

## 2015-2016 IAVM SLATE OF OFFICERS



Board Chair: Karen Totaro, CFE

Karen Totaro, CFE is the General Manager of the Atlantic City Convention Center for Spectra (formerly Global Spectrum), a leader in private venue management. Totaro relocated from Cincinnati where she held the position of Assistant General Manager at the Duke Energy Convention Center which was also proudly managed by Spectra. Prior to Cincinnati Totaro served as the Assistant Executive Director at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland for nine years and the Associate Director at the University of Dayton Arena in Dayton, Ohio for five years. She started in the business at the University of Illinois in Champaign/Urbana as the Marketing Manager for the Assembly Hall Arena.

During her career Totaro has had an active role in the International Association of Venue Managers (IAVM) by serving in several capacities which have included: 1st and 2nd Vice Chair of the Board of Directors which equates to two years on the Executive Committee, District 4 Regional Director, a seat on the Board of Governors, Chair of the Transition Committee, Chair of the Education Council, Chair of the Board Development Committee, a member of the Allied Task Force and two years as a member of the Board of Trustees. This past year she served as Chair of the Governance Committee and a second year on the Leadership Development/Nominating Committee. The roles noted included three terms on the IAVM Board of Directors. Totaro was instrumental in the planning of the IAVM Region 4 Conference in Portland and assisted with the Conference planning in Vancouver, Spokane and Seattle as well as the International Convention Center Conference in Portland in 2010. Planning regional Conferences became a great asset when she was asked to Chair the VenueConnect Planning Committee for 2014 in Portland.

Totaro is a graduate of the University of Illinois. In addition she is a graduate of the Public Assembly Facility Management School. She completed the three-year Senior Executive Symposium in 2007 and received her Certified Facilities Executive distinction in 2009.

Originally from Chicago, Totaro grew up in the shadow of the old Comiskey Park (former home of the Chicago White Sox) so venues have always played a significant role in her life and continue to do so. She has an obvious passion for the venue industry, as well as an enduring passion for her beloved Chicago Bears (Da Bears!)



First Vice Chair: Mark Mettes, CFE

Mark Mettes, CFE is the Vice President for the Herberger Theater Center in Phoenix where he has been employed full-time since 1992. Mettes has been active in IAVM for a number of years, including serving on the Board of Directors, the Board of Trustees and as past chair of the Performing Arts Committee and the Audit Committee.

Mettes participated on the Leadership Development/Nominating Committee and has previously been the Chair of the Chapters Committee as well as being on the Industry Affairs Council, the Professional Education Council, Professional Development Committee, the Membership Committee and the History and Awards Recognition Committee.

He is happily married and is the proud father of four children. Mettes is very active in the local community including serving five terms as the President of the Board of Directors for Valley Academy Charter School and three terms as the President of Painted Rock Academy Charter School.



Second Vice Chair: Doug Booher, CFE

Doug Booher, CFE currently serves as Director of Indiana University Auditorium and Major University Events. Known for its presentation of a wide variety of events from university ceremonies and conference events to the latest Rock shows and Broadway attractions, this 3,200 seat proscenium facility has been a model of campus and community programming and engagement since it was built in 1941. In 2010, IU Event Services was created to provide event staffing, management and consulting for major university events including all IU Athletics events at Assembly Hall, Memorial Stadium and Bill Armstrong Stadium. As an integral facet of the university community, IU Auditorium and IU Event Services thrive on student involvement and participation. Each year, over 1000 IU students work in volunteer, internship, and hourly employment roles within the organization. Together, IU Auditorium and Event Services serve nearly one million visitors each year.

Throughout his nineteen year career in venue management Booher has presented extensively in the areas of guest service, event management and artist contract negotiation and serves as an adjunct lecturer in IU's School of Public and Environmental Affairs.

Booher joined IAVM in 1996 and is a graduate of the Public Assembly Facility Management School (now VMS) at Oglebay. He earned his Certified Facilities Executive (CFE) designation in 2010.



Past Chair: Kim Bedier, CFE

Kim Bedier, CFE is Director of Public Assembly Facilities for the City of Tacoma where her portfolio includes the Tacoma Dome, Greater Tacoma Convention and Trade Center, Cheney Stadium and the Pantages, Rialto and Theatre on the Square historic theaters. She has over 25 years of venue leadership experience, including Comcast Arena at Everett (the inaugural Venue Excellence Award winner for Arenas), Air Canada Centre in Toronto and Crystal Centre in Grande Prairie Alberta.

Bedier has served on the IAVM Foundation Board of Trustees, Membership Committee, Facility Manager Editorial Advisory Board, as Chair of the Venue Management School Board of Regents and Arenas Committee, and on the executive committees of IAVM and of IAVM Region 4. She currently instructs at both the IAVM Venue Management School and the Graduate Institute at Oglebay. Bedier has been honored with the Ray Ward Award from VMS for her dedicated service and extraordinary contributions to the overall success and quality of the school. In 2014, she was invited to the faculty of the inaugural Graduate Institute of the Venue Management Association (Asia and Pacific).

In 2007 Bedier was named one of the five inaugural “Women of Influence” in the venue industry by Venues Today. She received the Corporate Executive of the Year Award from the Everett Area Chamber of Commerce and several Service Above Self Awards as a member of the Everett Rotary Club. She is on the boards of the Seattle Sports Commission, Tacoma Regional Convention and Visitors Bureau, and Enduris Washington.



Director – Region 1: Jason E. Poppe

In his current role as the Director of Events and Operations with Georgetown University Athletics, Jason Poppe oversees operations for all home athletic events. Poppe is also heavily involved with the operation of the athletic facilities on-campus and coordinates off-site rental of leased competition sites for multiple athletic programs.

Previously, Poppe has worked at The American University, The University of Chicago, The Gazelle Group, Inc., University of Connecticut and University of Maryland in various events and operations roles.

Poppe is currently involved with IAVM as Director for Region 1 and is additionally involved with the Universities Committee. A 2013 graduate of Venue Management School, he hopes to continue his professional development through the various offerings of IAVM.

Poppe received his Bachelor's Degree in Sports Marketing from the University of Connecticut in 2004 and earned his Master's Degree in Sports Management from the University of Connecticut in 2007.

He currently resides in Derwood, MD with his wife, Kate and son, Jackson.



Director – Region 2: John Robertson, CFE

John Robertson, CFE currently serves as General Manager of the Charleston Civic Center in Charleston, West Virginia. He holds the longest tenure of any General Manager for the Civic Center, starting his role in 1983. Robertson is the chief administrator of the region's largest convention, entertainment and meetings facility consisting of a spectator arena, two performing arts halls and exhibition and meeting facilities. He also held the role of Assistant Manager for the Civic Center from 1978 – 1983.

Prior to working at the Civic Center, Robertson held the position of University of Charleston Dean of Men from 1975 – 1978.

Robertson joined IAVM in 1978 and earned his Certified Facilities Executive (CFE) designation in 1990. He served previously on the Board of Directors from 1996 – 1998 as the District 2 Vice President.

Robertson is also a member of the West Virginia Society of Association Executives, University of Charleston National Alumni Board, Kanawha City Lions Club, and Treasurer of the Charleston Convention and Visitors Bureau. He is married to his wife of 32 years Kimberly and they have two daughters and one grandchild.



Director – Region 3: Angie Teel, CMP

Angie Teel, CMP is currently the Director of Event Services at the St. Charles Convention Center. Teel started in the venue management industry as an Event Manager at the St. Charles Convention Center in May 2007. Shortly thereafter she realized this is what she was meant to do and joined IAVM.

Since joining IAVM in 2008 Teel has served as Missouri State Representative, Region 3 Membership Chair and Region 3 Secretary. She also chaired the 2015 IAVM Region 2 & 3 conference in St. Charles, MO. Teel will be attending the first year of Venue Management School in Wheeling, WV in June 2015.

In her spare time Teel likes to spend time with her two kids (Lucas and Nora) and her husband Ryan as well as refinish old furniture.



Director – Region 4: Adam S. Cook, CFE

Adam Cook, CFE serves as the General Manager for the Rose Quarter in Portland, Oregon. The Rose Quarter is a 30-acre sports and entertainment district comprised of 4 parking garages, a 40,000 sq.ft. convention facility, the Rose Quarter Commons, and two multipurpose arenas – Memorial Coliseum and The Moda Center, a 19,980 seat arena that serves as home to the NBA Portland Trail Blazers, WHL Portland Winterhawks, and AFL Portland Thunder.

Cook relocated from Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, where he held the position of General Manager for Rexall Place and the Edmonton EXPO Centre at Northlands. Prior to this he worked in Everett, Washington with Global Spectrum for the Comcast Arena at Everett, the inaugural recipient of the IAVM Venue Excellence Award for Arenas in 2010. Before settling in the Northwest, Cook worked with Contemporary Services Corporation in Seattle, Miami, and Boston.

Throughout his career, Cook has remained actively involved in IAVM. He is a graduate of the Venue Management School and VMS Graduate Institute, has served on the Arenas and Membership committees, and has been a member of IAVM Region 4's leadership team since 2008, including

serving as the current Director for the Region. He was awarded the designation of Certified Facilities Executive (CFE) and named a recipient of the Venues Today Generation Next Award, both in 2014.

Cook graduated from Bowdoin College where he met his wife, Dagny. They have two beautiful children who keep them constantly entertained.



Director – Region 5: Nina D. Simmons

Nina D. Simmons currently serves as the Director of the Student Activity Center & Venue Management for the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. The campus department oversees the Student Activity Center, which houses Halton Arena (9000 seats) and the campus indoor recreational facilities. It also manages the Jerry Richardson Stadium (15,300 seats), home to Charlotte 49ers football.

A graduate of IAVM's Public Assembly Facility Management School, Simmons has been a member of IAVM since 1999. She attended the organization's inaugural Leadership Institute as well as Senior Executive Symposium, in addition to the Leadership Development Program at the Center for Creative Leadership. Prior to her role at UNC Charlotte, she worked for Blockbuster Pavilion-Charlotte, Blumenthal Performing Arts Center, and the Charlotte Symphony. She received her Master of Arts degree in English from Western Kentucky University.

During her career, Simmons has served in several volunteer roles with IAVM which have included: University Committee, Facility Manager Editorial Advisory Committee, Annual Conference Planning Committee, Bylaws Committee, and Region 5 Board. She has written several articles for Facility Manager Magazine and has been editor of the Region 5 newsletter, later coaching the next generation of editors. She currently serves as Chair of the Arenas Committee and Vice-Chair of Region 5.

Simmons is married to A.T. (Bud) Simmons, Director of Operations for the Charlotte Symphony, and has three wonderful children, six fabulous grandchildren, two cute dogs, and a beautiful but demonic cat.



Director – Region 6: Sherman Bass, CFE

Sherman Bass, CFE, has been the general manager of the Amarillo Civic Center Complex since 2009. He began his career as a part-time stagehand and lighting technician in 1991. He then worked as an event supervisor, box office manager, assistant manager and executive director in Amarillo and Omaha, NE. Bass served as Director of the Asheville Civic Center in 2008-2009 before returning to manage the facility in which he began his career.

Bass has been a member of IAVM since 1998. He earned his CFE in 2012 and recently completed his second year of the Senior Executive Symposium. He served as Region 6 Director during the past year and was on the Region 6 2014 Conference planning committee. Bass has served on the Mentoring Task Force, the Budget and Finance Committee, the IAVM Bylaws Committee, and currently serves on the Governance Committee.

A graduate of West Texas A&M University, Bass serves on the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, the Amarillo Convention and Visitor Council and several of its committees. He and his wife Tricia enjoy traveling, spending time with family and spoiling their three beautiful granddaughters.



Director – Region 7: Dana Stoehr, CFE

Dana Stoehr, CFE has worked in venue industry management for over 20 years in the San Francisco Bay area. Most recently (since 2013) holding the position of General Manager for the Craneway Pavilion. Prior to the Craneway Pavilion, Stoehr was Assistant General Manager for the San Mateo County Event Center.

Stoehr received the Certified Facilities Executive (CFE) designation in 2013. She has served on the Region 7 board since 2011. Stoehr graduated from the Public Assembly Facility Management School (now Venue Management School) at Oglebay in 2008. Over the last several years, she has organized several Bay Area chapter meetings offering education and networking opportunity to allied and association members.

Stoehr is passionate about offering our members as many educational opportunities as possible and will work diligently to represent Region 7 and collaborate with IAVM so all members are offered maximum educational and networking opportunities.



Director - IAVM/VMA Asia Pacific: Trevor Dohnt, AVM

Trevor Dohnt, AVM is General Manager Event Operations at Melbourne Cricket Club, operators of the MCG.

Dohnt has 25 years' experience in the venue industry, moving from Adelaide in 1987 to take up a position with Tennis Australia at the then newly constructed Tennis Centre in Melbourne. In a 10-year stint with Tennis Australia, he held positions of Finance Director and later Chief General Manager - being responsible for not only the development and promotion of the game in Australia, but also the conduct of the highly successful Australian Open, from where he was appointed Venue Manager of the National Tennis Centre.

Moving to Sydney in 1997 with the Sydney Organising Committee for the Olympic Games (SOCOG), Dohnt was the Program Manager for Sport before returning to Melbourne at the end of 1998 to take up the role of Events Director for the Olympic football matches in Melbourne. While in Sydney as the Sport Program Manager, he was also responsible for overseeing the planning of the 28 sports being played at the Games.

In 2001, Dohnt was appointed by the Melbourne Cricket Club to head up the Event Operations at the 100,000 seat capacity Melbourne Cricket Ground wherein he is responsible for overseeing the major event contracts at the venue and ensuring that all venue management functions are planned and carried out.



Director - Allied: Leslie Taylor

It has been said that Leslie Taylor was born in to the industry—so much so that her venue manager father named her for his venue manager mentor. Raised attending IAVM annual meetings with her family, she has fond memories of July weeks spent in convention centers across the country. Taylor joined IAVM as an Allied Committee Member in 2006 when she began in the design industry, marketing architecture, interior design and planning services for public assembly venues. She is currently the Regional Marketing Leader for Gensler and a Practice Area Leader for the Sports & Recreation and Convention Center markets.

Taylor has a B.S. in Marketing from Auburn University and an M.S. in Integrated Marketing Communications from Northwestern University. Her first college job was working events at the Beard Eaves Memorial Coliseum in Auburn, Alabama, and she later interned for the Georgia World Congress Center Authority in Atlanta. She has spent many family vacations in convention centers across the world thanks to her father, and that experience has garnered a respect for the civic importance of these facilities that are built to authentically engage human interaction.



Director - Arenas: Todd Hunt, CFE

Todd Hunt, CFE has been involved in the live entertainment industry since his days on the concert committee at Mississippi State University over 25 years ago. Hunt is currently Executive Director of the BancorpSouth Arena and Conference Center in Tupelo, MS, a post he has held since 2007.

From 1999-2007, he served as the Director of Humphrey Coliseum and Athletic Concessions for Mississippi State University. Hunt's first general manager position was from 1997-99 at the Tupelo Coliseum, where he negotiated the first venue naming rights deal in the state of Mississippi while also bringing professional sports (ice hockey and indoor soccer) to the area for the first time. He has also held positions at the University of Tennessee Chattanooga, Auburn University, and served as assistant venue manager of the Ocoee Whitewater Center during the 1996 Olympic Games.

Hunt is very active in the International Association of Venue Managers, currently serving as the Sector Director for Arenas after stints as Arena Committee Chair (2011-2014), Vice Chair (2010-11), and committee member (2006-10). He has also served on both the VenueConnect and Education Council committees, is currently on the Board of Directors for Region 5, and is on the Board of Regents for IAVM's Venue Management School.

A native of Starkville, Mississippi, Hunt holds a bachelor's degree from Mississippi State University and a master's degree from the University of Mississippi. He and his wife Melissa are the proud parents of Abby, Mallie, & Noah. Hunt is also a second generation venue manager as his father ran Humphrey Coliseum at Mississippi State University from 1975-1999.



Director – Board of Trustees: Mark Duryea

Mark Duryea, is currently the Vice President North American Routing and Tours for FELD Entertainment. Duryea is an entertainment industry veteran with nearly 30 years of experience. He has been with FELD Entertainment for more than a decade. Duryea and his team are responsible for routing, contracting and touring three units of Ringling Bros. & Barnum and Bailey Circus, five units of Disney on Ice, four units of Disney Live!, Arenacross, Stadium Supercross, Arena Monster Jam, Stadium Monster Jam and Marvel Universe Live!...totaling 820 domestic engagements annually.

Duryea has 17 years of arena management experience as he held various leadership roles across the country. He has worked in the Los Angeles Coliseum and Sports Arena, Peoria Civic Center, Jacksonville Veterans Memorial Stadium and Coliseum, MGM Grand Garden and opened the Crown Coliseum in Fayetteville, NC.

Duryea has also worked with the Harlem Globetrotters, Great Russian Ice Show (which he and his father produced and toured) and Vee Corporation.

Duryea joined IAVM in 2004 and has proudly served as a Trustee on the International Association of Venue Managers Foundation Board since 2011.

Duryea has been married for 20 years and has one daughter who will be attending the University of South Carolina in the fall, majoring in Sport and Entertainment Management.



Director – Convention Centers: Patrick Skaggs

Patrick Skaggs is the Assistant General Manager for the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta, Georgia. Skaggs has worked in venue management for the past 20 years - working in a number of stadiums, arenas, theatres, and convention centers. He has been with the Georgia World Congress Center Authority since 2009, overseeing the operating departments at the convention center.

Skaggs joined IAVM in 2002 and became an active volunteer a few years later. He most recently chaired the Convention Center/Exhibit Halls Committee from 2013-2015.

Skaggs earned his bachelors and masters degrees in sport administration from Florida State University. Prior to attending FSU, he served four years in the U.S. Air Force.

### Director - Performing Arts: Shelly Kleppsattel

Shelly Kleppsattel is the Booking and Contracts Manager for the Fox Theatre in Atlanta, Georgia. In December 1988, Kleppsattel answered an advertisement with a temporary agency for an Office Manager position with Fox. She not only found her way into the performing arts world, but has grown with the organization and changed roles multiple times over the course of her time with the Fox. Her roles within the Fox have included Group Sales, Marketing, Production, Public Relations, and as Secretary for the Fox Board of Directors.

Kleppsattel joined IAVM in 2002 and is a 2006 graduate of the Public Assembly Facility Management School (now Venue Management School) at Oglebay. She has been a member of the Performing Arts Sector Committee since 2012, most recently completing a two year term as the chair. Kleppsattel has also served on the Industry Affairs Committee.

Kleppsattel was born in London, ON and graduated from the University of Wisconsin. She currently resides in North Atlanta.



Director - Stadiums: Paul Turner, CFE

Paul Turner, CFE, CSSP is a 25-year veteran of the venue management industry and has previously worked in performing arts venues, arenas and stadiums. Since 2008, Turner has served as the Director of Event Operations and Security for the Dallas Cowboys and AT&T Stadium. He has previously held positions with the NFL Philadelphia Eagles, the NBA Portland Trailblazers, Theatre Projects Consultants and the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts.

Turner joined IAVM in 2000 and has chaired the Stadiums Committee as well as serving as a member of the International Crowd Management Committee, Professional Development Committee, Board of Education, Board of Trustees, and Industry Affairs Advisory Council. He is a faculty member for the Venue Management School at Oglebay and the Academy for Venue Safety and Security (AVSS). He earned his Certified Facilities Executive (CFE) designation in 2013.

Turner is a member of the National Advisory Board for the National Center for Spectator Sports Safety and Security (NCS4) and chair of their Professional Certification Commission.



Director – Universities: Marty Elliott

Marty Elliott joined Kennesaw State University as the Executive Director/General Manager of Fifth Third Bank Stadium in February 2012. Elliott, who is the first person to hold the position in the school's history, oversees the operations of the 88-acre KSU Sports and Entertainment Park. KSU is the second largest university in the state of Georgia and is located in Metro Atlanta.

Prior to Kennesaw State, Elliott spent 11 years as Director of Major Events and Business Development for Clemson University. In that role, she managed university venues such as Littlejohn Coliseum, Tillman Theatre, Bowman Field and the Hendrix Student Center. Previously, Elliott also served as executive director of branch YMCA locations in both Mississippi and South Carolina. She has served as a talent buyer or logistics director for several fairs and festivals.

As a student at the University of Florida, Elliott learned hands-on about venue management under the guidance and support of Lionel Dubay working for 4 years at the Stephen C. O'Connell Center where she was given ample opportunity to train, work and lead. These early experiences led to a life-long pursuit of developing creative and intentional learning opportunities for students in our industry.

Elliott joined IAVM in 2004 and currently serves on the Stadiums Program Committee as well as the Universities Committee.