



MPI 2018 International Board Slates Announced

DALLAS, December 1, 2017 — Meeting Professionals International (MPI) announces the approved slate for its 2018 International Board of Directors and the 2018 MPI Foundation Global Board of Trustees today.

“I am very proud of the interest received from our membership to be part of MPI’s International Board. The new slate of directors represents thought leadership and experience that will make a difference at the leadership level of this organization. Their perspectives and contributions will help to grow and advance the global meeting and event community,” said Fiona Pelham, chair of the MPI Board Development Committee.

Board members, trustees and officers will take office effective January 1, 2018, for the term of January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018.

2018 MPI International Board of Directors

The slate of officers includes:

- Chair: **Amanda Armstrong**, CMP, Corporate Travel and Meetings Director, Enterprise Holdings, Inc., San Diego, California, United States (previously elected)
- Chair-Elect: **Steve O’Malley**, Division President, Maritz Travel, St. Louis, Missouri, United States
- Vice Chair Finance: **Michael Massari**, Chief Sales Officer, Caesars Entertainment, Las Vegas, Nevada, United States
- Immediate Past Chair: **Brian Stevens**, Chief Executive Officer, ConferenceDirect, California, United States

The new directors that will join the board for the 2018 year include:

- **Antonio Ducceschi**, CMM, CHBA, General Manager Cluster, Collezione Starhotels, Florence, Italy
- **Brent Taylor**, B.A., CMP, CMM, Partner, Timewise Event Management Inc., Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
- **Michelle Allgauer**, CAE, CMM, CMP, Vice President of Meetings, Marketing & Education, Financial Services Institute (FSI), Washington, D.C., United States
- **Kaaren Hamilton**, Vice President of Global Group Sales, Carlson Rezidor Hotel Group, New York, New York, United State
- **Vince LaRuffa**, Senior Vice President of Resort Sales and Marketing, Universal Orlando Resorts, Universal, Florida, United States
- **Miguel Neves**, CMP, Founder & CEO, Social Media Chefs, London, United Kingdom
- **Stephen Revetria**, Senior Vice President, Giants Enterprises, San Francisco, California, United States

Returning board members include:

- **Bonnie Carlson**, CDME, President & CEO, Bloomington Convention & Visitors Bureau, Bloomington, Minnesota, United States
- **Jason Carroll**, CMP, Executive Director, Tampa Riverwalk Organization, Tampa, Florida, United States
- **Annette Gregg**, CMM, MBA, Regional Sr. Vice President West, AlliedPRA, San Diego, California, United States
- **Kevin Olsen**, President, Founding Partner, Keyway, LLC, Aurora, Illinois, United States
- **Helle Svaneborg**, Exhibition and Conference Director, Danish Pharmaceutical Information, Copenhagen, Denmark

2018 MPI Foundation Global Board of Trustees

The slate of officers include:

- Chair: **Jim Russell**, Executive Vice President-Sales, Freeman, Dallas, Texas, United States (previously elected)
- Chair-Elect: **Carole McKellar**, MA, CMM, Managing Director, Northern Europe, HelmsBriscoe, Macclesfield, United Kingdom
- Vice Chair Programs – **Chandra Allison**, Vice President Sales, The Venetian and The Palazzo Hotels, Las Vegas, Nevada, United States
- Vice Chair Development – **Trevor Lui**, Director Operations and Sustainability, The International Centre, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- Vice Chair Finance – **Alison Taylor**, Senior Vice President, American Airlines, Dallas, Texas, United States

New trustees include:

- Europe Council Chair: **Julie Krüger**, Business Development Director – International, Freeman, Dallas, Texas, United States
- US Council Chair: **Marti Winer**, Chief of Staff, Drew University, Madison, New Jersey, United States
- Canada Council Chair: **Jennifer Beatty**, Managing Director, resitada, Inc., Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- Chapter Liaison, **Kevin Kirby**, Principal, The Kirby Consulting Group LLC, Orlando, Florida, United States
- **Gary Schirmacher**, Senior Vice President, Industry Presence & Strategic Development, Experient, A Maritz Global Events Company, Denver, Colorado, United States

Returning trustees include:

- **D. Bradley Kent**, Senior Vice President & Chief Sales Officer VisitDallas, Dallas, Texas, United States
- **Dawn Parisi**, Vice President, Field Sales, Wyndham Hotel Group, Parsippany, New Jersey, United States

- **Bruce Gudenberg**, Executive Director, Industry Relations, Hilton Worldwide Sales, Washington, D.C., United States
- **Todd Marinko**, Group Vice President, Marketing, PSAV, Coppell, Texas, United States
- **Angela Xavier**, Vice President, Americas Sales, InterContinental Hotel Group, Atlanta, Georgia, United States
- **Doreen Burse**, Vice President, Global Sales, Corporate Accounts, Marriott International, Chicago, Illinois, United States
- **Diana Voto**, National Sales Director, Disney Destinations, New York, New York, United States

About MPI

Meeting Professionals International (MPI) is the largest meeting and event industry association worldwide. The organization provides innovative and relevant education, networking opportunities and business exchanges, and acts as a prominent voice for the promotion and growth of the industry. MPI has a global community of 60,000 meeting and event professionals including more than 17,000 engaged members and its Plan Your Meetings audience. It has more than 90 chapters and clubs in 19 countries. “When we meet, we change the world.”

www.mpiweb.org

About MPI Foundation

The Meeting Professionals International (MPI) Foundation fuels the growth and advancement of MPI members by providing professional development and career opportunities through grants and scholarships. The not-for-profit organization also propels the meeting and event industry forward by funding important and quality research initiatives. For more information, visit www.mpiweb.org/foundation.

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