

# CHANGES



**Linda Bekerian** has been named President of the North American Association of Commencement Officers. Bekerian is the Associate Director of Academic Ceremonies at Northeastern University. She has spent over 15 years coordinating and developing convocation and commencement ceremonies.



**Lucy Roate** has been named Convention Services Manager at The St. Louis CVC. Prior to joining the SLCVC, Roate was Travel Director for Maritz. She also served as an Event Coordinator at the Kemp Auto Museum in Chesterfield, Mo.



**Stacey Bland** has been named Director of Administration at the Tunica CVB in Tunica, Miss. Bland, who joined the bureau in 1997, will oversee the day-to-day operations of the Gateway to the Blues Visitor Center and Gift Shop.



**Dean Clarke** has been named Regional Vice President for Global Spectrum. Clarke will oversee Global Spectrum-managed facilities in British Columbia, including the Encana Events Centre in Dawson Creek. Clarke was previously General Manager of the South Okanagan Events Centre.



**Renee MacDonald** has been named Hilton Orlando's Director of Events and Catering. Most recently, she was the Director of Group Events at the Waldorf Astoria Orlando and Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek, leading a team as Sr. Catering Sales Manager.



**Ernie Arias** has been named Area Director of Sales & Marketing of the Park Hyatt, N.Y., which is expected to open in mid-2014. Arias was previously Director of Sales & Marketing for the Park Hyatt Chicago and Area Director of Sales at Hyatt's corporate headquarters in Chicago.



**Barbara Lopez Kunz** has been named Global Chief Executive at DIA leading the organization as of Sept. 1, 2013. Kunz brings worldwide leadership experience to DIA as former president of the Global Health and Life Sciences business at Battelle, an international science and technology nonprofit organization that explores emerging areas of science.



**Sylvia Knight Norton** has been named the new Executive Director of the American Assn. of School Librarians (AASL), a division of the American Library Assn. (ALA). Norton comes to AASL/ALA from the College of Communication and Information, School of Library and Information Studies, at Florida State University.

## CALENDAR

### October 1

This year's ASAE 14th Annual Summit Awards Dinner at the National Building Museum will honor six organizations for their exemplary programs that improve society, inform the public, promote social responsibility, set performance standards, help individuals gain and apply new skills, and make a better world. These organizations were selected from winners of the "Power of A" Awards program. For more information, please visit [www.asaecenter.org/summitdinner](http://www.asaecenter.org/summitdinner).

### October 13

The Convention Industry Council invites you to the 18th Hall of Leaders

Gala at the Mandalay Bay Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas. The Hall of Leaders award is considered the industry's highest honor, recognizing excellence, career achievement, and inspiration in the global meetings, conventions, exhibitions, travel, and events industry. In three decades, 106 industry pioneers have been inducted into this exclusive club. For more information, please visit [www.conventionindustry.org](http://www.conventionindustry.org).

### October 15-17

Increasing in size and scope annually, IMEX America features the largest Hosted Buyer Program in North America and attracts thousands of buyers and exhibitors from the U.S. and

around the world. The energy at IMEX America is everywhere, connecting everyone with key players, generating innovative ideas, and driving business with the force of global opportunities. For more information, please visit [www.imexamerica.com](http://www.imexamerica.com).

### October 20-23

The DMAI Technology, Finance & Operations Forum is designed for CIOs, CFOs, and COOs employed at each Destination Marketing Organization. Recognizing the benefit of blending responsibility areas into a single professional development event, there will also be unique times to talk with your colleagues about all

aspects of your own position while at Sheraton at the Falls in Niagara Falls. For more information, please visit [www.destinationmarketing.org](http://www.destinationmarketing.org).

### November 2-6

Why should every International Congress and Convention Association member want to be in Shanghai this November for the 52<sup>nd</sup> ICCA Congress? If you're engaged in a globally connected business, you need to understand how China is shaping and driving our global economy. Your business survival might depend on this knowledge. For more information, please visit [www.iccaworld.com](http://www.iccaworld.com).