	37	27,630	14,475
Proceeds from Trust Securities			14,570	
Proceeds from financing activities(3)	12,2	53	26,587	20,744
Proceeds from sale of AMS				27,773
Proceeds from stock option activities	2,5	82	7,524	10,966
Net tax treaty payments from subsidiaries	5,5	36		18,535
Net investment activities	1,7	73		
Total sources of cash	186,1	81	104,601	120,878
Uses of Cash:				
Cash to operations	(15,7)	90)	(18,941)	(14,974)
Contributions/investment in subsidiaries(4)	(1,6	90)	(2,506)	(2,278)
Contribution to AMS				(48,250)
Financing activities(5)	(3	70)	(21,807)	(17,369)
Dividends paid to shareholders	(34,7	05)	(11,477)	
Purchases of UICI common stock(6)	(13,3)	59)	(36,220)	(19,596)
Net investment activities			(10,387)	
Net tax treaty net payments from subsidiaries			(1,530)	
Merger transaction costs(7)	(8,4	17)		
Other investment activities				(3,000)
Total uses of cash	(74,3	31)	(102,868)	(105,467)
Cash and Cash Equivalents on hand at end of year	\$ 151,4	23 \$	39,573	\$ 37,840

- (1) Consists of dividends paid to the parent by The MEGA Life and Health Insurance Company and Mid-West National Life Insurance Company of Tennessee.
- (2) 2004 includes \$25.0 million dividends from a non-insurance subsidiary related to the sale of the remaining uninsured student loans retained by the Company at the sale of AMS.
- (3) Includes borrowings from and/or repayments on loans from subsidiaries in the amount of \$358,000, \$3.9 million and \$8.3 million in 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively, and proceeds from subsidiaries related to agent stock plans in the amount of \$11.1 million, \$19.7 million and \$10.5 million in 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively.

- (4) Includes purchase of and investment in non-insurance subsidiaries and funding of discontinued operations.
- (5) Includes in 2005 \$370,000 of advances to subsidiaries. Includes in 2004 repayment of senior notes at final maturity in the amount of \$4.0 million, \$15.0 million retirement of convertible debentures and \$2.8 million of advances to subsidiaries. Includes in 2003 repayments of senior notes in the amount of \$4.0 million, and loans payable and advances to subsidiaries in the amount of \$13.4 million.
- (6) Includes repurchase of UICI common stock under the Company s stock repurchase program in the amount of \$7.0 million (310,900 shares), \$16.3 million (1,043,400 shares) and \$5.1 million (349,200 shares) in 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively. Also includes in 2005, 2004 and 2003 the amounts of \$6.4 million, \$19.9 million and \$14.5 million, respectively, representing repurchases of UICI common stock for agent stock accumulation plans and purchases from an officer of the Company.
- (7) Includes the incremental costs associated with the pending acquisition of the Company by a group of private equity investors.

See Schedule II following Note R of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information regarding the holding company s cash flow.

At December 31, 2005 and 2004, UICI at the holding company level held cash and cash equivalents in the amount of \$151.4 million and \$39.6 million, respectively. The Company currently anticipates that the cash requirements at the holding company level for the coming year will be funded by cash on hand and dividends to be paid from insurance and non-insurance subsidiaries.

Prior approval by insurance regulatory authorities is required for the payment by a domestic insurance company of dividends that exceed certain limitations based on statutory surplus and net income. During the 2005 year, Mega and Mid-West paid dividends in the amount of \$82.0 million and \$64.0 million, respectively, to the holding company.

During 2006, the Company s domestic insurance companies could pay, without prior approval of the regulatory authorities, aggregate dividends in the ordinary course of business to the holding company of approximately \$213.3 million. However, as it has done in the past, the Company will assess the results of operations of the regulated domestic insurance companies to determine the prudent dividend capability of the subsidiaries, consistent with UICI s practice of maintaining risk-based capital ratios at each of the Company s domestic insurance subsidiaries significantly in excess of minimum requirements.

Sources and Uses of Cash and Liquidity

During 2005, 2004 and 2003, the Company s cash and liquidity at the holding company were positively impacted by the following significant factors and developments:

During 2005, the Company received an aggregate of \$146.0 million in dividends from its domestic insurance subsidiaries, compared to \$23.0 million of dividends in 2004.

During 2005, the Company received \$1.8 million on investment income on short-term investments and other invested assets held at the holding company.

On March 31, 2004, the Company completed the sale of all of the remaining uninsured student loan assets formerly held by the Company s former Academic Management Services Corp. subsidiary. These assets had been retained by the Company at the November 18, 2003 sale of Academic Management Services Corp. and

reflected as held-for-sale assets on the Company s consolidated balance sheet. The sale of the uninsured student loans generated gross cash proceeds in the amount of approximately \$25.0 million.

In April 2004, the Company, through a newly formed Delaware statutory business trust, generated net proceeds of \$14.6 million from the issuance in a private placement of \$15.0 million aggregate issuance amount of floating rate trust preferred securities. *See* Note H of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Effective November 1, 2004, the Company terminated a \$30.0 million bank credit facility that was otherwise scheduled to mature in January 2005. At the time the facility was terminated, the Company had no borrowings outstanding under the facility.

On November 18, 2003, the Company sold its AMS unit, generating net cash proceeds to UICI of approximately \$27.8 million (which amount is reflected as Proceeds from sale of AMS in the table above). At closing, UICI also received uninsured student loan assets formerly held by AMS special purpose financing subsidiaries with a face amount of approximately \$44.3 million (including accrued interest). In 2004, the Company completed the sale of the portfolio of uninsured loans.

During 2005, 2004 and 2003, the Company s principal uses of cash and liquidity at the holding company were as follows:

During the fourth quarter of 2005 the holding company incurred and paid approximately \$8.4 million of expenses related to the pending merger by a group of private equity firms.

In April 2005, UICI utilized approximately \$7.0 million to repurchase 310,900 shares of its common stock pursuant to its share repurchase program. During 2004 and 2003, UICI utilized approximately \$16.3 million and \$5.1 million, respectively, to repurchase 1,043,400 and 349,200 shares, respectively, of its common stock pursuant to its share repurchase program. Such amounts are reflected as Purchases of UICI common stock in the table above.

During 2005, the Company paid an aggregate of \$34.7 million of dividends to holders of its common stock, compared to dividends in the amount of \$11.5 million paid in 2004. On August 18, 2004, the Company s Board of Directors adopted a policy of issuing a regular semi-annual cash dividend on shares of its common stock. Dividends paid in 2005 also included a \$0.25 per share special dividend (\$11.6 million in the aggregate) paid in March 2005. Following execution on September 15, 2005, of a definitive agreement contemplating the acquisition of the Company in a cash merger by a group of private equity firms, the Company does not anticipate declaring or paying additional dividends on shares of its common stock.

In April 2004, the Company paid in full its outstanding 6% convertible subordinated notes in the aggregate amount of \$15.0 million and accrued interest thereon to the date of prepayment. The notes had been issued by the Company in November 2003 in full payment of all contingent consideration payable in connection with UICI s February 2002 acquisition of Star HRG.

In June 2004, the Company paid in full the final payment due in the amount of \$4.0 million on its 8.75% Senior Notes due June 2004, which the Company had issued in 1994 in the original aggregate issuance amount of \$27.7 million. In accordance with the agreement, the Company repaid approximately \$4.0 million aggregate principal together with accrued interest in June 2003.

In July 2003, we announced that we had uncovered collateral shortfalls in the type and amount of collateral supporting two of the securitized student loan financing facilities of our AMS unit and the failure to comply with reporting obligations under the financing documents at seven of those facilities. We subsequently entered into waiver and release agreements with all of the financial institutions that were parties to the securitized student loan financing facilities, which agreements required us in July 2003 to contribute \$48.25 million in cash to the capital of AMS (which amount is reflected as Contribution to AMS in the table above). *See* Note Q of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

#### **Contractual Obligations and Off Balance Sheet Arrangements**

Set forth below is a summary of the Company s contractual obligations (on a consolidated basis) at December 31, 2005:

	Payment Due by Period										
	Less Than									ore Than	
		Total		1 Year	1-3 Years		3-5 Years		5	Years	
	(In thousands)										
Corporate debt	\$	15,470	\$		\$		\$		\$	15,470	
Student loan credit facility		130,900		8,850		25,600		28,300		68,150	
Future policy benefits		447,992		19,421		41,033		33,831		353,707	
Claim liabilities		558,106		454,357		103,749					
Capital lease obligations		3,490		1,354		1,962		174			
Operating lease obligations		37,249		7,101		12,452		10,165		7,531	
Total	\$	1,193,207	\$	491,083	\$	184,796	\$	72,470	\$	444,858	

All indebtedness issued under the secured student loan credit facility represent obligations solely of the SPE and not of the Company or any other subsidiary and is secured by student loans, accrued investment income, cash, cash equivalents and qualified investments.

The payments related to the future policy benefits and claim liabilities reflected in the table above have been projected utilizing assumptions based on the Company s historical experience and anticipated future experience.

The Company s off balance sheet arrangements consist of commitments to fund student loans generated by its former College Fund Life Division and letters of credit.

Through the Company s former College Fund Life Division, the Company previously offered an interest-sensitive whole life insurance product issued with a child term rider, under which the Company committed to provide private student loans to help fund the named child s higher education if certain restrictions and qualifications are satisfied. At December 31, 2005, the Company had outstanding commitments to fund student loans under the College Fund Life Division program for the years 2006 through 2025. Loans are limited to the cost of school or prescribed maximums. These loans are generally guaranteed as to principal and interest by a private guarantee agency and are also collateralized by either the related insurance policy or the co-signature of a parent or guardian. The total student loan funding commitments for each of the next five school years and thereafter, as well as the amount the Company expects to be required to fund based on historical utilization rates and policy lapse rates, are as follows as of December 31, 2005:

	Total Commitment (In thou	U
2006	\$ 54.075	\$ 6.420

Edgar Filing: UICI - Form 10-K

Total	\$ 409,037	\$ 25,390
2011 and thereafter	165,075	4,597
2010	47,611	2,440
2009	44,426	3,004
2008	47,191	3,833
2007	50,659	5,096

Interest rates on the above commitments are principally variable (prime plus 2%).

The Company has historically funded its College Fund Life Division student loan commitments with the proceeds of indebtedness issued by a bankruptcy-remote special purpose entity (the SPE Notes). At December 31, 2005, \$12.2 million of cash, cash equivalents and other qualified investments was available to fund the purchase by the bankruptcy-remote special purpose entity from the Company of additional student loans generated under the

Company s College First Alternative Loan program. The indenture governing the terms of the SPE Notes provides, however, that the proceeds of such SPE Notes may be used to fund student loan commitments only until February 1, 2007, after which any monies then remaining on deposit in the acquisition fund created by the indenture not used to purchase additional student loans must be used to redeem the SPE Notes. *See* discussion above under the caption Liquidity and Capital Resources *Consolidated* and Note H of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

At each of December 31, 2005 and 2004, the Company had \$5.2 million and \$5.0 million, respectively, of letters of credit outstanding relating to its insurance operations.

#### **Investments**

General. The Company s Investment Committee monitors the investment portfolio of the Company and its subsidiaries. The Investment Committee receives investment management services from external professionals and from the Company s in-house investment management team. The internal investment management team monitors the performance of the external managers as well as directly managing approximately 65% of the investment portfolio.

Investments are selected based upon the parameters established in the Company s investment policies. Emphasis is given to the selection of high quality, liquid securities that provide current investment returns. Maturities or liquidity characteristics of the securities are managed by continually structuring the duration of the investment portfolio to be consistent with the duration of the policy liabilities. Consistent with regulatory requirements and internal guidelines, the Company invests in a range of assets, but limits its investments in certain classes of assets, and limits its exposure to certain industries and to single issuers.

Investments are reviewed quarterly (or more frequently if certain indicators arise) to determine if they have suffered an impairment of value that is considered other than temporary. Managements—review considers the following indicators of impairment: fair value significantly below cost; decline in fair value attributable to specific adverse conditions affecting a particular investment; decline in fair value attributable to specific conditions, such as conditions in an industry or in a geographic area; decline in fair value for an extended period of time; downgrades by rating agencies from investment grade to non-investment grade; financial condition deterioration of the issuer and situations where dividends have been reduced or eliminated or scheduled interest payments have not been made. Management monitors investments where two or more of the above indicators exist. The Company also identifies investments in economically challenged industries. If investments are determined to be impaired, a loss is recognized at the date of determination.

Set forth below is a summary of the Company s investments by category at December 31, 2005 and 2004:

	December	31, 2005	December	31, 2004
	Carrying Amount	% of Total Carrying Value (Dollars in t	Carrying Amount chousands)	% of Total Carrying Value
Securities available for sale Fixed maturities, at fair value				
(cost: 2005 \$1,496,340; 2004 \$1,500,204) Equity securities, at fair value	\$ 1,484,465	83.5%	\$ 1,531,231	89.1%
(cost: 2005 \$1,508; 2004 \$1,508)	1,347	0.1%	1,461	0.1%
Mortgage loans	751	0.0%	3,884	0.2%

Policy loans Short-term and other investments	16,325 275,036	0.9% 15.5%	17,101 165,661	1.0% 9.6%
Total investments	\$ 1,777,924	100.0%	\$ 1,719,338	100.0%
	48			

*Fixed maturity securities.* Fixed maturity securities accounted for 83.5% and 89.1% of the Company s total investments at December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively. Fixed maturity securities at December 31, 2005 consisted of the following:

		December	31, 2005 % of Total
	(	Carrying Value	Carrying Value
		(Dollars in t	thousands)
U.S. Treasury and U.S. Government agency obligations	\$	85,928	5.8%
Corporate bonds		968,520	65.2%
Mortgage-backed securities issued by U.S. Government agencies and authorities		247,851	16.7%
Other mortgage and asset backed securities		182,166	12.3%
	\$	1,484,465	100.0%

Included in the fixed maturity portfolio is an allocation of corporate bonds consisting primarily of short term and medium term investment grade corporate bonds. The Company s investment policy with respect to concentration risk limits individual investment grade bonds to 3% of assets and non-investment grade bonds to 2% of assets. The policy also limits the investments in any one industry to 20% of assets. As of December 31, 2005, the largest concentration in any one investment grade corporate bond was \$25.4 million which represented less than 1.5% of total invested assets. The largest concentration in any one non-investment grade corporate bond was \$4.5 million, which represented less than 1% of total invested assets. The largest concentration to any one industry was less than 9%.

Included in the fixed maturity portfolio is an allocation of mortgage-backed securities, including collateralized mortgage obligations and mortgage-backed pass-through certificates, and commercial mortgage-backed securities. To limit its credit risk, the Company invests in mortgage-backed securities that are rated investment grade by the public rating agencies. The Company s mortgage-backed securities portfolio is a conservatively structured portfolio that is concentrated in the less volatile tranches, such as planned amortization classes and sequential classes. The Company seeks to minimize prepayment risk during periods of declining interest rates and minimize duration extension risk during periods of rising interest rates. The Company has less than 1% of its investment portfolio invested in the more volatile tranches.

As of December 31, 2005 and 2004, \$1.457 billion (or 98.1%) and \$1.495 billion (or 97.6%), respectively, of the fixed maturity securities portfolio was rated BBB or better (investment grade) and \$27.6 million (or 1.9%) and \$36.7 million (or 2.4%), respectively, of the fixed maturity securities portfolio was invested in below investment grade securities (rated less than BBB).

A quality distribution for fixed maturity securities at December 31, 2005 is set forth below:

December 31, 2005
% of Total
Carrying
Value
(Dollars in thousands)

**Rating** 

Edgar Filing: UICI - Form 10-K

U.S. Government and AAA	\$ 612,314	41.2%
AA	93,907	6.3%
A	476,618	32.1%
BBB	274,015	18.5%
Less than BBB	27,611	1.9%
	\$ 1,484,465	100.0%

*Investment accounting policies*. The Company has classified its entire fixed maturity portfolio as available for sale. This classification requires the portfolio to be carried at fair value with the resulting unrealized gains or losses, net of applicable income taxes, reported in accumulated other comprehensive income as a separate

component of stockholders equity. As a result, fluctuations in fair value, which is affected by changes in interest rates, will result in increases or decreases to the Company s stockholders equity.

During 2005, 2004 and 2003, the Company recorded impairment charges for certain fixed and equity securities in the amount of \$4.1 million, \$3.6 million and \$5.1 million, respectively.

Set forth below is a summary of the Company s gross unrealized losses in its fixed maturities as of December 31, 2005:

Unreal Less Tha					1	Unrealize 12 Months			Total				
Description of Securities		Fair Value	Unrealized Losses			Fair Value (In the	]	realized Losses nds)		Fair Value	Unrealized Losses		
U.S. Treasury obligations and direct obligations of U.S. Government agencies Mortgage backed securities issued by U.S. Government	\$	61,872	\$	747	\$	13,632	\$	390	\$	75,504	\$	1,137	
agencies and authorities Other mortgage and asset backed		145,168		2,077		68,632		2,124		213,800		4,201	
securities		67,635		947		78,020		2,618		145,655		3,565	
Corporate bonds		380,079		7,642		260,044		10,180		640,123		17,822	
Total securities	\$	654,754	\$	11,413	\$	420,328	\$	15,312	\$	1,075,082	\$	26,725	

At December 31, 2005, the Company had \$26.7 million of unrealized losses in its fixed maturities portfolio. Of the \$11.4 million in unrealized losses that have existed for less than twelve months, only three securities had an unrealized loss in excess of 10% of the security s cost. The aggregate amount of unrealized loss attributed to the securities in excess of 10% of the securities cost was \$893,000 at December 31, 2005. Of the \$15.3 million in unrealized losses that have existed for twelve months or longer, only one security had an unrealized loss in excess of 10% of the security s cost. The amount of unrealized loss with respect to that security was \$122,000 at December 31, 2005. The Company continually monitors these investments and believes that, as of December 31, 2005, the unrealized loss in these investments is temporary.

Set forth below is a summary of the Company s gross unrealized losses in its fixed maturities as of December 31, 2004:

	L	Unrealized Loss Less Than 12 Months				Unrealize Months				Total			
<b>Description of Securities</b>	•	Fair Value		Unrealized Losses		Fair Value (In tho	Unrealized Losses nousands)		•	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses		
	\$	10,889	\$	182	\$	2,887	\$	153	\$	13,776	\$	335	

Edgar Filing: UICI - Form 10-K

US Treasury obligations and direct obligations of US Government						
agencies						
Mortgage backed securities issued						
by U.S. Government agencies and		240	27.621	265	100.010	60.4
authorities	66,191	319	37,621	365	103,812	684
Other mortgage and asset backed						
securities	44,138	480	56,802	994	100,940	1,474
Corporate bonds	144,427	1,533	151,190	4,394	295,617	5,927
•	ŕ	,	•	,	ŕ	,
Total securities	\$ 265,645	\$ 2,514	\$ 248,500	\$ 5,906	\$ 514,145	\$ 8,420

The Company regularly monitors its investment portfolio to attempt to minimize its concentration of credit risk in any single issuer. Set forth in the table below is a schedule of all investments representing greater than 1% of the

Company s aggregate investment portfolio at December 31, 2005 and 2004, excluding investments in U.S. Government securities:

	December 31,					
	2005			004		
		% of Total		% of Total		
	Carrying Amount	Carrying Value (Dollars in t	Carrying Amount thousands)	Carrying Value		
Fixed Maturities:						
Federal National Mortgage Corporation	\$ 25,370	1.4%	\$ 18,038	1.0%		
Short-term investments:						
Fidelity Institutional Money Market Fund	\$ 200,900	11.3%	\$ 122,793	7.1%		

The Fidelity Institutional Money Market Fund is a diversified institutional money market fund that invests solely in the highest quality United States dollar denominated money market securities of domestic and foreign issuers.

#### **Share Repurchase Program**

At its April 28, 2004 regular quarterly meeting, the UICI Board of Directors reconfirmed the Company s 1998 share repurchase program, in which it initially authorized the repurchase of up to 4,500,000 shares of UICI common stock from time to time in open market or private transactions, and granted management authority to repurchase up to an additional 1,000,000 shares. Through December 31, 2005, the Company had purchased under the program an aggregate of 4,881,900 shares (at an aggregate cost of \$71.2 million; average cost per share of \$14.58), of which 310,900 shares (at an aggregate cost of \$7.0 million; average cost per share of \$22.66) were purchased during 2005. The Company now has remaining authority pursuant to the program as reauthorized to repurchase up to an additional 618,100 shares. Following execution on September 15, 2005, of a definitive agreement contemplating the acquisition of the Company in a cash merger by a group of private equity firms, the Company will not repurchase any additional shares of common stock pursuant to this program.

## **Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**

The Company s discussion and analysis of its financial condition and results of operations are based upon the Company s consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The preparation of these financial statements requires the Company to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. On an on-going basis, the Company evaluates its estimates, including those related to health and life insurance claims, bad debts, investments, intangible assets, income taxes, financing operations and contingencies and litigation. The Company bases its estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions.

The Company believes the following critical accounting policies affect its more significant judgments and estimates used in the preparation of its consolidated financial statements.

## Claims Liabilities

The Company establishes liabilities for benefit claims that have been reported but not paid and claims that have been incurred but not reported under health and life insurance contracts. Consistent with overall company philosophy, a single best estimate claim liability is determined which is expected to be adequate under most circumstances. This estimate is developed using actuarial principles and assumptions that consider a number of items as appropriate, including but not limited to historical and current claim payment patterns, product variations, the timely implementation of appropriate rate increases and seasonality. The Company does not develop ranges in

51

the setting of the claims liability reported in the financial statements. However, to the extent not already reflected in the actuarial analyses, management also considers qualitative factors that may affect the ultimate benefit levels to determine its best estimate of the claims liability. These qualitative considerations include, among others, the impact of medical inflation, utilization of health services, exposure levels, product mix, pending claim levels and other relevant factors.

The Company uses the developmental method to estimate claim liabilities. This method applies completion factors to claim payments in order to estimate the ultimate amount of the claim. These completion factors are derived from historical experience and are dependent on the incurred dates of the claim payments.

An extensive degree of judgment is used in this estimation process. For health care costs payable, the claim liability balances and the related benefit expenses are highly sensitive to changes in the assumptions used in the claims liability calculations. With respect to health claims, the items that have the greatest impact on the Company s financial results are the medical cost trend, which is the rate of increase in health care costs, and the unpredictable variability in actual experience. Any adjustments to prior period claim liabilities are included in the benefit expense of the period in which adjustments are identified. Due to the considerable variability of health care costs and actual experience, adjustments to health claim liabilities usually occur each quarter and are sometimes significant.

The Company believes that its recorded claim liabilities are reasonable and adequate to satisfy its ultimate claims liability. Each of the Company s major operating units has an actuarial staff that has primary responsibility for assessing the claim liabilities. The Company s Corporate Risk Management staff has an oversight process in place to provide final review of the establishment of the claim liabilities. The Company uses its own experience as appropriate and relies on industry loss experience as necessary in areas where the Company s data is limited. Our estimate of claim liabilities represents management s best estimate of the Company s liability as of December 31, 2005. Assuming a hypothetical 1% difference in the loss ratio (*i.e.*, benefits, claims and settlement expenses stated as a percentage of earned premiums) for the year ended December 31, 2005, net income would increase or decrease by approximately \$12.5 million and diluted net earnings per common share would increase or decrease by approximately \$0.26 per share.

Prior to January 1, 2003, the SEA Division utilized the original incurred date coding definition to establish the date a policy claim is incurred under the developmental method. Under the original incurred date coding definition, prior to the end of the period in which a health policy claim was made, the Company estimated and recorded a liability for the cost of all medical services related to the accident or sickness relating to the claim, even though the medical services associated with such accident or sickness might not be rendered to the insured until a later financial reporting period.

Due to the anticipation of a future increase in the level of favorable development associated with the growth in business, the SEA Division undertook an analysis of the liability estimation process. The Company believes that the developmental method is the standard methodology within the health insurance industry and therefore re-evaluated the key assumptions utilized under this method. With the aging of the older blocks of business, the original incurred date coding assumption was re-examined. This re-examination resulted in the decision to utilize a new incurred date definition instead of the original incurred date definition for purposes of estimating claim liabilities for the SEA Division.

Effective January 1, 2003, the Company implemented a new incurred date coding definition to establish incurred dates under the developmental method in the SEA Division. Under this new incurred date coding definition, a break in service of more than six months will result in the establishment of a new incurred date for subsequent services. In addition, under this new incurred date coding definition, claim payments continuing more than thirty-six months without a six month break in service will result in the establishment of a new incurred date. This change in the incurred date definition assumption resulted in a reduction in the estimated claim liabilities, and a corresponding

increase in operating income, at the SEA Division in the amount of \$12.3 million during the first quarter of 2003.

The SEA Division also makes various refinements to the claim liabilities as appropriate. These refinements estimate liabilities for circumstances, such as an excess pending claims inventory (*i.e.*, inventories of pending claims in excess of historical levels) and disputed claims. For example, the Company closely monitors the level of

claims that are pending. When the level of pending claims appears to be in excess of normal levels, the Company typically establishes a liability for excess pending claims. The Company believes that such an excess pending claims liability is appropriate under such circumstances because of the operation of the developmental method used by the Company to calculate the principal claim liability, which method develops or completes paid claims to estimate the claim liability. When the pending claims inventory is higher than would ordinarily be expected, the level of paid claims is correspondingly lower than would ordinarily be expected. This lower level of paid claims, in turn, results in the developmental method yielding a smaller claim liability than would have been yielded with a normal level of paid claims, resulting in the need for an augmented claim liability.

With respect to business at its Student Insurance and Star HRG Divisions, the Company assigns incurred dates based on the date of service. This definition estimates the liability for all medical services received by the insured prior to the end of the applicable financial period. Appropriate adjustments are made in the completion factors to account for pending claim inventory changes and contractual continuation of coverage beyond the end of the financial period.

Set forth below is a summary of claim liabilities by business unit at each of December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003:

	At December 31,				
	2005	2004	2003		
		(In thousands)			
Self-Employed Agency Division	\$ 438,857	\$ 493,406	\$ 455,140		
Student Insurance Division	63,105	83,954	77,357		
Star HRG Division	16,803	16,203	16,622		
Life Insurance Division	10,989	12,072	13,866		
Other Insurance	16,247	5,144	60		
Subtotal	546,001	610,779	563,045		
Reinsurance recoverable	12,105	11,808	12,428		
Total claim liability	\$ 558,106	\$ 622,587	\$ 575,473		

Activity in the claims liability is summarized as follows:

		Yea 2005		ed Decembe 2004 thousands)	r 31,	31, 2003	
Claims liability at beginning of year, net of related reinsurance recoverable	\$	610,779	\$	563,045	\$	440,895	
Add:	Ψ	010,777	Ψ	000,010	Ψ.	,	
Claims liability on acquired business						12,783	
Incurred losses, net of reinsurance, occurring during:							
Current year		1,191,723		1,196,421		1,067,951	
Prior years		(124,996)		(90,914)		(54,392)	
		1,066,727		1,105,507		1,013,559	

Edgar Filing: UICI - Form 10-K

Deduct payments for Current year Prior years	or claims, net of re	einsurance, occui	rring during:	765,767 365,738	714,361 343,412	616,939 287,253
				1,131,505	1,057,773	904,192
Claims liability at e recoverable (2005	•	related reinsurar \$11,808; 2003	\$12,428)	\$ 546,001	\$ 610,779	\$ 563,045
			53			

### Claims Liability Development Experience

Inherent in the Company s claim liability estimation practices is the desire to establish liabilities that are more likely to be redundant than deficient. Furthermore, the Company s philosophy is to price its insurance products to make an underwriting profit, not to increase written premiums. While management continually attempts to improve its loss estimation process by refining its ability to analyze loss development patterns, claim payments and other information, uncertainty remains regarding the potential for adverse development of estimated ultimate liabilities.

Set forth in the table below is a summary of the claims liability development experience (favorable) unfavorable by business unit in the Company s Insurance segment for each of the years ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003:

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2005	2004	2003		
	(In thousands)				
Self-Employed Agency Division	\$ (121,362)	\$ (91,720)	\$ (54,009)		
Student Insurance Division	(5,186)	4,733	(581)		
Star HRG Division	410	(3,002)	(1,753)		
Life Insurance Division	337	(926)	1,951		
Other Insurance	805	1			
Total favorable	\$ (124,996)	\$ (90,914)	\$ (54,392)		

*Impact on SEA Division*. As indicated in the table above, incurred losses developed at the SEA Division in amounts less than originally anticipated due to better-than-expected experience on the health business in the SEA Division in each of 2005, 2004 and 2003.

The total favorable claims liability development experience for 2005 in the amount of \$121.4 million represented 24.6% of total claim liabilities established for the SEA Division at December 31, 2004. The favorable claims liability development experience in 2005 reflected a benefit of \$33.3 million recorded in the third quarter of 2005 attributable to a refinement of the Company s estimate for its claim liability on its health insurance products, which adjustment resulted from a refinement of the estimate of the unpaid claim liability for the most recent incurral months and an update of the completion factors used in the developmental method of estimating the unpaid claim liability to reflect more current claims administration practices. The favorable claims liability development experience at the SEA Division in 2005 also reflected the effects of a favorable adjustment in the amount of \$7.6 million recorded in the first quarter of 2005 attributable to a refinement of an estimate for the Company s claim liability established with respect to a product rider that provides for catastrophic coverage on the SEA Division s scheduled health insurance products. Excluding the impact of the refinements discussed above, the remaining favorable experience in 2005 in the claims liability was \$80.5 million, or 16.3% of total claim liabilities established for the SEA Division at December 31, 2004.

The total favorable claims liability development experience for 2004 in the amount of \$91.7 million represented 20.2% of total claim liabilities established for the SEA Division at December 31, 2003. The favorable claims liability development experience at the SEA Division in 2004 reflected the effect of \$47.8 million in claim liabilities established during 2003 in response to a rapid pay down during 2003 of an excess pending claims inventory. In particular, during 2003 the Company observed a change in the distribution of paid claims by incurred date; more paid claims were assigned to recent incurred dates than had been the case on paid claims in prior years. Assignment of paid claims with more recent incurred dates typically results in an understatement of the claim development liability,

resulting in the need for augmented claim liabilities. The Company believes that the deviation from historical experience in incurred date assignment was a natural consequence of the effort required to reduce a claims backlog, which the Company was experiencing at the SEA Division during the course of 2003. However, as the actual claims experience developed in 2004, these augmented claim liabilities in the amount of \$47.8 million proved to be redundant. These claim liabilities were released during 2004 and, as a result, did not influence the level of claim liabilities redundancies in 2005 and will not influence the level of claim liabilities redundancies in future periods. Excluding the impact of the augmented claim liabilities established at December 31, 2003 in response to the rapid pay down during 2003 of an excess pending claims inventory, the favorable experience in 2004 in the

claims liability was \$43.9 million, or 9.6% of total claim liabilities established for the SEA Division at December 31, 2003.

The total favorable claims liability development experience for 2003 in the amount of \$54.0 million represented 14.9% of total claim liabilities established for the SEA Division at December 31, 2002. The favorable experience in the SEA Division for 2003 included the effect of the \$17.7 million decrease in claims liability due to the refinements made effective January 1, 2003 to the claims liability calculation (\$12.3 million) and changes in estimate (\$5.4 million). *See* the discussion above under the caption 2003 Change in Claims and Future Benefit Liability Estimates . Excluding the impact of these refinements and changes in estimate, the favorable experience in 2003 in the claims liability was \$36.3 million, or 10.0% of the total claim liabilities established for the SEA Division at December 31, 2002.

Over time, the developmental method replaces anticipated experience with actual experience, resulting in an ongoing re-estimation of the claims liability. Since the greatest degree of estimation is used for more recent periods, the most recent prior year is subject to the greatest change. Recent actual experience has produced lower levels of claims payment experience than originally expected.

Impact on Student Insurance Division and Star HRG Division. The products of the Student Insurance and Star HRG Divisions consist principally of medical insurance. In general, medical insurance business, for which incurred dates are assigned based on date of service, has a short tail, which means that a favorable development or unfavorable development shown for prior years relates primarily to actual experience in the most recent prior year.

The favorable claim liability development experience at the Student Insurance Division in 2005 in the amount of \$5.2 million is due to claims in 2005 developing more favorably than indicated by the loss trends used to determine the claim liability at December 31, 2004. The unfavorable claims liability development experience in 2004 in the amount of \$4.7 million reflects the effects of a delay in processing of prior-year claims and higher-than-expected claim experience associated with the business written for the 2003-2004 school year. The Student Insurance Division experienced favorable claims liability development for 2003.

The unfavorable claim liability development at the Star HRG Division in 2005 of \$410,000 is within the normal statistical variation in the model used to develop the reserve. The actual development of prior years claims exceeded the expected development of the claims liability. The favorable claims liability development experience of \$3.0 million in 2004 includes the effects of claims in 2004 developing more favorably than indicated by the loss trends in 2003 used to determine the claim liability at December 31, 2003. The Star HRG Division also experienced favorable claims liability development for 2003. Since the Star HRG business was new to the Company (acquired in 2002), an expected loss ratio was used to set the claims liability at December 31, 2002.

Impact on Life Insurance Division. The varied claim liability development experience at the Life Insurance Division for each of the years presented is due to the development of a closed block of workers—compensation business. The Life Insurance Division previously wrote workers—compensation insurance and similar group accident coverage for employers in a limited geographical market. In May 2001, the Company made the decision to terminate this operation, and all existing policies were terminated as the policies came up for renewal over the succeeding twelve months. The closing of new and renewal business starting in July of 2001 had the effect of concentrating the claims experience into existing policies and eliminating any benefits that might accrue from improved underwriting of new business or liabilities released on newer claims that might settle more quickly. The effect of closing a block of this type of business is difficult to estimate at the date of closing, due to the longer claims tail usually experienced with workers compensation coverage, the tendency of claims to concentrate in severity but without an associated degree of predictability as the number of cases decreases, and the unpredictable costs of protracted litigation often associated with the adjudication of claims under workers—compensation policies.

Impact on Other Insurance. Through our 82.5%-owned subsidiary, ZON Re USA LLC ( ZON Re ), we underwrite, administer and issue accidental death, accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D), accident medical and accident disability insurance products, both on a primary and on a reinsurance basis. The unfavorable claim liability development experience at ZON Re in 2005 in the amount of \$805,000 was due to certain large claims reported in 2005 associated with claims incurred in the prior year.

### Accounting for Policy Acquisition Costs

## Health Policy Acquisition Costs

The Company incurs various costs in connection with the origination and initial issuance of its health insurance policies, including underwriting and policy issuance costs, costs associated with lead generation activities and distribution costs (*i.e.*, sales commissions paid to agents). The Company defers those costs that vary with production. The Company defers commissions paid to agents and premium taxes with respect to the portion of health premium collected but not yet earned, and the Company amortizes the deferred expense over the period as and when the premium is earned. Costs associated with generating sales leads with respect to the health business issued through the SEA Division are capitalized and amortized over a two-year period, which approximates the average life of a policy. For financial reporting purposes, underwriting and policy issuance costs (which the Company estimates are more fixed than variable) with respect to health policies issued through the Company s SEA, Student Insurance, Star HRG Divisions and the Other Insurance division are expensed as incurred.

With respect to health policies sold through the Company s SEA Division, commissions paid to agents with respect to first year policies are higher than commissions paid to agents with respect to policies in renewal years. Accordingly, during periods of increasing first year premium revenue (such as occurred during 2002), the SEA Division s overall operating profit margin will be negatively impacted by the higher commission expense associated with first year premium revenue.

### Life Policy Acquisition Costs

The Company incurs various costs in connection with the origination and initial issuance of its life insurance policies, including underwriting and policy issuance costs. The Company defers those costs that vary with production. The Company capitalizes commission and issue costs primarily associated with the new business of its Life Insurance Division. Deferred acquisition costs consist primarily of sales commissions and other underwriting costs of new life insurance sales. Policy acquisition costs associated with traditional life business are capitalized and amortized over the estimated premium-paying period of the related policies, in proportion to the ratio of the annual premium revenue to the total premium revenue anticipated. Such anticipated premium revenue, which is modified to reflect actual lapse experience, is estimated using the same assumptions as are used for computing policy benefits. For universal life-type and annuity contracts, capitalized costs are amortized at a constant rate based on the present value of the estimated gross profits expected to be realized on the book of contracts.

### Other

The cost of business acquired through acquisition of subsidiaries or blocks of business is determined based upon estimates of the future profits inherent in the business acquired. Such costs are capitalized and amortized over the estimated premium-paying period. Anticipated investment income is considered in determining whether a premium deficiency exists. The amortization period is adjusted when estimates of current or future gross profits to be realized from a group of products are revised.

The Company monitors and assesses the recoverability of deferred health and life policy acquisition costs on a quarterly basis.

### Goodwill and Other Identifiable Intangible Assets

The Company accounts for goodwill and other intangible assets under Financial Accounting Standards Board Statement 142, *Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets*. Statement 142 requires that goodwill and other intangible assets

with indefinite useful lives no longer be amortized, but instead be tested for impairment at least annually. Statement 142 also requires that intangible assets with estimable useful lives be amortized over their respective estimated useful lives to their estimated residual values and reviewed for impairment. The Company has determined that it will review goodwill and other intangible assets for impairment as of November 1 of each year or more frequently if certain indicators arise. An impairment loss would be recorded in the period such determination was made. Following the Company s annual review in 2005 for impairment of the goodwill and other intangible assets

related to continuing operations, the Company recorded an impairment charge in the amount of \$1.7 million related to the HealthMarket customer list acquired in October 2004. *See* Note E of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

## Accounting for Agent Stock Accumulation Plans

The Company sponsors a series of stock accumulation plans (the Agent Plans ) established for the benefit of the independent insurance agents and independent sales representatives associated with UGA Association Field Services, New United Agency and Cornerstone America. The Company has established a liability for future unvested benefits under the Agent Plans and adjusts the liability based on the market value of the Company s Common Stock. The accounting treatment of the Company s Agent Plans has resulted and will continue to result in unpredictable stock-based compensation charges, dependent upon fluctuations in the quoted price of UICI common stock. These unpredictable fluctuations in stock based compensation charges may result in material non-cash fluctuations in the Company s results of operations. *See* discussion above under the caption Variable Stock-Based Compensation and Note M of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

#### **Investments**

The Company has classified its investments in securities with fixed maturities as available for sale. Investments in equity securities and securities with fixed maturities have been recorded at fair value, and unrealized investment gains and losses are reflected in stockholders—equity. Investment income is recorded when earned, and capital gains and losses are recognized when investments are sold. Investments are reviewed quarterly to determine if they have suffered an impairment of value that is considered other than temporary. If investments are determined to be impaired, a loss is recognized at the date of determination.

Testing for impairment of investments also requires significant management judgment. The identification of potentially impaired investments, the determination of their fair value and the assessment of whether any decline in value is other than temporary are the key judgment elements. The discovery of new information and the passage of time can significantly change these judgments. Revisions of impairment judgments are made when new information becomes known, and any resulting impairments are made at that time. The current economic environment and recent volatility of securities markets increase the difficulty of determining fair value and assessing investment impairment. The same influences tend to increase the risk of potentially impaired assets.

Investments are reviewed quarterly (or more frequently if certain indicators arise) to determine if they have suffered an impairment of value that is considered other than temporary. Management s review considers the following indicators of impairment: fair value significantly below cost; decline in fair value attributable to specific adverse conditions affecting a particular investment; decline in fair value attributable to specific conditions, such as conditions in an industry or in a geographic area; decline in fair value for an extended period of time; downgrades by rating agencies from investment grade to non-investment grade; financial condition of the issuer deterioration and situations where dividends have been reduced or eliminated or scheduled interest payments have not been made. Management monitors investments where two or more of the above indicators exist. The Company also identifies investments in economically challenged industries. If investments are determined to be impaired, a loss is recognized at the date of determination.

The Company seeks to match the maturities of invested assets with the payment of expected liabilities. By doing this, the Company attempts to make cash available as payments become due. If a significant mismatch of the maturities of assets and liabilities were to occur, the impact on the Company s results of operations could be significant.

### **Deferred Taxes**

The Company records deferred tax assets to reflect the impact of temporary differences between the financial statement carrying amounts and tax bases of assets. The Company establishes a valuation allowance when management believes, based on the weight of the available evidence, that it is more likely than not that some portion of the deferred tax asset will not be realized. Realization of the net deferred tax asset is dependent on generating sufficient future taxable income. However, the amount of the deferred tax asset considered realizable,

however, could be reduced in the near term if estimates of future taxable income during the carryforward period are reduced.

During 2003, the Company realized \$59.3 million of net capital losses for federal tax purposes. The capital losses were generated in 2003 primarily from the sale of AMS, the sale of its interest in Healthaxis and the sale of an agency specializing in the sale of long-term care and Medicare supplement insurance products and were partially offset by the gain from the sale of a substantial portion of the Company sequity stake in AMLI Residential. During 2005, the Company realized an additional capital loss of \$2.3 million from sales of investments. To the extent not utilized to offset capital gains generated in prior years, the net capital losses generated in 2003 and 2005 will be carried forward to future years, with the ability to utilize the remaining capital losses generated in 2003 and 2005 expiring in 2008 and 2010, respectively.

During 2003 the Company determined that it was more likely than not that it would not be able to realize its deferred tax assets related to a portion of the capital loss carryforwards generated in 2003 and certain investment impairments that would likely result in capital losses in the short term. Accordingly, the Company established a valuation allowance associated with the carryforwards and certain investment impairments at December 31, 2003. As of December 31, 2004, the balance of the valuation allowance was \$17.0 million, a reduction of \$2.8 million from the valuation allowance at December 31, 2003 which is attributable primarily to realization of tax capital gains during 2004. The balance of the valuation allowance as of December 31, 2005 is \$18.2 million; the increase of \$1.2 million is attributable primarily to the 2005 capital loss.

At this time management does not anticipate selling appreciated assets to generate capital gains (and impair future investment return) solely for the purpose of utilizing the capital loss carryover. However, the Company will consider future taxable income and ongoing prudent and feasible tax planning strategies in assessing the need to change the valuation allowance. In the event that the Company were to determine that it would be able to realize all or part of its net deferred tax asset in the future, the valuation allowance would be adjusted to reflect its deferred tax assets at the amount that the Company believes is more likely than not to be realized. Increasing the valuation allowance would result in a charge to income in the period such determination was made. In the event the Company were to determine that it would be able to realize its deferred tax assets in the future in excess of its net recorded amount, an adjustment to the deferred tax asset would increase income in the period such determination was made.

### Loss Contingencies

The Company is subject to proceedings and lawsuits related to insurance claims and other matters. *See* Note L of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements. The Company is required to assess the likelihood of any adverse judgments or outcomes to these matters, as well as potential ranges of probable losses. A determination of the amount of accruals required, if any, for these contingencies is made after careful analysis of each individual issue. The required accruals may change in the future due to new developments in each matter or changes in approach, such as a change in settlement strategy in dealing with these matters.

## **Privacy Initiatives**

The business of insurance is primarily regulated by the states and is also affected by a range of legislative developments at the state and federal levels. Recently-adopted legislation and regulations governing the use and security of individuals nonpublic personal data by financial institutions, including insurance companies, may have a significant impact on the Company s business and future results of operations. *See* Business Regulatory and Legislative Matters.

## **Other Matters**

The state of domicile of each of the Company s domestic insurance subsidiaries imposes minimum risk-based capital requirements that were developed by the NAIC. The formulas for determining the amount of risk-based capital specify various weighting factors that are applied to financial balances and premium levels based on the perceived degree of risk. Regulatory compliance is determined by a ratio of a company s regulatory total adjusted capital, as defined, to its authorized control level risk-based capital, as defined. Companies specific trigger points or ratios are classified within certain levels, each of which requires specified corrective action. At December 31,

2005, the risk-based capital ratio of each of the Company s domestic insurance subsidiaries significantly exceeded the ratios for which regulatory corrective action would be required.

Dividends paid by domestic insurance companies out of earned surplus in any year are limited by the law of the state of domicile. *See* Item 5 *Market for Registrant s Common Stock and Related Stockholder Matters* and Note J of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

### **Inflation**

Inflation historically has had a significant impact on the health insurance business. In recent years, inflation in the costs of medical care covered by such insurance has exceeded the general rate of inflation. Under basic hospital medical insurance coverage, established ceilings for covered expenses limit the impact of inflation on the amount of claims paid. Under catastrophic hospital expense plans and preferred provider contracts, covered expenses are generally limited only by a maximum lifetime benefit and a maximum lifetime benefit per accident or sickness. Thus, inflation may have a significantly greater impact on the amount of claims paid under catastrophic hospital expense and preferred provider plans as compared to claims under basic hospital medical coverage. As a result, trends in health care costs must be monitored and rates adjusted accordingly. Under the health insurance policies issued in the self-employed market, the primary insurer generally has the right to increase rates upon 30-60 days written notice and subject to regulatory approval in some cases.

The annuity and universal life-type policies issued directly and assumed by the Company are significantly impacted by inflation. Interest rates affect the amount of interest that existing policyholders expect to have credited to their policies. However, the Company believes that the annuity and universal life-type policies are generally competitive with those offered by other insurance companies of similar size, and the investment portfolio is managed to minimize the effects of inflation.

### **Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements**

In May 2005, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Statement 154 *Accounting Changes and Error Corrections* which changes the requirements for the accounting and reporting of a change in accounting principle. Statement 154 applies to all voluntary changes in accounting principle as well as to changes required by an accounting pronouncement that does not include specific transition provisions. Statement 154 requires that changes in accounting principle be retrospectively applied. Under retrospective application, the new accounting principle is applied as of the beginning of the first period presented as if that principle had always been used. The cumulative effect of the change is reflected in the carrying value of assets and liabilities as of the first period presented and the offsetting adjustments would be recorded to opening retained earnings. Statement 154 replaces APB Opinion No. 20 and FASB Statement 3. Statement 154 is effective for the Company beginning in fiscal year 2006. The Company does not contemplate any accounting changes or error corrections and accordingly, does not believe the adoption of this statement will have a material effect upon its financial condition or results of operations.

In December 2004, the FASB issued Statement 123R (revised 2004), *Share-Based Payment*, which requires all share-based payments to employees, including grants of employee stock options, to be recognized in the financial statements based on their fair values. The pro forma disclosures previously permitted under Statement 123 no longer will be an alternative to financial statement recognition. Under Statement 123R, the Company must determine the appropriate fair value model to be used for valuing share-based payments, the amortization method for compensation cost and the transition method to be used at date of adoption. The transition methods include prospective and retroactive adoption options. The prospective method requires that compensation expense be recorded for all unvested stock options and restricted stock at the beginning of the first quarter of adoption of Statement 123R. The retroactive methods would record compensation expense for all unvested stock options and restricted stock beginning with the

first period restated. Prior periods may be restated either as of the beginning of the year of adoption or for all periods presented.

In April 2005, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission announced that the effective date of Statement 123R will be suspended until January 1, 2006, for companies whose fiscal year is the calendar year. The Company anticipates adopting the prospective method of Statement 123R in 2006 and believes the adoption of this pronouncement will not have a material effect upon the financial condition or results of operations.

59

### Safe Harbor Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995

This report and other documents or oral presentations prepared or delivered by and on behalf of the Company contain or may contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the safe harbor provisions of the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements are statements based upon management s expectations at the time such statements are made. The Company undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause the Company s actual results to differ materially from those contemplated in the statements. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on the forward-looking statements. When used in written documents or oral presentations, the terms anticipate, estimate. expect. mav. obiective. plan. possible. potential. project. will and similar expressions are in forward-looking statements. In addition to the assumptions and other factors referred to specifically in connection with such statements, factors that could impact the Company s business and financial prospects include, but are not limited to, those discussed under the caption *Item 1A*. Risk Factors and those discussed from time to time in the Company s various filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission or in other publicly disseminated written documents.

## Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk

Market risk is the risk of loss arising from adverse changes in market rates and prices, such as interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates, and other relevant market rate or price changes. Market risk is directly influenced by the volatility and liquidity in the markets in which the related underlying assets are traded.

The primary market risk to the Company s investment portfolio is interest rate risk associated with investments and the amount of interest that policyholders expect to have credited to their policies. The interest rate risk taken in the investment portfolio is managed relative to the duration of the liabilities. The Company s investment portfolio consists mainly of high quality, liquid securities that provide current investment returns. The Company believes that the annuity and universal life-type policies are generally competitive with those offered by other insurance companies of similar size. The Company does not anticipate significant changes in the primary market risk exposures or in how those exposures are managed in the future reporting periods based upon what is known or expected to be in effect in future reporting periods.

Sensitivity analysis is defined as the measurement of potential loss in future earnings, fair values or cash flows of market sensitive instruments resulting from one or more selected hypothetical changes in interest rates and other market rates or prices over a selected time. In the Company s sensitivity analysis model, a hypothetical change in market rates is selected that is expected to reflect reasonably possible near-term changes in those rates. Near term is defined as a period of time going forward up to one year from the date of the consolidated financial statements.

In this sensitivity analysis model, the Company uses fair values to measure its potential loss. The primary market risk to the Company s market sensitive instruments is interest rate risk. The sensitivity analysis model uses a 100 basis point change in interest rates to measure the hypothetical change in fair value of financial instruments included in the model. For invested assets, duration modeling is used to calculate changes in fair values. Duration on invested assets is adjusted to call, put and interest rate reset features.

The sensitivity analysis model produces a loss in fair value of market sensitive instruments of \$64.3 million based on a 100 basis point increase in interest rates as of December 31, 2005. This loss value only reflects the impact of an interest rate increase on the fair value of the Company s financial instruments.

The Company has not used derivative financial instruments in managing its market risk.

# Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data

The audited consolidated financial statements of the Company and other information required by this Item 8 are included in this Form 10-K beginning on page F-1.

60

### Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure

None.

### Item 9A. Disclosure Controls and Procedures

## Conclusion Regarding the Effectiveness of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, we conducted an evaluation of our disclosure controls and procedures, as such term is defined under Rule 13a-15(e) promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act). Based on this evaluation, our principal executive officer and our principal financial officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of the end of the period covered by this annual report.

## Management s Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting, as such term is defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f). The Company s internal control system was designed to provide reasonable assurance to the Company s management and its Board of Directors regarding the preparation and fair presentation of published financial statements. However, all internal control systems, no matter how well designed, have inherent limitations. Therefore, even those systems determined effective can provide only reasonable assurance with respect to financial statement preparation and presentation.

The Company s management assessed the effectiveness of the Company s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2005. Under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, we conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting based on the framework contained in *Internal Control Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (the COSO Report ).

Based on our evaluation under the framework in the COSO Report our management concluded that our internal control over financial reporting was effective as of December 31, 2005.

The Company s independent Registered Public Accounting Firm, KPMG LLP, has issued an audit report on our assessment of the Company s internal control over financial reporting, which report appears on Page F-3 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Item 9B. Other Information

None

### **PART III**

### Item 10. Directors and Executive Officers of the Registrant

### **Board of Directors** General Information

The UICI Board of Directors consists of six directors. The Board has responsibility for establishing broad corporate policies and for the overall performance of the Company, although it is not involved in day-to-day operations.

Members of the Board are kept informed of our businesses by various reports and documents sent to them, as well as by operating and financial reports made at Board and committee meetings. Regular meetings of the Board are held each quarter, and special meetings are held as necessary.

#### **UICI Directors**

Set forth below is a biographical summary, including names, ages as of March 1, 2006, and principal occupations for at least the past five years, of each director of UICI:

William J. Gedwed (age 50) has served as a director of the Company since June 2000 and as President and Chief Executive Officer since July 1, 2003. He was named Chairman of the Board in September 2005. He serves on the Executive, Investment and Privacy Committees of the Board of Directors. Mr. Gedwed also currently serves as Chairman and Director of The MEGA Life and Health Insurance Company, Mid-West National Life Insurance Company of Tennessee, The Chesapeake Life Insurance Company and Fidelity First Insurance Company (subsidiaries of the Company). Mr. Gedwed currently serves as a Director of NMC Holdings, Inc. and Motor Club Investors, Inc., the ultimate parent company of National Motor Club of America, Inc. He also served as a director and/or executive officer of other subsidiaries of NMC Holdings, Inc. until June 2003.

Glenn W. Reed (age 53) has served as a director of the Company since May 2001 and as Executive Vice President and General Counsel of the Company since July 1999. Mr. Reed serves on the Executive, Investment and Privacy Committees of the Board. Mr. Reed also serves as a director and Vice President of The MEGA Life and Health Insurance Company, Mid-West National Life Insurance Company of Tennessee, The Chesapeake Life Insurance Company and Fidelity First Insurance Company. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Reed was a partner in the Chicago, Illinois law firm of Gardner, Carton & Douglas. He has served as a director of The Pepper Companies, Inc. (a Chicago-based general contractor) since 1990, as a director of Peoples Bancorp, Inc. (a bank holding company located in Arlington Heights, Illinois) since 1999 and as a director of Assistive Technology Group, Inc. (a provider of assistive and rehabilitative systems, medical products and supplies) since 2002.

Richard T. Mockler (age 68) has served as a director of the Company since 1991. Mr. Mockler is a member of the Audit and Nominating & Governance Committees of the Board of Directors. Mr. Mockler retired as a partner with Ernst & Young LLP in 1989 after 27 years with the firm. Mr. Mockler has served as a member of the Board of Directors of Georgetown Rail Equipment Company since 1994 and as its Treasurer since October 1996.

Mural R. Josephson (age 57) has been a director since May 2003 and is a member of the Audit and Executive Compensation Committees of the Board. Following his retirement in October 2002 as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Lumbermens Mutual Casualty Company (the lead company of Kemper Insurance Companies), Mr. Josephson has served as a consultant to various financial institutions. In July 1998, Mr. Josephson retired as a partner with KPMG LLP after 28 years with the firm. Mr. Josephson is a licensed Certified Public Accountant in the State of Illinois, and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. He has served as a director and Treasurer of Omni Youth Services (Buffalo Grove, Illinois) since October 2003, as a director of SeaBright Insurance Holdings, Inc. (a publicly-traded company providing multi-jurisdictional workers compensation insurance) since February 2004, as a director of PXRE Group Ltd. (a publicly-traded company providing primarily catastrophe and risk excess reinsurance products and services) since August 2004 and as a director of ALPS Corporation and its wholly-owned subsidiary, Attorneys Liability Protection Society, Inc. (a privately-held insurance company that writes attorney errors and omissions coverage) since January 1, 2006.

R.H. Mick Thompson (age 59) has been a director of the Company since November 2003. Mr. Thompson is a member of the Audit, Executive Compensation and Nominating & Governance Committees of the Board. Mr. Thompson has served as the Oklahoma Bank Commissioner since September 1, 1992. In May 2003, Mr. Thompson was elected Chairman of the Conference of State Bank Supervisors (CSBS), and currently serves on the CSBS Legislative Committee. Mr. Thompson also serves as an Advisor to the Board of Trustees of the Graduate School of Banking, University of Colorado in Boulder.

*Dennis C. McCuistion* (age 63), has served as a director of the Company since May 2004. Mr. McCuistion is President of McCuistion & Associates, Inc. (a Denison, Texas-based firm providing management consulting services to financial institutions and other businesses). Mr. McCuistion, a former bank CEO, has written

extensively on business topics and is the host and executive producer of *McCuistion*, a television program regularly airing on PBS affiliates since 1989. Since September 2003, Mr. McCuistion has served as a director of Affiliated Computer Services, Inc. (a publicly held company that provides business process outsourcing and information technology outsourcing solutions to commercial and government clients). Mr. McCuistion has been appointed to serve as Lead Independent Director on the Board of Directors (*see* discussion below), and is a member of the Audit, Executive Compensation and Nominating & Governance Committees of the Board.

Certain affiliations exist between us and certain directors. See Note K of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

## Board Meetings, Attendance, Executive Sessions and Presiding Director

During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2005, the Board of Directors met 12 times and took action on other occasions by unanimous consent of its members. Each member of the Board of Directors who held such position in 2005 attended at least 75% in the aggregate of all meetings of the Board and any committee on which such Board Member served. The Board met in executive session during all regularly scheduled meetings, without management present, and plans to continue that practice going forward. In May 2004, Mr. Dennis McCuistion, in his capacity as Lead Independent Director, was appointed presiding director for these sessions.

### **Stockholder Communication**

The Board of Directors has adopted a written policy with respect to stockholder communications to the Board of Directors. All current members of the Company s Board are listed on the Corporate Governance page of the Company s website. Stockholders may communicate directly with the UICI Board of Directors, including the Chairman of the Audit Committee, Chairman of the Nominating & Governance Committee and/or the non-management directors individually or as a group. All communications should be directed to our Corporate Secretary, c/o UICI, 9151 Grapevine Highway, North Richland Hills, TX 76180 and should prominently indicate on the outside of the envelope that it is intended for the Board of Directors as a group, or, as appropriate, for the Chairman of the Audit Committee, the Chairman of the Nominating & Governance Committee and/or for the non-management directors, c/o the Lead Independent Director. Each communication intended for the Board of Directors, Chairman of the Audit Committee, Chairman of the Nominating & Governance Committee and/or the Lead Independent Director will be promptly forwarded to the specified party following its clearance through normal security procedures. If addressed to a specified individual director, the communication will not be opened but will be forwarded unopened to the intended recipient. If the communication is directed to all members or all non-management members of the Board, the Corporate Secretary will make copies of all such letters and circulate them to the appropriate director or directors.

In addition, we maintain contact information, both telephone and email, on our website (<a href="www.uici.net">www.uici.net</a>) under the heading Info Request Contact Us. By following the contact information link, a stockholder will be provided access to our telephone number and mailing address as well as a link for providing email correspondence to UICI s Investor Relations Department. Communications sent to Investor Relations and specifically marked as a communication for the Board will be forwarded to the Board or specific members of the Board as directed in the stockholder communication.

### **Independence of Directors**

For purposes of determining director independence, the Company has applied the following standards in compliance with the New York Stock Exchange director independence standards as currently in effect. No director qualifies as independent unless the Board affirmatively determines that the director has no material relationship with the Company or any of its subsidiaries (directly or as a partner, shareholder or officer of an organization that has a relationship with the Company or any of its subsidiaries). In addition, a director is *not* independent if:

The director is, or has been within the last three years, an employee of the Company, or an immediate family member is, or has been within the last three years, an executive officer, of the Company;

The director has received, or has an immediate family member who has received, during any twelve-month period within the last three years, more than \$100,000 in direct compensation from the Company, other than director and committee fees and pension or other forms of deferred compensation for prior service (provided such compensation is not contingent in any way on continued service);

The director or an immediate family member is a current partner of a firm that is the Company s internal or external auditor; the director is a current employee of such a firm; the director has an immediate family member who is a current employee of such a firm and who participates in the firm s audit, assurance or tax compliance (but not tax planning) practice; or the director or an immediate family member was within the last three years (but is no longer) a partner or employee of such a firm and personally worked on the Company s audit within that time;

The director or an immediate family member is, or has been within the last three years, employed as an executive officer of another company where any of the Company s present executive officers at the same time serves or served on its compensation committee; or

The director is a current employee, or an immediate family member is a current executive officer, of a company that has made payments to, or received payments from, the Company for property or services in an amount which, in any of the last three fiscal years, exceeds the greater of \$1 million, or 2% of such other company s consolidated gross revenues

The Board of Directors has considered transactions and relationships between each non-employee director and any members of his immediate family and the Company and its executive management. Based on that review, the Board of Directors has affirmatively determined that, with respect to each of Mr. McCuistion, Mr. Josephson, Mr. Mockler and Mr. Thompson, (i) none of such individuals is precluded from being an independent director under the New York Stock Exchange listing standards described above and (ii) none of such individuals has a material relationship with the Company (either directly or as a partner, shareholder or officer of an organization that has a relationship with the Company), and that, accordingly, each such individual is considered an *independent director* for purposes of the applicable listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange and rules and regulations adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Board made its determination based on information furnished by all Directors regarding their relationships with the Company. There are no interlocking directorships and none of our independent directors receive any consulting, advisory or other non-director compensatory fees from the Company.

### **Lead Independent Director**

The independent members of the Board of Directors have selected Mr. McCuistion to serve as the Lead Independent Director. As Lead Independent Director, Mr. McCuistion, among other duties, (a) presides over, coordinates and develops the agenda for executive sessions of the independent directors and sessions of the non-management directors, (b) presides at all meetings of the Board of Directors at which the Chairman of the Board is not present, (c) serves as a liaison between the Chairman of the Board and the independent directors, (d) approves information sent to the Board of Directors, (e) approves the meeting agenda for the Board of Directors, and (f) approves meeting schedules to assure that there is sufficient time for discussion of all items. In addition, as Lead Independent Director, Mr. McCuistion has authority to call meetings of the independent directors.

To promote open discussion and foster better communication among the non-management directors (*i.e.*, directors who are not officers of UICI but who do not otherwise have to qualify as independent), regular executive sessions are held after each quarterly Board meeting in which the non-management directors meet without management participation. Our By-laws provide that the Lead Independent Director shall serve as the presiding director at all

meetings of non-management directors as and when required in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act ), and the rules promulgated thereunder and the applicable rules of the New York Stock Exchange. In addition, at least one executive session per year will be limited solely to independent directors. Each meeting of the independent directors is scheduled and chaired by the Lead Independent Director.

64

### **Board Committees**

To assist the Board in the discharge of its responsibilities, the Company has established a standing Audit Committee, Executive Compensation Committee, Investment Committee, Nominating & Governance Committee, Executive Committee and Privacy Committee. The functions and composition of these Board committees are described below:

#### **Audit Committee**

The Audit Committee (of which Mural R. Josephson (Chairman), Richard T. Mockler, Dennis McCuistion and R.H. Mick Thompson serve as members) assists the Board of Directors in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities by assessing the processes related to the Company s risks and control environment, overseeing the integrity of the Company s financial statements and financial reporting and compliance with legal and regulatory requirements and evaluating the Company s audit processes. The Audit Committee confers with the Company s independent auditors and internal auditors regarding audit procedures, including proposed scope of examination, audit results and related management letters. The Audit Committee reviews the services performed by the independent auditors in connection with determining their independence, reviews the reports of the independent auditors and internal auditors, and reviews recommendations about internal controls. The Committee selects and appoints the Company s independent auditors and approves any significant non-audit relationship with the independent auditors. The Audit Committee held 11 meetings during 2005.

KPMG LLP, the Company s independent registered public accounting firm, has direct access to the Audit Committee and may discuss any matters that arise in connection with their audits, the maintenance of internal controls, and any other matters relating to the Company s financial affairs. The Audit Committee may authorize the independent registered public accounting firm to investigate any matters that the Audit Committee deems appropriate and may present its recommendations and conclusions to the Board.

The Board has determined that each of the members of the Audit Committee meets the current independence requirements as set forth in the applicable listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange described above and provisions of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. In addition, all members of the Audit Committee are financially literate in accordance with the audit committee requirements of the New York Stock Exchange. The Board of Directors has further determined that Mr. Josephson, who is independent of management of the Company, is an audit committee financial expert , as that term is used in Item 401(h) of Regulation S-K promulgated under the Exchange Act and as defined by the applicable listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange. No member of the Audit Committee serves on the audit committee of more than three public companies.

The Audit Committee operates under a written charter adopted by the Board of Directors. The charter is available for review on the Corporate Governance page of the Company s website (www.uici.net). A copy of the charter is available in print to any stockholder who requests it. Requests for a copy of the charter should be directed to the Corporate Secretary, c/o UICI, 9151 Grapevine Highway, North Richland Hills, TX 76180. The Committee reviews and assesses the adequacy of its charter on an annual basis. The composition of the Audit Committee, the attributes of its members and the responsibilities of the Committee, as reflected in its charter, are intended to be in accordance with applicable requirements for corporate audit committees.

The Audit Committee has adopted procedures governing the receipt, retention and handling of concerns regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters that are reported by employees, stockholders and other persons. Employees may report such concerns confidentially and anonymously by utilizing a toll free hot line number [(877) 778-5463] or by accessing Report-It [www.reportit.net], a third party reporting service. All others may direct such concerns in writing to the Board of Directors, Audit Committee and/or the non-management directors c/o our Corporate Secretary, UICI, 9151 Grapevine Highway, North Richland Hills, TX 76180 as described above under the

caption Stockholder Communications with the Board of Directors.

## Executive Committee

The Executive Committee (of which William J. Gedwed and Glenn W. Reed serve as members) has the authority of the full Board of Directors in the management and affairs of the Company, except that the Committee

65

may not effect certain fundamental corporate actions, including (a) declaring a dividend, (b) amending the Certificate of Incorporation or By-Laws, (c) adopting an agreement of merger or consolidation, or (d) imposing a lien on substantially all of the assets of the Company. In practice, the Executive Committee meets infrequently and does not act except on matters that are not sufficiently important to require action by the full Board of Directors. During 2005 the Executive Committee did not meet, but the Committee took action on selected occasions by unanimous consent of its members.

### **Investment Committee**

The Investment Committee (of which Mural R. Josephson, William J. Gedwed and Glenn W. Reed currently serve as members) coordinates with the Investment/Finance Committees of the Company s insurance subsidiaries in supervising and implementing the investments of the funds of the Company and its insurance subsidiaries. The Investment Committee did not meet during 2005.

### Nominating & Governance Committee

The Nominating & Governance Committee (of which Richard T. Mockler (Chairman), Dennis C. McCuistion and R.H. Mick Thompson serve as members) identifies individuals qualified to become Board members consistent with criteria approved by the Board and recommends that the Board select the director nominees to be voted on at the next annual meeting of stockholders. The Committee also makes recommendations concerning the structure, size and membership of the various committees of the Board of Directors. The Nominating & Governance Committee develops and recommends to the Board the Corporate Governance Guidelines applicable to the Company, oversees the evaluation of the Board and management, and reviews the succession plan of the Chief Executive Officer and other key officer positions.

The Nominating & Governance Committee seeks to identify prospective directors for nomination to the Board that combine diverse business experience, skill and intellect in order to better enable the Company to pursue its strategic objectives. The Committee has not reduced the qualifications for service on the Company s Board to a checklist of specific standards or specific, minimum qualifications, skills or qualities. Rather, the Company seeks, consistent with the vacancies existing on the Company s Board that may exist at any particular time, to select individuals who exhibit core traits of judgment, skill, integrity, experience with businesses and other organizations of comparable size and the ability to work well with complex organizations. In assessing Board candidates, the Nominating & Governance Committee seeks individuals with specific expertise with respect to the industry in which the Company conducts its business, the ability to evaluate the impact of technology on the Company, an understanding of and appreciation for the Company s corporate culture, and skill in communicating effectively with other Board members and senior management. In addition, the Company under the direction of the Nominating & Governance Committee conducted a self-evaluation and a review of individual Board members in order to help the Company continue to formulate a governance strategy that complements the Company s business and its strategic vision.

The Nominating & Governance Committee s process for identifying and evaluating nominees for directors includes recommendations by stockholders, non-management directors and executive officers, a review and background check of specific candidates, an assessment of the candidate s independence and interviews of director candidates by members of the Nominating & Governance Committee. The Nominating & Governance Committee may also, from time to time, engage firms that specialize in identifying director candidates.

In carrying out its responsibilities to nominate directors, the Nominating & Governance Committee will consider candidates recommended by the Board of Directors and by stockholders of the Company. All suggestions by stockholders for nominees for director for 2007 must be made in writing and received by the Corporate Secretary of the Company, 9151 Grapevine Highway, North Richland Hills, Texas 76180 not later than December 13, 2006. The

mailing envelope must contain a clear notation indicating that the enclosed letter is a Director Nominee Recommendation . The letter must identify the author as a stockholder and provide a brief summary of the candidate s qualifications, as well as contact information for both the candidate and the stockholder. At a minimum, candidates for election to the Board must meet the independence requirements of the applicable listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange and Rule 10A-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Candidates

should also have relevant business and financial experience, and must be able to read and understand fundamental financial statements. The Committee has not historically received director candidate recommendations from the Company s stockholders but will consider all relevant qualifications as well as the needs of the Company in terms of compliance with the listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange and Securities and Exchange Commission rules. In evaluating a nominee recommended by a stockholder, the Nominating & Governance Committee s evaluation of a nominee would consider the factors described above.

The Nominating & Governance Committee operates under a written charter adopted by the Board of Directors, which is available for review on the Corporate Governance page of the Company s website (www.uici.net). A copy of the charter is available in print to any stockholder who requests it. Requests for a copy of the charter should be directed to the Corporate Secretary, c/o UICI, 9151 Grapevine Highway, North Richland Hills, TX 76180.

Each of the members of the Committee meets the independence requirements as set forth in the applicable listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange described above and provisions of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. The Nominating & Governance Committee met two times during 2005.

### **Executive Compensation Committee**

The Executive Compensation Committee (of which R.H. Mick Thompson (Chairman), Dennis C. McCuistion and Mural R. Josephson serve as members) administers the Company s compensation programs and remuneration arrangements for its highest-paid executives. The Committee reviews and approves corporate goals and objectives relative to CEO compensation, evaluates the CEO s performance in light of those goals and objectives and sets the CEO s compensation level based on this evaluation. The Committee also makes recommendations to the Board with respect to incentive-compensation plans and equity-based plans, evaluates, from time to time, the compensation to be paid to directors for their service on the Board or any committee thereof, and prepares a report on executive compensation as required by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The Executive Compensation Committee operates under a written charter adopted by the Board of Directors, which is available for review on the Corporate Governance page of the Company s website (www.uici.net). Requests for a copy of the charter should be directed to the Corporate Secretary, c/o UICI, 9151 Grapevine Highway, North Richland Hills, TX 76180.

Each of the members of the Committee meets the current independence requirements as set forth in the applicable listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange described above and provisions of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. The Executive Compensation Committee met eight times during 2005.

The Executive Compensation Committee s Report on Executive Compensation appears under the caption Item 11. *Executive Compensation*.

### Privacy Committee

The Privacy Committee (of which Glenn W. Reed (Chairman) and William J. Gedwed serve as members) was created to oversee the implementation and administration of the privacy, security, transaction codes set and other requirements imposed under the federal Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act. The Privacy Committee did not meet during 2005.

### **Executive Officers of the Company**

The Chairman of the Company is elected, and all other executive officers listed below are appointed, by the Board of Directors of the Company at its Annual Meeting each year or by the Executive Committee of the Board of

Directors to hold office until the next Annual Meeting or until their successors are elected or appointed. None of these officers have family relationships with any other executive officer or director.

Name of Officer	Principal Position	Age	<b>Business Experience During Past Five Years</b>
William J. Gedwed	Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer	50	Mr. Gedwed has served as a director of the Company since June 2000 and as its President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company since July 1, 2003. He was named Chairman of the Board in September 2005. He has served as a Director and/or executive officer of NMC Holdings, Inc. and/or its subsidiaries since August 1993. Mr. Gedwed currently serves as Chairman and Director of the Company s insurance subsidiaries.
Troy A. McQuagge	President of the Company s Agency Marketing Group	44	Mr. McQuagge served as President of UGA Association Field Services from 1997 until May 2004. Currently serves as President of Agency Marketing Group.  Mr. McQuagge has served as Senior Vice President of the Company s insurance subsidiaries since June 2004.
Glenn W. Reed	Executive Vice President and General Counsel	53	Mr. Reed has served in his current position since July 1999. Prior to joining UICI, Mr. Reed was a partner with the Chicago, Illinois law firm of Gardner, Carton & Douglas. He also serves as Director and Vice President of the Company s insurance subsidiaries.
Phillip J. Myhra	Executive Vice President Insurance Group	53	Mr. Myhra has served as an executive officer of the Insurance Group since December 1999 and as Executive Vice President Insurance Group of the Company since February 2001. He serves as a Director, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company s insurance subsidiaries. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Myhra served as Senior Vice President of Mutual of Omaha.
William J. Truxal	President of the Company s Student Insurance Division	49	Mr. Truxal was appointed President of Student Insurance Division in September 2003. He joined the predecessor of the Company s Student Insurance Division in 1983 as an account executive. He also serves As Vice President of the Company s insurance subsidiaries.
Timothy L. Cook	President of the Company s Star HRG Division	57	Mr. Cook has served as President of Star HRG Division since February 2002. Mr. Cook joined the Company upon its acquisition of Star HRG in February 2002, where he served as Vice President since March 1990. He also serves as Vice President of MEGA.
Mark D. Hauptman	Vice President and Chief Financial Officer and Chief Accounting Officer	48	Mr. Hauptman joined the Company in 1988 as Controller of the Company's former OKC Division. He has served as the Company's Chief Accounting Officer since June 2001 and has served as Chief Financial Officer since May 2002. He also serves as Director and Vice President of the Company's insurance subsidiaries.
James N. Plato	President Life Insurance Division	57	Mr. Plato was appointed President of the Life Insurance Division and has served as an executive officer and

director of the Company s insurance subsidiaries since June 2001. From 2000 to 2001, Mr. Plato served as an executive officer and/or director of Ilona Financial Group and its subsidiaries.

68

### **Code of Ethics**

The Company has adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics (the Code of Ethics), which contains general principles and policies that govern the activities of the Company and to which our directors, officers, employees and agents and others who represent us directly or indirectly must adhere. The Code of Ethics applies to all directors, officers, agents, consultants and employees, including the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer and any other employee with any responsibility for the preparation and filing of documents with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Code of Ethics covers several topics, including conflicts of interest, confidentiality of information and compliance with laws and regulations.

A copy of the Code of Ethics is available on the Corporate Governance page of the Company s website at <a href="https://www.uici.net">www.uici.net</a>. The Company may post amendments to or waivers of the provisions of the Code of Ethics, if any, made with respect to any of our directors and employees on that website. Stockholders of the Company may also request a copy of the Code of Ethics by writing to UICI, c/o Corporate Secretary, 9151 Grapevine Highway, North Richland Hills, Texas 76180.

### Section 16(b) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

Under the securities laws of the United States, the Company s directors, executive and certain other officers, and any persons holding more than ten percent of the Company s common stock, are required to report their ownership of the Company s common stock and any changes in that ownership to the Securities and Exchange Commission (the Commission) and, in the Company s case, the New York Stock Exchange. Specific due dates for these reports have been established and the Company is required to report in this Proxy Statement any failure to file by these dates during 2005. Based solely upon a review of Reports on Forms 3, 4 and 5 and any amendments thereto furnished to the Company pursuant to Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and written representations from the executive officers and directors that no other reports were required, and except as otherwise stated in the next sentence, the Company believes that all of such reports were filed on a timely basis by executive officers and directors during 2005. During 2005, one stock purchase transaction made by Mr. Dennis McCuistion was reported late.

## Item 11. Executive Compensation

### **Executive Compensation Committee** Report on Executive Compensation

The Company s compensation objectives include attracting and retaining the best possible executive talent, motivating executive officers to achieve the Company s performance objectives, rewarding individual performance and contributions, and linking to the extent possible executive and stockholder interests through equity-based (stock option and restricted stock) plans. The Company s executive compensation consists of four components: annual base salary, annual cash incentive bonus compensation, stock option grants and restricted stock grants. Each component of compensation is designed to complement the other components and, when considered together, to meet the Company s overall compensation objectives.

Historically, the Executive Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors (the Committee ) has approved base compensation for senior executives (including Mr. Gedwed) based on reference to base salaries of comparable executive positions at a peer group of comparably sized insurance and insurance holding companies. Consistent with past practice, in December 2004 and January 2005 the Committee reviewed and approved base compensation to be paid to executives in 2005. In establishing base compensation for 2005 with respect to officers other than the President and CEO, the Committee considered the recommendations of Mr. Gedwed (the Company s President and Chief Executive Officer) and approved, subject to any modifications it deemed appropriate, base compensation to be paid to such executive officers.

During 2005, the Committee also engaged the services of an independent compensation consultant to assess the Company s compensation program and to obtain additional information relative to administering executive compensation decisions for 2005 and 2006.

Mr. Gedwed was named President and Chief Executive Officer effective July 1, 2003, and his annual base salary was then set at \$425,000. On September 15, 2004, the Committee determined to assess Mr. Gedwed s

69

incentive compensation on an annual basis on the anniversary of his July 1 hiring. At a meeting of the Committee held on July 27, 2005, the Committee approved a bonus for Mr. Gedwed for performance in the year ended July 1, 2005 in the amount of \$1,000,000. Mr. Gedwed s bonus granted in July 2005 was based on the returns earned by the Company s stockholders, the Company s return performance compared to that of its peers, and Mr. Gedwed s overall performance during the preceding year. At its November 1, 2005 meeting, the Committee also determined to thereafter assess Mr. Gedwed s incentive compensation on an annual basis as of December 31 of each year. At a meeting of the Committee held on February 15, 2006, the Committee approved a bonus for Mr. Gedwed for performance in the six months ended December 31, 2005 in the amount of \$550,000. Mr. Gedwed s bonus granted in February 2006 was based on the returns earned by the Company s stockholders, the Company s return performance compared to that of its peers, and Mr. Gedwed s overall performance during the period.

The Committee has assessed and intends to continue to assess Mr. Gedwed s annual salary on an annual basis corresponding to the Company s December 31 fiscal year. At a meeting of the Committee held on February 15, 2006, the Committee set and approved Mr. Gedwed s annual salary for 2006 at \$600,000.

The Company has established and implemented an incentive compensation plan for senior executives, pursuant to which the Company has set a maximum bonus potential for each executive as a percentage of base compensation and established quantitative and qualitative bonus criteria. For 2005, the quantitative performance goals included, among other things, UICI consolidated financial results, business unit profitability and attainment of specific revenue (annualized premium volume) goals. The final determination of incentive compensation awards with respect to 2005 performance was made at a meeting of the Committee held on February 15, 2006, at which the Committee reviewed and approved 2005 incentive bonus compensation for Messrs. Reed, McQuagge and Myhra and four other officers and key employees of the Company.

The Company s executive officers are also entitled to participate in the Company s 1987 Amended and Restated Stock Option Plan. Under the 1987 Plan, nonqualified options to purchase Common Stock of the Company may be granted at exercise prices not less than the fair market value of the Common Stock at the date of grant. Options granted under the 1987 Plan become exercisable generally in annual cumulative installments of 20% of the number of options granted over a five-year period, or sooner at the discretion of the Committee. No options were awarded during 2005.

To provide an additional equity-based vehicle to incentivize officers and other key employees, in February 2000 and January 2001, the Board of Directors of the Company approved and adopted the UICI 2000 Restricted Stock Plan and 2001 Restricted Stock Plan, respectively, pursuant to which the Company may from time to time and subject to the terms thereof make awards of restricted shares of the Company s Common Stock to eligible participants in the Plan. Shares of Common Stock granted to eligible participants generally vest on the second anniversary of the date of grant and are otherwise forfeitable if the participant ceases to provide material services to the Company as an employee, independent contractor, consultant, advisor, director or otherwise for any reason other than death prior to vesting. Shares of restricted stock also vest upon a Change of Control (as defined) or upon the death of the participant. The Committee determined not to award restricted stock to any eligible participant with respect to 2005 performance. At December 31, 2005, an aggregate of 268,696 shares of UICI common stock were available to be granted under the terms of the 2000, 2001 and 2005 Restricted Stock Plans to eligible employees.

Section 162(m) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code limits the deductibility of compensation in excess of \$1.0 million paid to the Company s Chairman, chief executive officer and president or to any of the Company s four highest-paid other executive officers unless certain specific and detailed criteria are satisfied. The Committee considers the anticipated tax treatment to the Company and its executive officers in its review and establishment of compensation programs and payments, but has determined that it will not necessarily seek to limit compensation to that amount otherwise deductible under Section 162(m).

## EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

R.H. Mick Thompson, Chairman Mural R. Josephson Dennis C. McCuistion

70

## **Compensation of Directors**

UICI does not compensate directors who are also officers of the Company for their service as directors. The following chart reflects the compensation for the non-employee directors of the Company as approved by the Executive Compensation Committee and the Board of Directors of the Company:

Feature		As Effective April 27, 2005	
Annual Retainer	\$	25,000	
Per Quarterly Meeting Attendance Fee:	\$	7,500	
Per Special Meeting of Board Requiring In-Person Attendance (as determined by Chairman or			
President and CEO)	\$	6,000	
Audit Committee Chairman:			
Annual Retainer:	\$	15,000	
Per Meeting Attendance Fee:	\$	500	
Lead Independent Director:			
Quarterly Retainer:	\$	16,250	
Chairman of Nominating & Governance Committee and Chairman of Executive Compensation			
Committee:			
Annual Retainer:	\$	7,500	
Per Meeting Attendance Fee:	\$	500	
Annual Retainer for Other Non-Employee Members of Audit Committee, Nominating &			
Governance Committee, Compensation Committee and the Privacy Committee:	\$	6,000	
Per Meeting Attendance Fee:	\$	500	

Directors may elect to receive an equivalent value of UICI stock in lieu of cash for fees otherwise payable in cash. During 2005, Messrs. Josephson, Mockler and Thompson elected to receive their director compensation solely in cash, and Mr. McCuistion received a portion of his director compensation in stock. In accordance with the guidelines set forth above, during 2005 Mr. Josephson, Mr. McCuistion, Mr. Mockler and Mr. Thompson received in the aggregate \$120,500, \$182,750, \$111,000 and \$120,500, respectively, in director compensation from the Company.

### **Summary Compensation Table**

The following table summarizes all compensation for services to us and our subsidiaries for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003, earned by or awarded or paid to the persons who were the Chairman of the Board, the chief executive officer, and the four other most highly compensated executive officers of the Company serving as such at December 31, 2005 (the Named Executive Officers).

		Ann	ual Compensation		Com	ng-Term pensation wards	
			•	Other			All
				AnnuaR	estricte Stock	<b>S</b> ecurities	Other
			Co	mnencati		Inderlyin <b>&amp;</b> (	mpensation
			Co	препзан	um ai us	Options	mpensacion
Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary (\$)	<b>Bonus</b> (\$)(a)	( <b>\$</b> )( <b>b</b> )	(\$)(c)	(#)( <b>d</b> )	( <b>\$</b> )( <b>e</b> )
Ronald L. Jensen	2005	1					
Chairman of the	2004	1					
Board(f)	2003	1					
William J. Gedwed	2005	600,000	1,550,000(h)				14,242
CEO and Chairman of the	2004	425,000	500,000			100,000	12,531
Board(g)	2003	202,692	250,000				8,816
Glenn W. Reed	2005	400,000	400,000	59,488			13,342
Executive Vice President	2004	400,000	250,000			20,000	13,447
& General Counsel	2003	400,000	300,000	9,672			13,122
Phillip J. Myhra	2005	375,000	650,000	41,242			14,242
Executive Vice President	2004	361,923(i)	425,000			40,000	13,447
Insurance Group	2003	325,000	520,000	8,117			13,122
Troy A. McQuagge	2005	400,000	900,000				11,440
President Agency	2004	346,635(j)	600,000			60,000	11,347
Marketing Group	2003	275,000	704,000				13,122
William J. Truxal	2005	231,539(k)	657,832(k)			50,000	13,510
President, Student	2004	75,000	1,743,473(k)				13,018
Insurance Division	2003	75,000	1,500,862(k)				13,122

- (a) Reflects cash bonuses accrued for the year presented.
- (b) 2005 amount represents travel expenses and tax gross-up on the travel expenses. 2003 amount represents housing expenses. There was no other annual compensation in the nature of perquisites paid to any Named Executive Officers in any of the years shown.
- (c) At December 31, 2005, no Named Executive Officers held unvested restricted stock awards.
- (d) With respect to 2005, includes options granted on June 24, 2005. With respect to 2004, includes options granted on March 16, 2005.

(e) Includes all other compensation paid to each Named Executive Officer, consisting of Company contributions to the Named Executive Officer s 401(k) account, cash payments made under a Company-wide phantom stock plan and term life insurance premiums paid with respect to the Named Executive Officer. All 401(k) contributions made on behalf of the Named Executive Officers were calculated using the same formula as is used for all other eligible employees. Cash bonus payments under the Company-wide phantom stock plan were made in the same amount as paid to all other eligible employees. Term life insurance premiums represent the Company s contribution to a life insurance program that is available to all eligible employees with benefits proportional to annual compensation and bonuses. All such other compensation paid to each Named Executive Officer with respect to each of the three prior years is specifically set forth in the table below:

				Term Life	
Named Executive Officer	Year	401(k) Contributions (\$)	Phantom Stock Plan Bonus (\$)	Insurance Premiums (\$)	Total Other Compensation (\$)
William J. Gedwed	2005	12,600	400	1,242	14,242
	2004	11,721		810	12,531
	2003	8,636		180	8,816
Glenn W. Reed	2005	11,700	400	1,242	13,342
	2004	12,150	487	810	13,447
	2003	12,000	402	720	13,122
Phillip J. Myhra	2005	12,600	400	1,242	14,242
	2004	12,150	487	810	13,447
	2003	12,000	402	720	13,122
Troy A. McQuagge	2005	10,500	400	540	11,440
	2004	10,050	487	810	11,347
	2003	12,000	402	720	13,122
William J. Truxal	2005	12,300	400	810	13,510
	2004	11,721	487	810	13,018
	2003	12,000	402	720	13,122

- (f) Mr. Jensen served as Chairman of the Board until his death on September 2, 2005.
- (g) Mr. Gedwed has served as a director of the Company since June 2000 and as President and Chief Executive Officer since July 1, 2003. Mr. Gedwed was appointed as Chairman of the Board on September 7, 2005.
- (h) Represents bonus paid for the period of July 1, 2004 through December 31, 2005.
- (i) Represents base compensation actually paid during 2004. Effective July 1, 2004, the Executive Compensation Committee authorized an increase in Mr. Myhra s annual base compensation from \$325,000 to \$375,000.
- (j) Represents base compensation actually paid during 2004. Effective July 1, 2004, the Executive Compensation Committee authorized an increase in Mr. McQuagge s annual base compensation from \$275,000 to \$400,000.
- (k) In each of 2005, 2004 and 2003, Mr. Truxal s bonus was determined by reference to annual premium written with respect to selected clients of the Student Insurance Division. Effective June 1, 2005, the Executive Compensation Committee authorized the change in the annual base compensation from \$75,000 to \$350,000 with future bonuses being awarded as a percentage of base pay.

### 2005 Stock Options

The following table summarizes options granted to the Named Executive Officers for 2005, along with the present value of such options on the date they were granted, calculated as described in the footnote to the table.

	Number of				
	Securities	Percent of Total	Exercise		
	Underlying Options	Options Granted to Employees in	or Base Price	Emination	Grant Date Present
Name	Granted(1)	Fiscal Year	(\$/Sh)	Expiration Date	Value(2)(\$)
Ronald L. Jensen William J. Gedwed Glenn W. Reed Phillip J. Myhra Troy A. McQuagge					
William J. Truxal	50,000	43.48%	31.68	09/22/2010	423,100

<sup>(1)</sup> Reflects options that were granted on June 24, 2005. Excludes options granted on March 16, 2005 that were included in the prior year table.

<sup>(2)</sup> Grant date present value is determined using the Black-Scholes Model. The Black-Scholes Model is a mathematical formula widely used to value exchange-traded options. The Black-Scholes Model relies on 73

several key assumptions to estimate the present value of options, including the volatility of, and dividend yield on, the security underlying the option, the risk-free rate of return on the date of grant and the estimated time period until exercise of the option. However, stock options granted by the Company are long-term, non-transferable and subject to vesting in equal annual increments over a five-year period, while exchange-traded options are short-term and can be exercised or sold immediately in the liquid market. Based on the Black-Scholes option valuation model with the actual option price, the key weighted average input variables used in valuing the options granted on June 24, 2005 were as follows: risk-free interest rate 3.59%; dividend yield 1.74%; stock price volatility 0.503; option term 3 years; option exercise price \$31.68; and stock price on date of grant \$28.80. The volatility variable reflects actual daily stock price trading data for the period equal to the expected life of the options immediately preceding the grant date. The actual value, if any, that a grantee may realize will depend on the excess of the stock price over the exercise price on the date the option is exercised, so there is no assurance the value realized will be at or near the value estimated by the Black-Scholes Model.

### Aggregate Stock Option Exercises in 2005 and Year-End Values

The following table summarizes for each of the Named Executive Officers the total number of unexercised stock options held at December 31, 2005, and the aggregate dollar value of in-the-money, unexercised stock options held at December 31, 2005.

					Va	lue of		
			Nur	nber of	Unexercised			
	Shares		Unexer	cised Stock	In-the-Money Stock			
	Acquired		Option	ns at Year	Option	ns at Year		
	on	Value	Eı	nd (#)	Enc	End (\$)(a)		
Name	Exercise (#)	Realized (\$)	Exercisable	Unexercisable	Exercisable	Unexercisable		
Ronald L. Jensen								
William J. Gedwed	49,950	988,351	767	100,263	17,607	481,752		
Glenn W. Reed	6,500	118,398	22,800	34,200	549,028	436,542		
Phillip J. Myhra	3,600	65,323	35,000	72,000	847,513	964,683		
Troy A. McQuagge	12,800	246,048	2,000	92,000	48,220	1,054,120		
William J. Truxal				50,000		191,500		

<sup>(</sup>a) The closing stock price per share at December 31, 2005 was \$35.51.

During 2005 the Company did not adjust or amend the exercise price of stock options previously awarded to any of the Named Executive Officers, whether through amendment, cancellation or replacement grants or any other means.

### **Blackstone Transaction** Special Compensation Arrangements

On September 15, 2005, UICI entered into a merger agreement, pursuant to which affiliates of The Blackstone Group, Goldman Sachs Capital Partners and DLJ Merchant Banking Partners will acquire UICI in a cash merger, with UICI being the surviving corporation in the merger. Completion of the transaction is subject to insurance regulatory approvals, the receipt of certain financing and other conditions. The parties currently expect the transaction to close on or about April 3, 2006. In connection with the proposed transaction, the Company has entered into special arrangements with certain members of management, as more particularly described herein.

# **Employment Agreements**

Under the terms of employment commitment agreements requested by and negotiated with The Blackstone Group after the key terms of the merger were agreed upon, if the merger is completed, Timothy L. Cook, William J.

74

Gedwed, Mark D. Hauptman, Troy A. McQuagge, Phillip J. Myhra, James N. Plato and William J. Truxal (the Continuing Executives ) will continue to serve in each of their respective positions and will receive an annual base salary in an amount not less than their respective base salary immediately before the merger. The Continuing Executives will also be eligible for an annual bonus ranging from a target of 50% to 100% of annual base salary and a maximum of 75% to 200% of annual base salary, as the case may be. Each of the Continuing Executives will also be entitled to new equity award grants and participation in employee benefit plans and (other than Mr. Cook) has agreed to retain all or a portion of their respective UICI equity and equity-based awards.

In addition, under the terms of their employment commitment agreements, the Continuing Executives are entitled to severance payments in the event of their termination in certain specified circumstances. The Continuing Executives would be entitled to receive severance equal to two times the executive s base salary plus target bonus payable in monthly installments, continuation of welfare benefits for two years, as well as a pro-rata bonus, based on the executive s target bonus, if such termination occurs after the last day of the first quarter of the applicable fiscal year. The parties are finalizing employment agreements providing for the foregoing, as well as full change-of-control parachute excise tax gross up protection on all payments and benefits due to the executive, including such payments and benefits due to the executive in connection with the merger; provided, however, that following a change of control of UICI (other than the merger), the surviving corporation will be entitled to reduce the executive s payments (but not by more than 10%) if the reduction would allow the avoidance of the imposition of any excise tax associated with the change of control. In addition, each of the executive officers has agreed to two-year post-termination non-competition and non-solicitation covenants.

Glenn W. Reed (UICI s Executive Vice President and General Counsel and a Named Executive Officer) is in discussions with the Company with respect to his employment with the surviving corporation following completion of the merger. Based on these discussions, Mr. Reed may invest all or a portion of the cash payment (subject to any applicable withholding taxes) he receives in connection with the vesting and cancellation of his outstanding options to purchase shares of UICI granted under our benefit plans.

### Certain Other Employees

Under the terms of their employment commitment agreements, if the merger is completed, certain UICI employees other than Messrs. Cook, Gedwed, Hauptman, McQuagge, Myhra, Plato and Truxal, including members of our senior management team, will continue to serve in their respective positions and will receive an annual base salary, which will not be less than the employee s base salary immediately before the merger. These employees will be eligible for an annual bonus ranging from a target of 35% to 50% of annual base salary and a maximum of 65% to 100% of annual base salary, as the case may be. Furthermore, these employees will also be entitled to receive new equity award grants and participate in employee benefit plans.

Upon termination of employment in certain specified circumstances, these employees are entitled to receive severance payments equal to one or two times the employee s base salary plus target bonus payable in monthly installments, depending upon the employee s particular position with the surviving corporation; continuation of welfare benefits for one or two years, depending upon the employee s particular position with the surviving corporation; as well as a pro-rata bonus, based on his or her target bonus, if such termination occurs after the last day of the first quarter of the applicable fiscal year; and full change of control parachute excise tax gross up protection on all payments and benefits due to the employee; provided, that the surviving corporation will be entitled to reduce the executive s payments (but not by more than 10%) if the reduction would allow the avoidance of the imposition of any excise tax associated with the change of control. Further, each of these employees has agreed to one or two-year post-termination non-competition and non-solicitation covenants, the duration of which coincides with the term during which they will be entitled to receive severance payments.

### **UICI Success Bonus Award Plan**

On September 14, 2005, our board of directors adopted the UICI Success Bonus Award Plan as an employee incentive and retention program to help retain and provide an incentive to employees (including executive officers) who are key to a successful completion of the merger.

75

Under the terms of the UICI Success Bonus Award Plan, a participant will be entitled to receive his or her award if the participant continues to be employed by us or any of our subsidiaries through the date of completion of any transaction resulting in a change of control of UICI (including the merger). If a participant ceases to be employed before that date, he or she will not be entitled to an award, unless the Executive Compensation Committee determines otherwise. If the merger (or another transaction that would qualify as a change of control under the plan) is not completed before June 30, 2006, participants will not be entitled to receive awards under the plan.

Awards under the UICI Success Bonus Award Plan will be payable 60% on the date of completion of any transaction resulting in a change of control of UICI (including the merger) and the remaining 40% will be payable on a date that is not later than 180 days following completion of any transaction resulting in a change of control of UICI (including the merger). If a participant semployment is terminated as a result of his or her death or disability, the participant or his or her designated beneficiary will be entitled to receive 75% of the amounts to which the participant otherwise would have been entitled. The Continuing Executives (*i.e.*, Messrs. Cook, Gedwed, Hauptman, McQuagge, Myhra, Plato and Truxal) collectively are eligible to receive 73% of the bonus pool, or approximately \$14.7 million.

The total pool available for award to participants under the plan is estimated to be \$20.3 million. In accordance with the terms of the plan, on November 1, 2005 the Committee designated participants in the plan and awarded success bonuses to be paid to such participants at the times and in the manner as prescribed by the plan. Designated participants under the plan included William J. Gedwed, Glenn W. Reed, Phillip J. Myhra, Troy A. McQuagge and William J. Truxal, who were allocated success bonuses in the amounts of \$2,026,490, \$2,533,113, \$3,378,160, \$3,378,160 and \$1,126,728, respectively. The remaining portion of the pool (\$7,822,256) was allocated among seven additional designated participants.

### UICI Director and Employee Stock Options and Restricted Shares

Immediately before the completion of the merger, each outstanding option to purchase shares of UICI common stock granted under our benefit plans will become fully vested, and except with respect to those options that will be retained by certain executive officers, each option will be cancelled and converted into a right to receive a payment from the surviving corporation (subject to any applicable withholding taxes) equal to the difference between \$37.00 and the exercise price for the option multiplied by the number of shares subject to such option, to the extent the difference is a positive number. As of February 13, 2006 (the record date for the special meeting), the aggregate number of shares of stock subject to unvested stock options held by the continuing executives as a group and our non-employee directors as a group is 447,030 and 5,351, respectively, and the number of such shares of stock subject to unvested stock options that will be in-the-money (i.e., the merger consideration will exceed the applicable exercise price per share of the stock option) is 447,030 and 5,351. The weighted average exercise prices of these 447,030 and 5,351 options are \$26.43 and \$14.05, respectively.

Immediately before the completion of the merger, the forfeiture provisions of each then outstanding restricted share issued under our employee benefit plans will lapse. At the completion of the merger, each holder of restricted shares will be treated as a holder of the corresponding number of shares of common stock and in the same manner as other outstanding common shares issued and outstanding immediately before the merger was completed, except with respect to those shares that will be retained by certain members of senior management described above. As of the record date for the special meeting, the aggregate number of restricted shares held by our continuing executives and our non-employee directors as a group is approximately 12,000 and -0-, respectively.

### **Comparison of Total Stockholder Return**

The following graph compares the cumulative total stockholder return on UICI Common Stock for the last five years with the cumulative return for the same period of the S&P 600 Small Cap Market Index and the S&P Insurance Index. The graph assumes the investment of \$100 at the beginning of the period in the Company s Common Stock.

### **Employee Stock Ownership and Savings Plan**

The Company maintains for the benefit of its and its subsidiaries employees the UICI Employee Stock Ownership and Savings Plan (the Employee Plan ). The Employee Plan through its 401(k) feature enables eligible employees to make pre-tax contributions to the Employee Plan (subject to overall salary limitations) and to direct the investment of such contributions among several investment options, including UICI common stock. A second feature of the Employee Plan constitutes an employee stock ownership plan (the ESOP), contributions to which are invested primarily in shares of UICI common stock. The ESOP feature allows participants to receive from UICI and its subsidiaries discretionary matching contributions and to share in certain supplemental contributions made by UICI and its subsidiaries. Shares contributed to the ESOP or purchased with the Company s contributions are allocated to the participant s account on a monthly basis, and forfeitures are allocated to employees who are participants on the last day of the plan year based upon the ratio of each participant s annual credited compensation (up to \$75,000) to the total annual credited compensation of all participants entitled to share in such contributions for such Plan Year. Contributions by UICI and its subsidiaries to the Employee Plan under the ESOP feature currently vest in prescribed increments over a six-year period.

### Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management

As of February 13, 2006, 46,626,369 shares of our common stock were outstanding and, as of such date, these stockholders have reported the following ownership of shares of our common stock, which represents the following percent of outstanding shares of our common stock on that date:

	Common Shares Beneficially	Percent of Common
Name & Address of Beneficial Owner	Owned(1)	Stock
Comerica Bank, as Trustee	2,856,921(2)	6.13%
One Detroit Center		
Detroit, MI 48275		
Barclays Global Investors, NA	3,011,700	6.46%
45 Fremont Street		
San Francisco, CA 94105		
Paulson & Company	2,982,500	6.40%
590 Madison Avenue		
New York, NY 10022	- 0.1.5 0.15	.=
Gladys M. Jensen	7,946,528(3)	17.04%
6500 Beltline Road		
Suite 170		
Irving, TX 75063	2 724 492(4)	E 0.00
OUI, Inc.	2,734,483(4)	5.86%
6500 N. Beltline Road		
Irving, TX 75063	46 170	*
William J. Gedwed Glenn W. Reed	46,178	*
Phillip J. Myhra	80,710 61,367	*
Troy A. McQuagge	82,623	*
William J. Truxal	55,844	*
Richard T. Mockler	11,425	*
Mural R. Josephson	5,315	*
R.H. Mick Thompson	-0-	*
Dennis C. McCuistion	832	*
All executive officers and directors (13) individuals) as a group	433,741	*
7 in executive officers and directors (13) individuals) as a group	755,771	

<sup>\*</sup> The amount shown is less than 1% of the outstanding shares of Common Stock.

<sup>(1)</sup> Shares beneficially owned by any holder include (a) shares (if any) held by the Trustee for the benefit of the holder under the Company s Employee Stock Ownership and Savings Plan and (b) shares (if any) issuable upon the exercise of stock options held by such holder that are exercisable within 60 days of February 13, 2006. The shares of Common Stock held by the Trustee under the Company s Employee Stock Ownership and Savings Plan that are purchased with contributions made by the Company are subject to the vesting requirements of the Plan.

- (2) Represents shares held by Comerica Bank, as Trustee under the Company s Employee Stock Ownership and Savings Plan.
- (3) According to the Schedule 13D filed on October 5, 2005 by Gladys M. Jensen, includes 3,846,528 shares owned by the estate of Ronald L. Jensen (of which Gladys M. Jensen is the independent executor) and 4,100,000 shares owned by Gladys M. Jensen outright.
- (4) According to the Schedule 13D/A filed on October 11, 2005 by OUI, Inc.

## Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions

See Note K of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

78

### Item 14. Principal Accountant Fees and Services

In addition to retaining KPMG LLP to audit UICI s consolidated financial statements for 2005, UICI and its affiliates retained KPMG LLP and other accounting and consulting firms to provide advisory, auditing and consulting services in 2005. The Company understands the need for KPMG LLP to maintain objectivity and independence in its audit of the Company s consolidated financial statements. To minimize relationships that could appear to impair the objectivity of KPMG LLP, the UICI Audit Committee has restricted the non-audit services that KPMG LLP may provide to UICI primarily to tax services and merger and acquisition due diligence and audit services, and the Audit Committee has determined that UICI will obtain non-audit services from KPMG LLP only when the services offered by KPMG LLP are more effective or economical than comparable services available from other service providers.

The Audit Committee Charter provides that the Committee shall approve all non-audit engagement fees and terms with the independent accountants and all other compensation to be paid to the independent accountants. The Committee has the authority to delegate pre-approvals of non-audit services to a single member of the Audit Committee, and the Chairman of the Committee has been authorized to pre-approve non-audit services up to \$50,000, not to exceed an aggregate of \$100,000 in any one year. Fees for non-audit services exceeding these amounts must be approved by the full Committee.

In determining the appropriateness of a particular non-audit service to be performed by the audit firm, the Audit Committee shall consider whether the service facilitates the performance of the audit, improves the Company s financial reporting process or is otherwise in the public interest.

The aggregate fees billed for professional services by KPMG LLP in 2005 and 2004 were as follows:

Type of Fees	2005 (In thou	<b>2004</b> usands)
Audit Fees(a) Audit-Related Fees(b) Tax Fees All Other Fees(c)	\$ 3,845 143 57 30	\$ 3,852 414 100 14
Total	\$ 4,075	\$ 4,380

- (a) Includes fees in the amount of \$2.7 million in each of 2005 and 2004 relating to the audit of internal controls required by the Sarbanes-Oxley Act.
- (b) In 2005 includes fees in the amount of \$143,000 for professional services associated with the contemplated acquisition of the Company in a cash merger by a group of private equity firms. In 2004 includes fees in the amount of \$409,000 for professional services associated with assistance in the process of documenting UICI s internal controls over processes contributing to financial reporting.
- (c) Includes in 2005 fees in the amount of \$24,000 for professional services associated with the contemplated acquisition of the Company in a cash merger by a group of private equity firms.

For purposes of the table above, audit fees are fees that the Company paid to KPMG LLP for the audit of the Company's consolidated financial statements included in UICI's Annual Report on Form 10-K and review of financial statements included in Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, and for services that are normally provided by the accounting firm in connection with statutory and regulatory filings or engagements; audit-related fees represent fees billed by KPMG LLP for assurance and related services that are reasonably related to the performance of the audit or review of the Company's financial statements; tax fees are fees for tax compliance, tax advice and tax planning; and all other fees are fees billed by the accounting firm to the Company for any services not included in the first three categories (which other fees consist primarily of online research subscription fees, seminar attendance fees). All fees in each fee category were approved by the Company's Audit Committee.

### **PART IV**

## Item 15. Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules, and Reports on Form 8-K

# (a) Financial Statements

The following consolidated financial statements of UICI and subsidiaries are included in Item 8:

	Page
Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm on Internal Control over Financial Reporting Consolidated Balance Sheets December 31, 2005 and 2004	F-2 F-3 F-4
Consolidated Statements of Operations Years ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003  Consolidated Statements of Stockholders Equity and Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) Years ended	F-5
December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003	F-6
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows Years ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003	F-7
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements	F-8
Financial Statement Schedules	
Schedule II Condensed Financial Information of Registrant December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003: UICI	
(Holding Company)	F-67
Schedule III Supplementary Insurance Information	F-70
Schedule IV Reinsurance	F-72
Schedule V Valuation and Qualifying Accounts	F-73

All other schedules for which provision is made in the applicable accounting regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission are not required under the related instructions or are not applicable and therefore have been omitted.

### Exhibits:

The response to this portion of Item 15 is submitted as a separate section of this report entitled Exhibit Index .

80

### **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

**UICI** 

By: /s/ WILLIAM J. GEDWED William J. Gedwed,

President, Chief Executive Officer and
Chairman of the Board

Date: March 13, 2006

Pursuant to the requirements of Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Signature	Title	Date
/s/ WILLIAM J. GEDWED*	March 13, 2006	
William J. Gedwed	Chairman of the Board	
/s/ MARK D. HAUPTMAN*	March 13, 2006	
Mark D. Hauptman	and Chief Accounting Officer	
/s/ GLENN W. REED	Executive Vice President, General	March 13, 2006
Glenn W. Reed	Counsel, and Director	
/s/ DENNIS C. MCCUISTION*	Director	March 13, 2006
Dennis C. McCuistion		
/s/ MURAL R. JOSEPHSON*	Director	March 13, 2006
Mural R. Josephson		
/s/ R. H. MICK THOMPSON*	Director	March 13, 2006
R. H. Mick Thompson		
/s/ RICHARD T. MOCKLER*	Director	March 13, 2006
Richard T. Mockler		

\*By: /s/ GLENN W. REED (Attorney-in-fact) March 13, 2006

Glenn W. Reed (Attorney-in-fact)

81

ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10-K
ITEM 8, ITEM 15(A)(1) and (2), (C), and (D)
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS and SUPPLEMENTAL DATA
FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES
CERTAIN EXHIBITS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005
UICI
and
SUBSIDIARIES
NORTH RICHLAND HILLS, TEXAS

F-1

### REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

The Board of Directors and Stockholders UICI:

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of UICI and subsidiaries (the Company) as of December 31, 2005 and 2004, and the related consolidated statements of operations, stockholders equity and comprehensive income (loss) and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2005. In connection with our audits of the consolidated financial statements, we also have audited the financial statement schedules as listed in the Index at Item 15(a). These consolidated financial statements and financial statement schedules are the responsibility of the Company s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements and financial statement schedules based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of UICI and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2005 and 2004, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2005, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Also, in our opinion, the related financial statement schedules, when considered in relation to the basic consolidated financial statements taken as a whole, present fairly in all material respects, the information set forth therein.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the effectiveness of UICI s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2005, based on criteria established in *Internal Control Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO), and our report dated March 13, 2006 expressed an unqualified opinion on management s assessment of, and the effective operation of, internal control over financial reporting.

/s/ KPMG LLP

Dallas, Texas March 13, 2006

### REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

The Board of Directors and Stockholders UICI:

We have audited management s assessment, included in the accompanying Management s Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting, that UICI maintained effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2005, based on criteria established in *Internal Control Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). UICI s management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on management s assessment and an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company s internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, evaluating management s assessment, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control, and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

A company s internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company s internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company s assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

In our opinion, management s assessment that UICI maintained effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2005, is fairly stated, in all material respects, based on criteria established in *Internal Control Integrated Framework* issued by COSO. Also, in our opinion, UICI maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2005, based on criteria established in *Internal Control Integrated Framework* issued by COSO.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated balance sheets of UICI and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2005 and 2004, and the related consolidated statements of operations, stockholders—equity and comprehensive income (loss) and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2005, and our report dated March 13, 2006 expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements.

/s/ KPMG LLP

Dallas, Texas March 13, 2006

F-3

# CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

	(I	2005 Dollars in th	nber 31, 2004 ousands, except amounts)
ASSETS Investments			
Securities available for sale			
Fixed maturities, at fair value (cost: 2005 \$1,496,340; 2004 \$1,500,204)	\$	-, ,	\$ 1,531,231
Equity securities, at fair value (cost: 2005 \$1,508; 2004 \$1,508)		1,347	1,461
Mortgage loans		751	3,884
Policy loans		16,325	17,101
Short-term and other investments		275,036	165,661
Total Investments Cash and cash equivalents		1,777,924	1,719,338
Student loans		109,808	109,288
Restricted cash		22,517	39,455
Investment income due and accrued		24,263	22,706
Due premiums		52,259	86,051
Reinsurance receivable		24,002	24,537
Agents and other receivables		30,417	34,762
Deferred acquisition costs		131,120	110,502
Property and equipment, net		81,880	97,863
Goodwill and other intangible assets		79,004	75,625
Recoverable federal income taxes		13,148	,
Deferred income tax		12,102	16,569
Other assets		13,086	8,962
Calci disets		13,000	•
	\$	2,371,530	\$ 2,345,658
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS   1	TOUTV		
Policy liabilities:	ZQCIII		
Future policy and contract benefits	\$	447,992	\$ 444,228
Claims	Ψ	558,106	622,587
Unearned premiums		155,285	177,406
Other policy liabilities		12,881	14,450
Accounts payable and accrued expenses		54,170	60,035
Cash overdraft.		3,736	8,749
Other liabilities			
		115,624	126,040
Federal income taxes payable		15 470	3,355
Debt Student Lean Credit Facility		15,470	15,470
Student Loan Credit Facility		130,900	150,000

Edgar Filing: UICI - Form 10-K

Net liabilities of discontinued operations	6,285	9,193
	1,500,449	1,631,513
Commitments and Contingencies (Note L)		
Stockholders Equity		
Preferred stock, par value \$0.01 per share authorized 10,000,000 shares, no shares		
issued and outstanding in 2005 and 2004		
Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share authorized 100,000,000 shares in 2005		
and 2004; 47,543,590 issued and 46,134,199 outstanding in 2005; 47,623,102 issued		
and 45,715,144 outstanding in 2004	476	476
Additional paid-in capital	212,331	202,139
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	(7,823)	20,137
Retained earnings	697,243	528,447
Treasury stock, at cost (1,409,391 common shares in 2005 and 1,907,958 common		
shares in 2004)	(31,146)	(37,054)
	871,081	714,145
	\$ 2,371,530	\$ 2,345,658

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

	2005	thou	led Decemb 2004 asands, exce amounts)	2003
Revenue Premiums: Health (includes amounts received from related parties of \$957,				
\$2,085 and \$1,308 in 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively) Life premiums and other considerations	\$ 1,855,969 61,565	\$	1,812,892 45,851	\$ 1,547,233 36,020
Investment income (includes amounts received from related	1,917,534		1,858,743	1,583,253
parties of \$16, \$9 and \$35 in 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively) Other income (includes amounts received from related parties of	97,788		85,868	77,661
\$1,103, \$2,488 and \$2,263 in 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively) Gains (losses) on sale of investments	106,656 (760)		117,827 6,671	124,537 39,711
Benefits and Expenses	2,121,218		2,069,109	1,825,162
Benefits, claims, and settlement expenses Underwriting, policy acquisition costs, and insurance expenses (includes amounts paid to related parties of \$6,670, \$7,294 and	1,092,136		1,134,901	1,045,640
\$9,145 in 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively) Variable stock compensation expense (benefit) Other expenses, (includes amounts paid to related parties of	625,633 7,214		632,132 14,307	563,574 (459)
\$1,676, \$1,320 and \$3,021 in 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively) Interest expense Losses in Healthaxis, Inc. investment	77,076 6,009		63,203 3,417	79,264 3,016 2,211
	1,808,068		1,847,960	1,693,246
INCOME FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS BEFORE INCOME TAXES Federal income taxes	313,150 110,180		221,149 75,268	131,916 44,592
INCOME FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS: Income (loss) from operations, (net of income tax benefit	202,970		145,881	87,324
(expense) of \$(2,614), \$1,084 and \$16,522 in 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively)	531		15,677	(72,990)
NET INCOME	\$ 203,501	\$	161,558	\$ 14,334

Edgar Filing: UICI - Form 10-K

Earnings per share:			
Basic earnings			
Income from continuing operations	\$ 4.40	\$ 3.16	\$ 1.88
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	0.01	0.34	(1.57)
NET INCOME	\$ 4.41	\$ 3.50	\$ 0.31
Diluted earnings			
Income from continuing operations	\$ 4.31	\$ 3.07	\$ 1.82
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	0.01	0.33	(1.52)
NET INCOME	\$ 4.32	\$ 3.40	\$ 0.30

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)

	Commo Stock	Additional Paid-In Capital		occumulated Other mprehensive Income (Loss) (In tho	Retained Earnings usands)	Treasury Stock	Total
Balance at January 1, 2003 Comprehensive income: Net income Other comprehensive income, net of tax:	\$ 509	\$ 236,082	\$	42,337	\$ 364,032 14,334	\$ (57,910)	\$ 585,050 14,334
Change in unrealized gains (losses) on securities Deferred income tax expense Other	•			(27,273) 9,481 62			(27,273) 9,481 62
Other comprehensive loss				(17,730)			(17,730)
Comprehensive income (loss)				(17,730)	14,334		(3,396)
Vesting of Agent Plan credits Common stock issued Exercise stock options Retirement of treasury stock Purchase of treasury stock Stock-based compensation tax benefit	1 7 (36	7,932 358 10,341 (46,970)	)			4,294 47,006 (19,596)	12,226 359 10,348 (19,596)
Other		1,959					1,959
Balance at December 31, 2003 Comprehensive income (loss): Net income	481	210,320		24,607	378,366 161,558	(26,206)	587,568 161,558
Other comprehensive loss, net of tax: Change in unrealized gains (losses) on securities Deferred income tax expense	,			(6,877) 2,407	101,338		(6,877) 2,407
Other comprehensive loss				(4,470)			(4,470)
Comprehensive income (loss)				(4,470)	161,558		157,088

Dividends paid Vesting of Agent Plan credits Exercise stock options	6	249 5,546		(11,477)	10,358	(11,477) 10,607 5,552
Stock-based compensation tax benefit Retirement of treasury stock	(11)	1,972 (16,729)			16,740 (37,946)	1,972
Purchase of treasury stock Other		781			(37,940)	(37,946) 781
Balance at December 31, 2004 Comprehensive income (loss):	476	202,139	20,137	528,447	(37,054)	714,145
Net income (loss) Change in unrealized gains (losses)				203,501		203,501
on securities			(43,016)			(43,016)
Deferred income tax expense			15,056			15,056
Other comprehensive loss			(27,960)			(27,960)
Comprehensive income (loss)			(27,960)	203,501		175,541
Dividends paid				(34,705)		(34,705)
Vesting of Agent Plan credits		11,245			9,990	21,235
Exercise stock options	3	2,579				2,582
Stock-based compensation tax benefit		1,861				1,861
Retirement of treasury stock	(3)	(7,519)			7,522	1,001
Purchase of treasury stock	(3)	(7,317)			(11,514)	(11,514)
Other		2,026			(90)	1,936
Balance at December 31, 2005	\$ 476	\$ 212,331	\$ (7,823)	\$ 697,243	\$ (31,146)	\$ 871,081

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

	Year 2005	Ended December 2004 (In thousands)	er 31, 2003
Operating Activities			
Net income	\$ 203,501	\$ 161,558	\$ 14,334
(Income) loss from discontinued operations	(531)	(15,677)	72,990
Adjustments to reconcile net income to cash provided by operating			
activities:			
(Gains) loss on sale of investments	760	(6,671)	(39,711)
Operating loss of Healthaxis, Inc.			2,211
Change in accrued investment income	(5,951)	(4,538)	(2,040)
Change in due premiums	33,792	(31,383)	(29,442)
Change in reinsurance receivables	535	32,710	6,516
Change in other receivables	6,606	80	(4,679)
Change in current federal income taxes payable (recoverable)	(16,503)	(15,275)	19,862
Acquisition costs deferred	(103,185)	(93,383)	(65,733)
Amortization of deferred acquisition costs	82,567	73,532	69,343
Depreciation and amortization	31,154	29,392	18,404
Deferred income tax (benefit) change	19,523	(153)	121
Change in policy liabilities	(72,162)	90,349	168,195
Change in other liabilities and accrued expenses	(952)	30,898	41,466
Variable stock compensation (benefit)	7,214	14,307	(459)
Other items, net	1,398	6,274	(4,065)
Cash Provided by Continuing Operations	187,766	272,020	267,313
Cash Provided by (Used in) Discontinued Operations	(2,377)	(17,815)	33,238
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	185,389	254,205	300,551
Investing Activities			
Securities available-for-sale			
Purchases	(295,919)	(425,209)	(664,905)
Sales	166,901	181,103	249,316
Maturities, calls and redemptions	131,701	130,543	178,847
Student loans			
Purchases and originations	(7,065)	(11,279)	(19,384)
Maturities	10,244	8,798	7,579
Short-term and other investments net	(105,320)	(43,256)	40,632
Purchase of subsidiaries and life and health business		(53,100)	(4,951)
Additional cost of purchase of subsidiary	(7,110)		
Change in restricted cash	16,938	3,022	13,270
Additions to property and equipment	(11,440)	(25,424)	(33,316)
Minority interest purchased			(863)

Edgar Filing: UICI - Form 10-K

Change in agents receivables	(5,141)	(4,882)	10,556
Cash Used in Continuing Operations	(106,211)	(239,684)	(223,219)
Cash Provided by (Used in) Discontinued Operations	( , ,	25,365	(116,653)
Net Cash Used in Investing Activities	(106,211)	(214,319)	(339,872)
Financing Activities			
Repayment of notes payable		(18,951)	(3,971)
Repayment of student loan credit facilities	(19,100)		
Change in cash overdraft.	(5,013)	8,749	
Net proceeds from issuance of trust securities		14,570	
Deposits from investment products	10,602	9,965	8,928
Withdrawals from investment products	(22,847)	(26,627)	(25,768)
Exercising of stock options	4,443	7,524	10,966
Purchase of treasury stock	(13,359)	(36,220)	(19,596)
Dividends paid	(34,705)	(11,477)	
Other	801	(1,433)	2,318
Cash Used in Continuing Operations	(79,178)	(53,900)	(27,123)
Cash Provided by Discontinued Operations			25,542
Net Cash Used in Financing Activities	(79,178)	(53,900)	(1,581)
Net Decrease in Cash		(14,014)	(40,902)
Cash and Cash Equivalents at beginning of period		14,014	54,916
Cash and Cash Equivalents at end of period	\$	\$	\$ 14,014

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

#### NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### **Note A** Significant Accounting Policies

### Principles of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of UICI and its subsidiaries (the Company ). All significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

UICI is a holding company, and the Company conducts its insurance businesses through its wholly owned insurance company subsidiaries, The MEGA Life and Health Insurance Company ( MEGA ), Mid-West National Life Insurance Company of Tennessee ( Mid-West ) and The Chesapeake Life Insurance Company ( Chesapeake ). MEGA is an insurance company domiciled in Oklahoma and is licensed to issue health, life and annuity insurance policies in all states except New York. Mid-West is an insurance company domiciled in Texas and is licensed to issue health, life and annuity insurance policies in Puerto Rico and all states except Maine, New Hampshire, New York, and Vermont. Chesapeake is an insurance company domiciled in Oklahoma and is licensed to issue health and life insurance policies in all states except New Jersey, New York and Vermont.

### Nature of Operations

The Company offers insurance (primarily health and life) to niche consumer and institutional markets. The Company issues primarily health insurance policies, covering individuals and families, to the self-employed, association group, voluntary employer group and student markets. Information on the Company s operations by segment is included in Note O.

Through its Self-Employed Agency Division (SEA Division), the Company offers a broad range of health insurance products for self-employed individuals and individuals who work for small businesses and products for the small (2-15 members) employer group market. The Company s basic hospital-medical and catastrophic hospital expense plans are designed to accommodate individual needs and include both traditional fee-for-service indemnity (choice of doctor) plans and preferred provider organization plans, as well as other supplemental types of coverage. The Company markets these higher deductible products to the self-employed and individual markets through independent contractor agents associated with UGA-Association Field Services and Cornerstone America, the Company s dedicated agency sales forces that primarily sell the Company s products.

Commencing in the first quarter of 2005, the SEA Division began to offer on a selective state-by-state basis a new suite of consumer driven health plans (CDHPs) for the individual market, utilizing the consumer driven health plan features and methodology acquired in October 2004 as part of our purchase of substantially all of the operating assets of HealthMarket Inc. (a Norwalk, Connecticut-based provider of consumer driven health plans (CDHPs) to the small business (2 to 50 member) market).

Through its Student Insurance Division, UICI offers tailored health insurance programs that generally provide single school year coverage to individual students at colleges and universities. The Company also provides an accident policy for students at public and private schools in pre-kindergarten through grade 12. In the student market, the Company sells its products through in-house account executives that focus on colleges and universities on a national basis.

The Company s Star HRG Division specializes in the design, marketing and administration of limited benefit health insurance plans for entry level, high turnover, and hourly employees. The Company markets and sells these products directly to its employer clients through a sales force consisting of Company employees.

Through its Life Insurance Division, the Company also issues universal life, whole life and term life insurance products to individuals in the self-employed market, the middle income market; the Hispanic market and the senior market. The Company distributes its life insurance products directly to individuals in the self-employed market through agents associated with UGA-Association Field Services and Cornerstone America and through marketing relationships with two independent managing general agents (MGAs).

F-8

### NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

During 2003, through a newly formed company, ZON Re USA LLC (an 82.5%-owned subsidiary), the Company began to underwrite, administer and issue accidental death, accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D), accident medical and accident disability insurance products, both on a primary and on a reinsurance basis. The Company distributes these products through professional reinsurance intermediaries and a network of independent commercial insurance agents, brokers and third party administrators. To date, the results of this business have not been material to our consolidated results of operations.

The Company s business segments for financial reporting purposes include (a) the Insurance segment, which includes the businesses of the Company s Self-Employed Agency Division, Student Insurance Division, Star HRG Division, Life Insurance Division and Other Insurance (consisting of the Company s accident insurance/reinsurance business, which commenced operations in the third quarter of 2003); and (b) its Other Key Factors segment, which includes investment income not allocated to the Insurance segment, realized gains or losses on sale of investments, interest expense on corporate debt, general expenses relating to corporate operations, minority interest, variable stock-based compensation and operations that do not constitute reportable operating segments (including the Company s investment in Healthaxis, Inc. until sold on September 30, 2003). In 2005, the incremental costs associated with the pending acquisition of the Company by a group of private equity investors were also reflected in the results of the Other Key Factors segment.

On September 15, 2005, UICI entered into a merger agreement, pursuant to which affiliates of The Blackstone Group, Goldman Sachs Capital Partners and DLJ Merchant Banking Partners will acquire UICI in a cash merger, with UICI being the surviving corporation in the merger. In the proposed transaction, substantially all current stockholders of UICI (other than certain members of management and UICI s independent insurance agents holding shares through UICI s agent stock accumulation plans) will receive \$37.00 per share in cash. Completion of the transaction is subject to shareholder approval, receipt of insurance regulatory approvals, the receipt of certain financing and other conditions. The parties currently expect the transaction to close on or about April 3, 2006.

The board of directors has fixed February 13, 2006 as the record date for a special meeting of stockholders called to be held on Wednesday, March 29, 2006, at which the holders of the Company s Common Stock will be asked, among other things, to approve the merger agreement.

### **Discontinued Operations**

The Company has reflected as discontinued operations for financial reporting purposes the results of its former AMS subsidiary, its former Senior Market division and its Special Risk Division operations. *See* Note Q.

### Basis of Presentation

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared on the basis of accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). The more significant variances between GAAP and statutory accounting practices prescribed or permitted by regulatory authorities for insurance companies are: fixed maturities are carried at fair value for investments classified as available for sale for GAAP rather than generally at amortized cost; the deferral of new business acquisition costs, rather than expensing them as incurred; the determination of the liability for future policyholder benefits based on realistic assumptions, rather than on statutory rates for mortality and interest; the recording of reinsurance receivables as assets for GAAP rather than as reductions of liabilities; and the exclusion of

non-admitted assets for statutory purposes. *See* Note J for stockholders equity and net income from insurance subsidiaries as determined using statutory accounting practices.

## Use of Estimates

The preparation of the consolidated financial statements in accordance with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of

F-9

### NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Management periodically reviews its estimates and assumptions. Actual results may differ from the estimates and assumptions used in preparing the consolidated financial statements.

### Investments

Fixed maturities consist of bonds and notes issued by governments, businesses, or other entities, mortgage and asset backed securities and similar securitized loans. All fixed maturity investments classified as available for sale are reported at fair value. Equity securities consist of common stocks and are carried at fair value. Mortgage loans are carried at unpaid balances, less allowance for losses. Policy loans are carried at the aggregate unpaid balance. Short-term investments are generally carried at cost which approximates fair value. Premiums and discounts on mortgage-backed securities are amortized over a period based on estimated future principal payments, including prepayments. Prepayment assumptions are reviewed periodically and adjusted to reflect actual prepayments and changes in expectations. The most significant determinant of prepayments are the differences between interest rates of the underlying mortgages and current mortgage loan rates and the structure of the security. Other factors affecting prepayments include the size, type and age of underlying mortgages, the geographic location of the mortgaged properties and the creditworthiness of the borrowers. Variations from anticipated prepayments will affect the life and yield of these securities.

Prior to its disposition in September 2003, the Company accounted for its investment in Healthaxis, Inc. on the equity method, and, accordingly, the Company s investment in Healthaxis, Inc. was stated at the Company s cost, as adjusted for contributions or distributions and the Company s share of Healthaxis, Inc. s income or loss.

Realized gains and losses on sales of investments are recognized in net income on the specific identification basis and include write downs on those investments deemed to have an other-than-temporary decline in fair values. Unrealized investment gains or losses on securities carried at fair value, net of applicable deferred income tax, are reported in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) as a separate component of stockholders equity and accordingly have no effect on net income (loss).

Purchases and sales of short-term financial instruments are part of investing activities and not necessarily a part of the cash management program. Short-term financial instruments are classified as investments in the Consolidated Balance Sheets and are included as investing activities in the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows.

Investments are reviewed quarterly (or more frequently if certain indicators arise) to determine if they have suffered an impairment of value that is considered other than temporary. In its review, management considers the following indicators of impairment: fair value significantly below cost; decline in fair value attributable to specific adverse conditions affecting a particular investment; decline in fair value attributable to specific conditions, such as conditions in an industry or in a geographic area; decline in fair value for an extended period of time; downgrades by rating agencies from investment grade to non-investment grade; financial condition deterioration of the issuer and situations where dividends have been reduced or eliminated or scheduled interest payments have not been made. Management monitors investments where two or more of the above indicators exist and investments are identified by the Company in economically challenged industries. If investments are determined to be impaired, a loss is recognized at the date of determination.

### Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Company classifies as cash and cash equivalents unrestricted cash on deposit in banks and invested temporarily in various instruments with maturities of three months or less at the time of purchase.

### **Student Loans**

Student loans (consisting of student loans originated under the Company s former College First Alternative Loan program) are carried at their unpaid principal balances (less any applicable allowance for losses).

F-10

### NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

### **Deferred Acquisition Costs**

Health Policy Acquisition Costs

The Company incurs various costs in connection with the origination and initial issuance of its health insurance policies, including underwriting and policy issuance costs, costs associated with lead generation activities and distribution costs (*i.e.*, sales commissions paid to agents). The Company defers those costs that vary with production. The Company defers commissions paid to agents and premium taxes with respect to the portion of health premium collected but not yet earned, and the Company amortizes the deferred expense over the period as and when the premium is earned. Costs associated with generating sales leads with respect to the health business issued through the SEA Division are capitalized and amortized over a two-year period, which approximates the average life of a policy. For financial reporting purposes, other underwriting and policy issuance costs (which the Company estimates are more fixed than variable) with respect to health policies issued through the Company s SEA, Student Insurance, Star HRG Divisions and the Other Insurance division are expensed as incurred.

With respect to health policies sold through the Company s SEA Division, commissions paid to agents with respect to first year policies are higher than commissions paid to agents with respect to policies in renewal years. Accordingly, during periods of increasing first year premium revenue, the SEA Division s overall operating profit margin will be negatively impacted by the higher commission expense associated with first year premium revenue.

# Life Policy Acquisition Costs

The Company incurs various costs in connection with the origination and initial issuance of its life insurance policies, including underwriting and policy issuance costs. The Company defers those costs that vary with production. The Company capitalizes commission and issue costs primarily associated with the new business of its Life Insurance Division. Deferred acquisition costs consist primarily of sales commissions and other underwriting costs of new life insurance sales. Policy acquisition costs associated with traditional life business are capitalized and amortized over the estimated premium-paying period of the related policies, in proportion to the ratio of the annual premium revenue to the total premium revenue anticipated. Such anticipated premium revenue, which is modified to reflect actual lapse experience, is estimated using the same assumptions as are used for computing policy benefits. For universal life-type and annuity contracts, capitalized costs are amortized at a constant rate based on the present value of the estimated gross profits expected to be realized on the book of contracts.

### Other

The cost of business acquired through acquisition of subsidiaries or blocks of business is determined based upon estimates of the future profits inherent in the business acquired. Such costs are capitalized and amortized over the estimated premium-paying period. Anticipated investment income is considered in determining whether a premium deficiency exists. The amortization period is adjusted when estimates of current or future gross profits to be realized from a group of products are revised.

The Company monitors and assesses the recoverability of deferred health and life policy acquisition costs on a quarterly basis.

# NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

Set forth below is an analysis of cost of policies acquired and deferred acquisition costs of policies issued:

	2005	ember 31, 2004 chousands)	2003
Costs of policies acquired:			
Beginning of year	\$ 4,991	\$ 7,563	\$ 3,376
Additions(1)			4,951
Amortization(2)	(1,785)	(2,572)	(764)
End of year	3,206	4,991	7,563
Deferred costs of policies issued	127,914	105,511	83,088
Total	\$ 131,120	\$ 110,502	\$ 90,651

- (1) Effective December 31, 2003, the Company terminated a coinsurance arrangement (*see* Note G Reinsurance), and the Company settled the purchase price for the novation of the remaining coinsured policies to the Company. The net effect of the transaction resulted in cost of policies acquired in the amount of \$5.0 million.
- (2) The discount rate used in the amortization of the costs of policies acquired ranges from 7% to 20% based on a variety of assumptions including the type of policies acquired.

Set forth below is an analysis of deferred costs of policies issued at each of December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003 and the related deferral and amortization in each of the years then ended:

	2005	ember 31, 2004 chousands)	2003
Deferred costs of policies issued:			
Beginning of year	\$ 105,511	\$ 83,088	\$ 85,934
Additions	103,185	93,383	65,733
Amortization	(80,782)	(70,960)	(68,579)
End of year	\$ 127,914	\$ 105,511	\$ 83,088

The amortization for the next five years and thereafter of capitalized costs of policies acquired at December 31, 2005 is estimated to be as follows:

	(In	thousands)
2006	\$	1,365
2007		1,082
2008		350
2009		250
2010		159
2011 and thereafter		
	\$	3,206

# Restricted Cash

At December 31, 2005 and 2004, the Company held restricted cash in the amount of \$22.5 million and \$39.5 million, respectively. Restricted cash consisted primarily of cash and cash equivalents securing student loan credit facilities held by a bankruptcy-remote, special purpose entity in the amount of \$20.5 million and \$37.4 million

# NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

as of December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively, which cash may be used only for repayment of associated borrowings and/or acquisitions of additional student loans. *See* Note H.

# Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

The Company establishes an allowance for potential losses that could result from defaults or write-downs on various assets. The allowance is maintained at a level that the Company believes is adequate to absorb estimated losses.

The Company s allowance for losses is as follows:

		Decembe	er 31,
	2	005	2004
		(In thousa	ands)
Agents receivables	\$	3,710	\$ 2,967
Other receivables		3,699	3,699
Mortgage loans		55	324
Student loans		2,722	3,608
	\$ 1	10,186	\$ 10,598

# Property and Equipment

Property and equipment includes buildings, leasehold improvements, furniture, software and equipment, all of which are reported at depreciated cost that is computed using straight line and accelerated methods based upon the estimated useful lives of the assets (generally 3 to 7 years for furniture, software and equipment and 30 to 39 years for buildings).

	Decem	ber 3	31,
	2005		2004
	(In tho	usan	ds)
Land and improvements	\$ 2,431	\$	2,731
Buildings and leasehold improvements	31,737		31,015
Construction in progress	2,469		
Software	85,677		80,714
Furniture and equipment	51,044		49,068
	173,358		163,528
Less accumulated depreciation	91,478		65,665

Property and equipment (net)

\$ 81,880 \$ 97,863

Construction in progress in the amount of \$2.5 million relates to a new facility that was placed in service in January 2006.

# Goodwill and Other Intangibles

The Company accounts for goodwill and other intangibles using Financial Accounting Standards Board Statement 142, *Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets*. Statement 142 requires that goodwill and other intangible assets with indefinite useful lives no longer be amortized, but instead be tested for impairment at least annually. Statement 142 also requires that intangible assets with estimable useful lives be amortized over their respective estimated useful lives to their estimated residual values and reviewed for impairment. The Company amortizes its intangible assets with estimable useful lives over a period ranging from one to ten years. The Company has

#### NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

determined that it will review goodwill and other intangible assets for impairment as of November 1 of each year or more frequently if certain indicators arise. An impairment loss would be recorded in the period such determination was made. Following the Company s annual review in 2005 for impairment of goodwill and other intangible assets related to continuing operations, the Company recorded an impairment charge at the SEA Division in the amount of \$1.7 million related to the HealthMarket customer list acquired in October 2004. For financial reporting purposes the impairment charge was recorded in Underwriting, policy acquisition costs, and insurance expenses on the Company s Consolidated Statements of Operations.

# Future Policy and Contract Benefits and Claim Liabilities

With respect to accident and health insurance, future policy benefits are primarily attributable to a return-of-premium (ROP) rider that the Company has issued with certain health policies. Pursuant to this rider, the Company undertakes to return to the policyholder on or after age 65 all premiums paid less claims reimbursed under the policy. The ROP rider also provides that the policyholder may receive a portion of the benefit prior to age 65. The Company records an ROP liability to fund longer-term obligations associated with the ROP rider. The future policy benefits for the ROP are computed using the net level premium method using assumptions with respect to current investment yield, mortality and withdrawal rates, and annual increases in future gross premiums determined to be appropriate at the time the business was first acquired by the Company, with an implicit margin for adverse deviations. A claim offset for actual benefits paid through the reporting date is applied to the ROP liability for all policies on a contract-by-contract basis.

The remainder of the future policy benefits for accident and health are principally contract reserves on issue-age rated policies, reserves for other riders providing future benefits, and reserves for the refund of a portion of premium as required by state law. These liabilities are typically calculated as the present value of future benefits less the present value of future net premiums, computed on a net level premium basis using assumptions determined to be appropriate as of the date the business was acquired by the Company. These assumptions may include current investment yield, mortality, withdrawal rates, or other assumptions determined to be appropriate.

Traditional life insurance future policy benefit liabilities are computed on a net level premium method using assumptions with respect to current investment yield, mortality, withdrawal rates, and other assumptions determined to be appropriate as of the date the business was issued or purchased by the Company. Future contract benefits related to universal life-type and annuity contracts are generally based on policy account values. Claim liabilities represent the estimated liabilities for claims reported plus claims incurred but not yet reported. The liabilities are subject to the impact of actual payments and future changes in claim factors; as adjustments become necessary they are reflected in current operations.

The Company uses the developmental method to estimate its health claim liabilities. This method applies completion factors to claim payments in order to estimate the ultimate amount of the claim. These completion factors are derived from historical experience and are dependent on the incurred dates of the claim payments. *See* Note F Policy Liabilities for a discussion of claim liabilities.

## Recognition of Premium Revenues and Costs

Premiums on traditional life insurance are recognized as revenue when due. Benefits and expenses are matched with premiums so as to result in recognition of income over the term of the contract. This matching is accomplished by

means of the provision for future policyholder benefits and expenses and the deferral and amortization of acquisition costs. Revenues for universal life-type and annuity contracts consist of charges for the cost of insurance, policy administration and surrender charges assessed during the year. Contract benefits that are charged to expense include benefit claims incurred in the period in excess of related contract balances, and interest credited to contract balances.

# NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

#### **Unearned Premiums**

Premiums on health insurance contracts are recognized as earned over the period of coverage on a pro rata basis. The Company records as a liability the portion of premiums unearned.

#### Other Income

Other income consists primarily of income derived by the SEA Division from ancillary services and membership marketing and administrative services provided to the membership associations that make available to their members the Company s health insurance products and fee income derived by the Company from its AMLI Realty Co. subsidiary. Income is recognized as services are provided.

# Underwriting, Policy Acquisition Costs and Insurance Expenses

Underwriting, policy acquisition costs and insurance expenses consist of direct expenses incurred across all insurance lines in connection with issuance, maintenance and administration of in-force insurance policies, including amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs, commissions paid to agents, administrative expenses and premium taxes.

# Other Expenses

Other expenses consist primarily of direct expenses incurred by the Company in connection with generating other income at the SEA Division. Also included in 2005 are the incremental costs associated with the pending acquisition of the Company by a group of private equity investors.

## Variable stock compensation expense (benefit)

The Company sponsors a series of stock accumulation plans established for the benefit of the independent insurance agents and independent sales representatives associated with its independent agent field forces, including UGA Association Field Services and Cornerstone America. In connection with these plans, the Company has from time to time recorded and will continue to record non-cash variable stock-based compensation expense (benefit) in amounts that depend and fluctuate based upon the market performance of the Company s common stock. *See* Note M.

#### Reinsurance

Insurance liabilities are reported before the effects of ceded reinsurance. Reinsurance receivables and prepaid reinsurance premiums are reported as assets. The cost of reinsurance is accounted for over the terms of the underlying reinsured policies using assumptions consistent with those used to account for the policies.

# Advertising Expense

The Company incurred advertising costs not included in deferred acquisition costs of \$1.8 million, \$1.9 million and \$3.4 million in 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively. Advertising costs not included in deferred acquisition costs are expensed as incurred. These amounts are reflected in the Company s consolidated statement of operations under the

caption Underwriting, policy acquisition costs and insurance expenses .

# Federal Income Taxes

Deferred income taxes are recorded to reflect the tax consequences of differences between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their financial reporting amounts at each year-end. In the event that the Company were to determine that it would not be able to realize all or part of its net deferred tax asset in the future, a valuation allowance would be recorded to reduce its deferred tax assets to the amount that it believes is more likely than not to

#### NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

be realized. Recording a valuation allowance would result in a charge to income in the period such determination was made. The Company considers future taxable income and ongoing prudent and feasible tax planning strategies in assessing the continued need for the recorded valuation allowance. In the event the Company determines that it would be able to realize its deferred tax assets in the future in excess of its net recorded amount, an adjustment to the deferred tax asset would increase income in the period such determination was made.

# Comprehensive Income

Included in comprehensive income is the reclassification adjustments for realized gain (losses) included in net income of \$(1.2) million, (\$(768,000) net of tax), \$4.3 million (\$2.8 million net of tax) and \$42.8 million, (\$27.8 million net of tax) in 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively.

# Guaranty Funds and Similar Assessments

The Company is assessed amounts by state guaranty funds to cover losses of policyholders of insolvent or rehabilitated insurance companies, by state insurance oversight agencies to cover the operating expenses of such agencies and by other similar legislative entities. The Company is also assessed for other health related expenses of high-risk and health reinsurance pools maintained in the various states. These mandatory assessments may be partially recovered through a reduction in future premium taxes in certain states. At December 31, 2005 and 2004, the Company had accrued (reflected in Other liabilities on the Company s consolidated balance sheet) \$5.5 million and \$3.7 million, respectively, to cover the cost of these assessments. The Company expects to pay these assessments over a period of up to five years, and the Company expects to realize the allowable portion of the premium tax offsets and/or policy surcharges over a period of up to 10 years. The Company incurred guaranty fund and other health related assessments in the amount of \$6.6 million, \$4.2 million and \$1.7 million in 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively, recorded in Underwriting, policy acquisition costs and insurance expenses on the Company s consolidated income statement.

#### New Accounting Pronouncements

In May 2005, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Statement 154 *Accounting Changes and Error Corrections* which changes the requirements for the accounting and reporting of a change in accounting principle. Statement 154 applies to all voluntary changes in accounting principle as well as to changes required by an accounting pronouncement that does not include specific transition provisions. Statement 154 requires that changes in accounting principle be retrospectively applied. Under retrospective application, the new accounting principle is applied as of the beginning of the first period presented as if that principle had always been used. The cumulative effect of the change is reflected in the carrying value of assets and liabilities as of the first period presented and the offsetting adjustments would be recorded to opening retained earnings. Statement 154 replaces APB Opinion No. 20 and FASB Statement 3. Statement 154 is effective for the Company beginning in fiscal year 2006. The Company does not contemplate any accounting changes or error corrections and accordingly, does not believe the adoption of this statement will have a material effect upon its financial condition or results of operations.

In December 2004, the FASB issued Statement 123R (revised 2004), *Share-Based Payment*, which requires all share-based payments to employees, including grants of employee stock options, to be recognized in the financial statements based on their fair values. The pro forma disclosures previously permitted under Statement 123 no longer will be an alternative to financial statement recognition. Under Statement 123R, the Company must determine the

appropriate fair value model to be used for valuing share-based payments, the amortization method for compensation cost and the transition method to be used at date of adoption. The transition methods include prospective and retroactive adoption options. The prospective method requires that compensation expense be recorded for all unvested stock options and restricted stock at the beginning of the first quarter of adoption of Statement 123R. The retroactive methods would record compensation expense for all unvested stock options and restricted stock

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

beginning with the first period restated. Prior periods may be restated either as of the beginning of the year of adoption or for all periods presented.

In April 2005, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission announced that the effective date of Statement 123R will be suspended until January 1, 2006, for companies whose fiscal year is the calendar year. The Company anticipates adopting the prospective method of Statement 123R in 2006 and believes the adoption of this pronouncement will not have a material effect upon the financial condition or results of operations.

The following table illustrates the effect on net income as if the fair-value-based method had been applied to all outstanding and unvested option awards in each period.

	Year Ended December 31,					
	2005 2004			2003		
	(In thousands, except per share amounts)					
Net income, as reported Add: stock-based employee compensation expense included in reported	\$ 203,501	\$	161,558	\$	14,334	
net income, net of tax (Deduct)/Add total stock-based employee compensation (expense) benefit determined under fair-value-based method for all awards, net of	654		93		6	
tax	(682)		160		(367)	
Pro forma net income	\$ 203,473	\$	161,811	\$	13,973	
Earnings per share:						
Basic as reported	\$ 4.41	\$	3.50	\$	0.31	
Basic-pro forma	\$ 4.41	\$	3.51	\$	0.30	
Diluted as reported	\$ 4.32	\$	3.40	\$	0.30	
Diluted-pro forma	\$ 4.32	\$	3.41	\$	0.29	

# Reclassification

Certain amounts in the 2004 and 2003 financial statements have been reclassified to conform to the 2005 financial statement presentation. In particular, the Company has for financial reporting purposes reclassified for all periods presented certain revenue and expenses related to the Life Insurance Division.

# **Note B** Acquisitions and Dispositions

# **Acquisitions**

On October 8, 2004, the Company completed an acquisition, for a cash purchase price of \$53.1 million, of substantially all of the operating assets of HealthMarket, Inc., a Norwalk, Connecticut-based provider of consumer

driven health plans (CDHPs) to the small business (2 to 200 employees) marketplace. In the acquisition, MEGA acquired HealthMarket s administrative platform and substantially all of HealthMarket s CDHP technology, fixed assets and personnel. In the transaction, HealthMarket retained ownership of American Travelers Assurance Company (ATAC), a wholly owned insurance subsidiary of HealthMarket. As part of the acquisition, Chesapeake entered into an assumption reinsurance agreement with HealthMarket and ATAC, pursuant to which Chesapeake agreed to pay a contingent renewal fee to HealthMarket. This renewal fee has been and will be reflected as goodwill and/or other intangible assets, as and when Chesapeake issues a renewal policy to a former ATAC policyholder.

For financial reporting purposes, the HealthMarket transaction was accounted for using the purchase method of accounting, and, as a result, the assets and liabilities acquired were recorded at fair value on the dates acquired, and the Consolidated Statement of Operations includes the results of operations of HealthMarket from the date of acquisition. The effect of this acquisition on the Company s results of operations was not material, and, accordingly,

#### NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

pro forma financial information has not been presented. In connection with the HealthMarket acquisition agreement and assumption reinsurance agreement, the Company had recorded goodwill and other intangible assets in the aggregate amount of \$31.3 million at December 31, 2004. During 2005, the Company recorded an additional \$7.1 million in goodwill and other intangible assets related to the assumption reinsurance agreement.

Effective December 31, 2003, the Company terminated a coinsurance arrangement and the Company settled the purchase price for the novation of certain coinsured policies to the Company. The net effect of the transaction resulted in cost of policies acquired in the amount of \$5.0 million.

# **Dispositions**

On November 18, 2003, the Company completed the sale of its former Academic Management Services Corp. ( AMS ) unit. The sale of AMS generated net cash proceeds to UICI of approximately \$27.8 million. At closing, UICI also received uninsured student loan assets formerly held by AMS special purpose financing subsidiaries with a face amount of approximately \$44.3 million (including accrued interest). In anticipation of the sale of AMS, in the third quarter of 2003, the Company wrote down the carrying value of these loans to fair value, which was significantly less than the face amount of the loans. As part of the transaction, the purchaser agreed to assume responsibility for liquidating and terminating the remaining special purpose financing facilities through which AMS previously securitized student loans.

On March 31, 2004, the Company completed the sale of all of the remaining uninsured student loan assets that had been retained by the Company at the November 18, 2003 sale of AMS and reflected as held-for-sale assets on the Company s consolidated balance sheet at December 31, 2003. The sale in 2004 of the uninsured student loans generated gross cash proceeds in the amount of approximately \$25.0 million.

At December 31, 2002, the Company beneficially held approximately 45% of the issued and outstanding shares of Healthaxis, Inc. (HAXS: Nasdaq) (HAI). Effective September 30, 2003, the Company sold to HAI its entire equity interest in HAI for a total sale price of \$3.9 million, of which \$500,000 was paid in cash at closing, and the balance was paid by delivery of a promissory note payable to the Company in the amount of \$3.4 million. The Company recognized a nominal loss for financial reporting purposes in connection with the sale. Prior to the disposition in September 2003 of its equity stake in HAI, the Company accounted for its investment in HAI utilizing the equity method and recognized its ratable share of HAI income and loss.

## **Note C** Investments

A summary of net investment income is set forth below:

	Ŋ	Year Endo	ed Decemb	er 3	r 31,	
	200:	-	2004 housands)		2003	
Fixed maturities	\$ 76,4	418 \$	73,453	\$	60,479	
Equity securities		89	535		2,310	

Mortgage loans	227	367	503
Policy loans	1,051	1,184	1,190
Short-term and other investments	9,778	1,797	4,785
Agents receivables	3,692	3,583	3,799
Student loans	8,692	6,689	6,174
Less investment expenses	99,947 2,159	87,608 1,740	79,240 1,579
	\$ 97,788	\$ 85,868	\$ 77,661

# NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

Realized gains and (losses) and the change in unrealized investment gains and (losses) on fixed maturity and equity security investments are summarized as follows:

	Fixed Maturities					Equity Other Securities Investments (In thousands)		estments	Gains osses) on vestments
Year Ended December 31: 2005 Realized Change in unrealized	\$	(1,192) (42,902)	\$	10 (114)	\$	422	\$ (760) (43,016)		
Combined	\$	, , ,	\$	(104)	\$	422	\$ (43,776)		
2004 Realized Change in unrealized	\$	731 (3,972)	\$	3,570 (2,905)	\$	2,370	\$ 6,671 (6,877)		
Combined	\$	(3,241)	\$	665	\$	2,370	\$ (206)		
2003 Realized Change in unrealized	\$	1,033 (1,417)	\$	41,783 (25,856)	\$	(3,105)	\$ 39,711 (27,273)		
Combined	\$	(384)	\$	15,927	\$	(3,105)	\$ 12,438		

Gross unrealized investment gains pertaining to equity securities were \$28,000, \$28,000 and \$2.9 million, at December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively. Gross unrealized investment losses pertaining to equity securities were \$189,000, \$75,000 and \$-0- at December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively.

The amortized cost and fair value of investments in fixed maturities are as follows:

An	nortized Cost	Gross Unrealiz Gains (In	zed	Uni L	Gross realized Josses s)	Fai	ir Value
\$	87,003	\$	62	\$	(1,137)	\$	85,928

Edgar Filing: UICI - Form 10-K

U.S. Treasury and U.S. Government agency						
obligations						
Mortgage-backed securities issued by						
U.S. Government agencies and authorities	251	,418		634	(4,201)	247,851
Other mortgage and asset backed securities	184	1,557		1,174	(3,565)	182,166
Other corporate bonds	973	3,362	12	2,980	(17,822)	968,520
Total fixed maturities	\$ 1,496	5,340	\$ 14	4,850	\$ (26,725)	\$ 1,484,465

# UICI AND SUBSIDIARIES NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

	<b>December 31, 2004</b>								
				Gross		Gross			
	A	mortized	Un	realized	Un	realized			
		Cost	(	Gains	_	Losses	F	air Value	
			(In thousands)						
U.S. Treasury and U.S. Government agency									
obligations	\$	59,067	\$	618	\$	(335)	\$	59,350	
Mortgage-backed securities issued by									
U.S. Government agencies and authorities		328,416		3,985		(684)		331,717	
Other mortgage and asset backed securities		196,678		3,618		(1,474)		198,822	
Other corporate bonds		916,043		31,226		(5,927)		941,342	
Total fixed maturities	\$	1,500,204	\$	39,447	\$	(8,420)	\$	1,531,231	

Fair values for fixed maturity securities are based on quoted market prices, where available. For fixed maturity securities not actively traded, fair values are estimated using values obtained from quotation services.

The amortized cost and fair value of fixed maturities at December 31, 2005, by contractual maturity, are shown below. Fixed maturities subject to early or unscheduled prepayments have been included based upon their contractual maturity dates. Actual maturities will differ from contractual maturities because borrowers may have the right to call or prepay obligations with or without call or prepayment penalties.

	December 31, 2005  Amortized  Cost Fair Value  (In thousands)						
Maturity	ф	115 106	Ф	114 677			
One year or less	\$	115,136	\$	114,675			
Over 1 year through 5 years		398,970		395,118			
Over 5 years through 10 years		344,149		341,056			
Over 10 years		202,110		203,599			
		1,060,365		1,054,448			
Mortgage and asset backed securities		435,975		430,017			
Total fixed maturities	\$	1,496,340	\$	1,484,465			

Proceeds from the sale and call of investments in fixed maturities were \$181.8 million, \$177.4 million and \$200.3 million for 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively. Gross gains of \$4.6 million, \$5.4 million and \$9.3 million, and

gross losses of \$1.7 million, \$1.1 million and \$4.3 million were realized on the sale and call of fixed maturity investments during 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively.

Proceeds from the sale of equity investments were \$10,000, \$17.3 million and \$81.3 million for 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively. Gross gains of \$10,000, \$3.6 million and \$43.7 million and gross losses of \$-0-, \$-0- and \$803,000 were realized on sales of equity investments during 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively.

Set forth below is a summary of the Company s equity securities:

		December	<b>December 31, 2005</b>						
			Fair		Fair				
		Cost	Value	Cost	Value				
			(In thousands)						
Common stocks	non-affiliate	\$ 1,508	\$ 1,347	\$ 1,508	\$ 1,461				

The fair value, which represents carrying amounts of equity securities, is based on quoted market prices.

# NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

The carrying amounts of the Company s investments in mortgage loans approximate fair value, which is estimated using a discounted cash flow analysis, utilizing a discount rate equal to the rate currently being offered for similar loans to borrowers with similar credit ratings. The carrying values for mortgage loans are net of allowance of \$55,000 and \$324,000 at December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively.

The carrying amounts of the Company s investment in policy loans approximate fair value which is estimated using discounted cash flow analysis at a rate for similar loans at contractual rates for policy loans from currently marketed policies.

The Company minimizes its credit risk associated with its fixed maturities portfolio by investing primarily in investment grade securities. Included in fixed maturities is a concentration of mortgage and asset backed securities. At December 31, 2005, the Company had a carrying amount of \$430.0 million of mortgage and asset backed securities, of which \$247.9 million were government backed, \$158.1 million were rated AAA, \$2.7 million were rated AA, \$14.2 million were rated A, \$4.8 million were rated BBB, and \$2.3 million were rated below investment grade by external rating agencies. At December 31, 2004, the Company had a carrying amount of \$530.5 million of mortgage and asset backed securities, of which \$331.7 million were government backed, \$172.6 million were rated AAA, \$11.6 million were rated A, \$5.6 million were rated BBB, and \$9.0 million were rated below investment grade by external rating agencies.

During 2005, 2004 and 2003, the Company recorded impairment charges for certain fixed maturities and equity securities in the amount of \$4.1 million related to fixed maturities, \$3.6 million related to fixed maturities and \$5.1 million (\$4.0 million for fixed maturities and \$1.1 million for equity securities), respectively. The impairment charges are reflected in the Company s consolidated statement of operations under the caption Gains (losses) on sale of investments.

Set forth below is a summary of the Company s gross unrealized losses in its fixed maturities as of December 31, 2005:

Description of Securities	Unrealized Loss Less Than 12 Months Fair Unrealized Value Losses		Unrealized Loss 12 Months or longer Fair Unrealized Value Losses (In thousands)			Total Fair Unrealized Value Losses					
U.S. Treasury obligations and direct obligations of U.S. Government agencies Mortgage backed securities	\$ 61,872	\$	747	\$	13,632	\$	390	\$	75,504	\$	1,137
issued by U.S. Government agencies and authorities	145,168		2,077		68,632		2,124		213,800		4,201
Other mortgage and asset backed securities	67,635		947		78,020		2,618		145,655		3,565

Corporate bonds	380,079	7,642	260,044	10,180	640,123	17,822
Total securities	\$ 654.754	\$ 11.413	\$ 420.328	\$ 15.312	\$ 1.075,082	\$ 26,725

At December 31, 2005, the Company had \$26.7 million of unrealized losses in its fixed maturities portfolio. Of the \$11.4 million in unrealized losses that have existed for less than twelve months, only three securities had an unrealized loss in excess of 10% of the security s cost. The aggregate amount of unrealized loss attributed to the securities in excess of 10% of the securities cost was \$893,000 at December 31, 2005. Of the \$15.3 million in unrealized losses that have existed for twelve months or longer, only one security had an unrealized loss in excess of 10% of the security s cost. The amount of unrealized loss with respect to that security was \$122,000 at December 31,

# NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

2005. The Company continually monitors these investments and believes that, as of December 31, 2005, the unrealized loss in these investments is temporary.

Set forth below is a summary of the Company s gross unrealized losses in its fixed maturities as of December 31, 2004:

	Unrealized Loss Less Than 12 Months			Unrealized Loss 12 Months or longer				Total			
Description of Securities		Fair Value	_	realized Losses	Fair Value (In thou	Ι	realized Losses ds)		Fair Value		realized Losses
US Treasury obligations and direct obligations of US Government agencies Mortgage backed securities issued by U.S. Government	\$	10,889	\$	182	\$ 2,887	\$	153	\$	13,776	\$	335
agencies and authorities Other mortgage and asset backed		66,191		319	37,621		365		103,812		684
securities Corporate bonds		44,138 144,427		480 1,533	56,802 151,190		994 4,394		100,940 295,617		1,474 5,927
Total securities	\$	265,645	\$	2,514	\$ 248,500	\$	5,906	\$	514,145	\$	8,420

The Company regularly monitors its investment portfolio to attempt to minimize its concentration of credit risk in any single issuer. Set forth in the table below is a schedule of all investments representing greater than 1% of the Company s aggregate investment portfolio at December 31, 2005 and 2004, excluding U.S. Government securities:

	December 31,					
	2005 200			04		
	Carrying Amount	% of Total Carrying Value (Dollars in t	Carrying Amount housands)	% of Total Carrying Value		
Fixed Maturities: Federal National Mortgage Corporation Short-term investments:	\$ 25,370	1.4%	\$ 18,038	1.0%		
Fidelity Institutional Money Market Fund	\$ 200,900	11.3%	\$ 122,793	7.1%		

The Fidelity Institutional Money Market Fund is a diversified institutional money market fund that invests solely in the highest quality United States dollar denominated money market securities of domestic and foreign issuers.

At December 31, 2002, the Company beneficially held approximately 45% of the issued and outstanding shares of Healthaxis, Inc. (HAI). Effective September 30, 2003, the Company sold to HAI its entire 48.27% equity interest in HAI for a total sale price of \$3.9 million, of which \$500,000 was paid in cash at closing and the balance was paid by delivery of a promissory note payable to the Company in the amount of \$3.4 million. The Company recognized a nominal loss for financial reporting purposes in connection with the sale. *See* Note K for a discussion of various transactions between the Company and HAI prior to its disposition in September 2003.

Under the terms of various reinsurance agreements (*see* Note G), the Company is required to maintain assets in escrow with a fair value equal to the statutory reserves assumed under the reinsurance agreements. Under these agreements, the Company had on deposit, securities with a fair value of approximately \$57.3 million and \$64.4 million as of December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively. In addition, domestic insurance subsidiaries had securities with a fair value of \$17.1 million and \$17.0 million on deposit with insurance departments in various states at December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively.

#### NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

In 2005, the Company started a securities lending program, under which the Company lends fixed-maturity securities to financial institutions in short-term lending transactions. The Company maintains effective control over the loaned securities by virtue of the ability to unilaterally cause the holder to return the loaned security on demand. These securities continue to be carried as investment assets on the Company s balance sheet during the term of the loans and are not reported as sales. The Company s security lending policy requires that the fair value of the cash and securities received as collateral be 102% or more of the fair value of the loaned securities. The collateral received is restricted and cannot be used by the Company unless the borrower defaults under the terms of the agreement. These short-term security lending arrangements increase investment income with minimal risk. At December 31, 2005, securities on loan to various borrowers totaled \$45.4 million.

#### Note D Student Loans

The Company holds alternative (*i.e.*, non-federally guaranteed) student loans extended to students at selected colleges and universities. These loans were initially generated under the Company s College First Alternative Loan program. The student loans guaranteed by private insurers are guaranteed 100% as to principal and accrued interest.

At the closing of the sale of Academic Management Services Corp. in November 2003, UICI received uninsured student loan assets formerly held by AMS—special purpose financing subsidiaries, which were subsequently sold in the first quarter of 2004. *See* Note Q for the discussion of AMS discontinued operations.

Set forth below is a summary of the student loans held by the Company at December 31, 2005 and 2004:

		Decembe Carrying Amount	E	31, 2005 Decembrated Carrying Fair Value Amount (In thousands)		Carrying Amount	er 31, 2004 Estimated Fair Value	
Student loans guaranteed by private insurers Student loans non-guaranteed Allowance for losses	\$	83,179 29,351 (2,722)	\$	83,179 28,178	\$	83,437 29,459 (3,608)	\$	83,437 28,281
Total student loans	\$	109,808	\$	111,357	\$	109,288	\$	111,718

Of the aggregate \$109.8 million and \$109.3 million carrying amount of student loans held by the Company at December 31, 2005 and 2004, \$109.6 million and \$109.1 million, respectively, were pledged to secure payment of secured student loan indebtedness. *See* Note H.

The Company estimates the fair value of student loans based on values of recent sales of student loans from the Company into the secured student loan credit facility. *See* Note H.

The Company s provision for losses on student loans is summarized as follows:

	2005	December 31, 2004 (In thousands)	2003
Balance at beginning of year Change in provision for losses	\$ 3,608 (886		\$ 941 735
Balance at end of year	\$ 2,722	2 \$ 3,608	\$ 1,676

The Company recognized interest income from continuing operations from the student loans of \$8.7 million, \$6.7 million and \$6.2 million in 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively, which is included in the investment income category on the Company s consolidated statements of operations.

# NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

# Note E Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets

Set forth in the tables below is a summary of the goodwill and other intangible assets by operating division as of December 31, 2005 and 2004:

	December 31, 2005 Other					
	Goodwill	Intangible Assets	Accumulated Amortization ousands)	Net		
Insurance: Self-Employed Agency Division Star HRG Division Life Insurance Division Other Key Factors	\$ 44,049 33,640 552 225	\$ 3,788 8,858	\$ (6,673) (5,242) (193)	\$ 41,164 37,256 359 225		
	\$ 78,466	\$ 12,646	\$ (12,108)	\$ 79,004		
		Decemb Other	per 31, 2004			
	Goodwill	Intangible Assets (In th	Accumulated Amortization ousands)	Net		
Insurance: Self-Employed Agency Division Star HRG Division Life Insurance Division Other Key Factors	\$ 39,489 33,640 552 225	\$ 1,238 8,858	\$ (4,024) (4,160) (193)	\$ 36,703 38,338 359 225		
	\$ 73,906	\$ 10,096	\$ (8,377)	\$ 75,625		

Other intangible assets consist of customer lists, trademark and non-compete agreements related to the acquisitions of HealthMarket (completed in October 2004) and of Star HRG (completed February 28, 2002). *See* Note B.

The Company recorded amortization expense associated with other intangibles in continuing operations in the amount of \$3.7 million, \$1.3 million and \$1.5 million in 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively. Amortization expense in 2005 includes an impairment charge in the amount of \$1.7 million related to the HealthMarket customer list acquired in

# October 2004.

Set forth in the table below is a summary of the estimated amortization expense for the next five years and thereafter for other intangible assets:

		(In thousands)			
2006		\$	1,394		
2007			1,021		
2008			801		
2009			641		
2010			429		
2011 and thereafter			417		
		\$	4,703		
	E 24				
	F-24				

# NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

# **Note F** Policy Liabilities

As more fully described below, policy liabilities consist of future policy and contract benefits, claim liabilities, unearned premiums and other policy liabilities.

# Future Policy and Contract Benefits

Liability for future policy and contract benefits consisted of the following at December 31, 2005 and 2004:

	Decemb	1,		
	2005	2	2004	
	(In thousands)			
Accident & Health	\$ 94,124	\$	93,252	
Life	241,800		232,189	
Annuity	112,068	į	118,787	
	\$ 447,992	\$ 4	444,228	

Set forth below is a detailed summary of benefits, claims and settlement expenses net of reinsurance for the each of the years ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003:

	Year Ended December 31,							
		2005	(In	2004 thousands)		2003		
Future liability and contract benefits Claims benefits	\$	25,409 1,066,727	\$	29,394 1,105,507	\$	32,081 1,013,559		
Total benefits, claims and settlement expenses	\$	1,092,136	\$	1,134,901	\$	1,045,640		

#### Accident and Health Policies

With respect to accident and health insurance, future policy benefits are primarily attributable to a return-of-premium (ROP) rider that the Company has issued with certain health policies. Pursuant to this rider, the Company undertakes to return to the policyholder on or after age 65 all premiums paid less claims reimbursed under the policy. The ROP rider also provides that the policyholder may receive a portion of the benefit prior to age 65. The Company records an ROP liability to fund longer-term obligations associated with the ROP rider. The future policy benefits for the ROP are computed using the net level premium method using assumptions with respect to current investment yield,

mortality and withdrawal rates, and annual increases in future gross premiums determined to be appropriate at the time the business was first acquired by the Company, with an implicit margin for adverse deviations. A claim offset for actual benefits paid through the reporting date is applied to the ROP liability for all policies on a contract-by-contract basis. The ROP liabilities reflected in future policy and contract benefits on the Company s consolidated balance sheet were \$88.1 million and \$86.0 million at December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively.

The remainder of the future policy benefits for accident and health are principally contract reserves on issue-age rated policies, reserves for other riders providing future benefits, and reserves for the refund of a portion of premium as required by state law. These liabilities are typically calculated as the present value of future benefits less the present value of future net premiums, computed on a net level premium basis using assumptions determined to be appropriate as of the date the business was acquired by the Company. These assumptions may include current investment yield, mortality, withdrawal rates, or other assumptions determined to be appropriate. Substantially all accident and health insurance future policy benefit liability interest assumptions range from 4.0% to 5.0%.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

Life Policies and Annuity Contracts

With respect to traditional life insurance, future policy benefits are computed on a net level premium method using assumptions with respect to current investment yield, mortality and withdrawal rates determined to be appropriate as of the date the business was acquired by the Company. Substantially all liability interest assumptions range from 3.0% to 5.5%. Such liabilities are graded to equal statutory values or cash values prior to maturity.

Interest rates credited to future contract benefits related to universal life-type contracts approximated 4.6% during each of 2005, 2004 and 2003. Interest rates credited to the liability for future contract benefits related to direct annuity contracts generally ranged from 3.0% to 5.5% during 2005, 2004 and 2003.

The Company has assumed certain life and annuity business from a company, utilizing the same actuarial assumptions as the ceding company. The liability for future policy benefits related to life business has been calculated using an interest rate of 9% graded to 5% over twenty years for life policies. Mortality and withdrawal rates are based on published industry tables or experience of the ceding company and include margins for adverse deviation. Interest rates credited to the liability for future contract benefits related to these annuity contracts generally ranged from 3.0% to 4.5% during 2005 and 2004 and 3.0% to 5.5% during 2003.

#### Annuities

The carrying amounts and fair values of the Company s liabilities for investment-type contracts (included in future policy and contract benefits and other policy liabilities in the consolidated balance sheets) at December 31, 2005 and 2004 were as follows:

	December 31, 2005 Carrying				December 31, 2004 Carrying				
	Amount		Fa	Fair Value		Amount		Fair Value	
				(In tho	usands)				
Direct annuities	\$	61,584	\$	59,737	\$	64,389	\$	62,837	
Assumed annuities		49,037		49,034		53,056		53,053	
Supplemental contracts without life contingencies		1,447		1,447		1,342		1,342	
	\$	112,068	\$	110,218	\$	118,787	\$	117,232	

Fair values under investment-type contracts consisting of direct annuities and supplemental contracts without life contingencies are estimated using the assumption-reinsurance pricing method, based on estimating the amount of profits or losses an assuming company would realize, and then discounting those amounts at a current market interest rate. Fair values for the Company s liabilities under assumed annuity investment-type contracts are estimated using the cash surrender value of the annuity.

# Claims Liabilities

The Company establishes liabilities for benefit claims that have been reported but not paid and claims that have been incurred but not reported under health and life insurance contracts. Consistent with overall company philosophy, a single best estimate claim liability is determined which is expected to be adequate under most circumstances. This estimate is developed using actuarial principles and assumptions that consider a number of items as appropriate, including but not limited to historical and current claim payment patterns, product variations, the timely implementation of appropriate rate increases and seasonality. The Company does not develop ranges in the setting of the claims liability reported in the financial statements. However, to the extent not already reflected in the actuarial analyses, management also considers qualitative factors that may affect the ultimate benefit levels to determine its best estimate of the claims liability. These qualitative considerations include, among others, the

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

impact of medical inflation, utilization of health services, exposure levels, product mix, pending claim levels and other relevant factors.

Effective January 1, 2003, the Company implemented a new incurred date coding definition to establish incurred dates under the developmental method in the SEA Division. See discussion below under the caption 2003 Change in Claims and Future Benefit Liability Estimates Self-Employed Agency Division Claims Liability Changes.

The SEA Division also makes various refinements to the claim liabilities as appropriate. These refinements estimate liabilities for circumstances, such as an excess pending claims inventory (*i.e.*, inventories of pending claims in excess of historical levels) and disputed claims. For example, the Company closely monitors the level of claims that are pending. When the level of pending claims appears to be in excess of normal levels, the Company typically establishes a liability for excess pending claims. The Company believes that such an excess pending claims liability is appropriate under such circumstances because of the operation of the developmental method used by the Company to calculate the principal claim liability, which method develops or completes paid claims to estimate the claim liability. When the pending claims inventory is higher than would ordinarily be expected, the level of paid claims is correspondingly lower than would ordinarily be expected. This lower level of paid claims, in turn, results in the developmental method yielding a smaller claim liability than would have been yielded with a normal level of paid claims, resulting in the need for augmented claim liabilities.

With respect to its Student Insurance and Star HRG businesses, the Company assigns incurred dates based on the date of service. This definition estimates the liability for all medical services received by the insured prior to the end of the applicable financial period. Appropriate adjustments are made in the completion factors to account for pending claim inventory changes and contractual continuation of coverage beyond the end of the financial period.

#### 2005 Change in Claim Liability Estimates Self-Employed Agency Division

As more particularly described below, results at the SEA Division for the year ended December 31, 2005 reflected benefits attributable to refinements of the Company s estimate for its claim liability on its health insurance products. For financial reporting purposes, each of these refinements is considered to be a change in estimate, resulting from additional information and subsequent developments from prior periods. Accordingly, the financial impact of the refinements was accounted for in the respective periods that the refinements occurred.

Results at the SEA Division for the year ended December 31, 2005 reflected a benefit in the amount of \$33.3 million recorded in the third quarter of 2005 attributable to a refinement of the Company s estimate for its claim liability on its health insurance products. The largest portion of the adjustment (approximately \$21.0 million) was attributable to a refinement of the estimate of the unpaid claim liability for the most recent incurral months. The Company utilizes anticipated loss ratios to calculate the estimated claim liability for the most recent incurral months. Despite negligible premium rate increases implemented on its most popular scheduled health insurance products, the SEA Division has continued to observe favorable claims experience and, as a result, loss ratios have not increased as rapidly as anticipated. This favorable claims experience has been reflected in the refinement of the anticipated loss ratios used in estimating the unpaid claim liability for the most recent incurral months. The remaining portion of the adjustment to the claim liability (approximately \$12.3 million) was attributable to an update of the completion factors used in the developmental method of estimating the unpaid claim liability to reflect more current claims administration practices.

In addition, effective January 1, 2005, the Company s SEA Division made certain refinements to its claim liability calculations, the effect of which decreased claim liabilities and correspondingly increased operating income in the amount of \$7.6 million in the first quarter of 2005. Since 2000 the SEA Division has offered as an optional benefit to its scheduled/basic health insurance products a rider that provides for catastrophic coverage for covered expenses under the base insurance contract that exceed \$100,000 or \$75,000, depending on the benefit level chosen. This rider pays benefits at 100% after the stop loss is reached, up to the aggregate maximum amount of the

#### NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

contract. Prior to January 1, 2005, the SEA Division utilized a technique that is commonly used to estimate claims liabilities with respect to developing blocks of business, until sufficient experience is obtained to allow more precise estimates. The Company believed that the technique produced appropriate reserve estimates in all prior periods. During the first quarter of 2005, the Company believed that there were sufficient claims paid on this benefit to produce a reserve estimate utilizing the completion factor technique. As a result, effective January 1, 2005, the SEA Division refined its technique used to estimate claim liabilities to utilize completion factors for older incurral dates. The technique continues to utilize anticipated loss ratios in the most recent incurral months. This completion factor technique is currently utilized with respect to all other blocks of the SEA Division s health insurance business.

# 2003 Change in Claims and Future Benefit Liability Estimates Self-Employed Agency Division

Effective January 1, 2003, the Company s SEA Division made certain refinements to its claim and future policy benefit liability calculations, the net effect of which decreased claim and future policy benefit liabilities and correspondingly increased operating income reported by the SEA Division in the amount of \$4.8 million in the first quarter of 2003. Set forth below is a summary of the adjustments and changes in accounting estimates made in 2003 by the Company.

## ROP Liability Changes

The Company has issued certain health policies with a return-of-premium (ROP) rider, pursuant to which the Company undertakes to return to the policyholder on or after age 65 all premiums paid less claims reimbursed under the policy. The ROP rider also provides that the policyholder may receive a portion of the benefit prior to age 65. Prior to January 1, 2003, the Company established a liability for future ROP benefits, which liability was calculated by applying mid-terminal reserve factors (calculated on two-year preliminary term basis, using 5% interest, 1958 CSO mortality terminations, and level future gross premiums) to the current premium on a contract-by-contract basis. A claim offset was applied, on a contract-by-contract basis, solely with respect to an older closed block of policies, utilizing only claims paid to date, with no assumption of future claims.

The Company records an ROP liability to fund longer-term obligations associated with the ROP rider. This liability is impacted both by the techniques utilized to calculate the liability and the many assumptions underlying the calculation, including interest rates, policy lapse rates, premium rate increases on policies and assumptions with regard to claims paid. The Company had previously utilized a simplified estimation technique (described above) that it believed generated an appropriate ROP liability in the aggregate. However, the Company reviewed its ROP estimation technique in order to determine if refinements to the technique were appropriate. As a result of such review, and as more particularly described below, effective January 1, 2003, the ROP estimation technique was refined to utilize new mid-terminal reserve factors (calculated on a net level basis, using 4.5% interest, 1958 CSO mortality, and primarily 10% annual increases in future gross premiums) and to apply these factors to the historical premium payments on a contract-by-contract basis.

The net premium assumption was revised from two-year preliminary term to net level in order to produce a more appropriate accrual for the liability of the ROP benefits in relation to the premiums. The interest rate assumption was reduced from 5% to 4.5% to reflect current investment yields. Since the ROP rider is primarily attached to attained-age rated health insurance products that are subject to periodic rate adjustment, the Company has determined as part of its ongoing review of the ROP estimation technique to increase its ROP liability to cover reasonably foreseeable changes to the future gross premium. Based on Company experience, the revised reserve factors incorporate an assumption of a 10% average annual increase in future gross premiums on such products. The

estimation technique was also refined to use historical premiums and anticipated future premium increases in the calculation of future benefits rather than calculating the liability only from the current gross premium. Finally, a claim offset for actual benefits paid through the reporting date is applied to the ROP liability for all policies on a contract-by-contract basis. In the original simplified estimation technique, the intent was to balance the offsetting effects of applying the two-year preliminary term factors to the current gross premiums since the historical premium

#### NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

information was not available. Changes to the technique were made in 2003 when sufficient historical premium information was available to refine the estimation calculation. Substantially all of the effect of this change in estimating the liability for future ROP benefits was attributable to the refinement of adding the assumption of a 10% average annual increase in the level of future gross premiums for attained-age rated health insurance products.

As a result of these changes, the liability for future ROP benefits increased, and operating income correspondingly decreased, by \$12.9 million during the first quarter of 2003.

Assumptions used in the estimation of the Company s ROP liability, such as interest or the annual increases in future gross premiums, will continue to be used in subsequent accounting periods for those benefits already issued, including the future gross premiums anticipated by the reserve factors. Changes in assumptions may be applied to newly issued policies as well as for adjustments in the level of premium for existing policies other than those already anticipated. The new assumptions used will be those appropriate at the time the change is made.

The ROP liabilities in the amount of \$88.1 million and \$86.0 million at December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively, are reflected in future policy and contract benefits on the Company s consolidated balance sheet.

# Claims Liability Changes

The SEA Division utilizes the developmental method to estimate claims liabilities. Under the developmental method, completion factors are applied to claim payments in order to estimate the ultimate claim payments. These completion factors are derived from historical experience and are dependent on the incurred dates of the claim payments.

Prior to January 1, 2003, the Company utilized the original incurred date coding definition to establish the date a policy claim is incurred under the developmental method. Under the original incurred date coding definition, prior to the end of the period in which a health policy claim was made, the Company estimated and recorded a liability for the cost of all medical services related to the accident or sickness relating to the claim, even though the medical services associated with such accident or sickness might not be rendered to the insured until a later financial reporting period.

Due to the anticipation of a future increase in the level of favorable development associated with the growth in business, the SEA Division undertook an analysis of the liability estimation process. The Company believes that the developmental method is the standard methodology within the health insurance industry and therefore re-evaluated the key assumptions utilized under this method. As the Company gained more experience with the older blocks of business, the original incurred date coding assumption was re-examined. This re-examination resulted in the decision to utilize a new incurred date definition instead of the original incurred date definition for purposes of establishing claim liabilities at the SEA Division.

Effective January 1, 2003, the Company implemented a new incurred date coding definition to establish incurred dates under the developmental method in the SEA Division. Under this new incurred date coding definition, a break in service of more than six months will result in the establishment of a new incurred date for subsequent services. In addition, under this new incurred date coding definition, claim payments continuing more than thirty-six months without a six month break in service will result in the establishment of a new incurred date. This change in the incurred date definition assumption resulted in a reduction in the estimated claim liabilities at the SEA Division, and a corresponding increase in oper