



Promoting diversity and inclusion: ECA awards four EDP 2021 Diversity Scholarships



Brussels/Las Vegas, 24 November 2021 - The European Casino Association is pleased to announce the successful candidates for this year's ECA Diversity Scholarship, sponsored by AGEM, Clarion, the University of Las Vegas International Gaming Institute and the ECA. The Diversity Scholarship is open to all ECA member employees and in its fourth year since inception is to award more candidates than ever before to participate in the renowned Executive Development Programme (EDP).

The EDP is a prestigious gaming leadership course, a partnership between the UNLV International Gaming Institute and the University of Nevada, Reno College of Business and Extended Studies. The scholarship covers the full cost of the programme, which this year, as last, is to be staged online due to ongoing travel and Covid-19 restrictions.

Over three decades, the EDP has become a reference point for gaming executives seeking to take their careers to the next level, whose aim is to build leadership and management skills and develop strategic thinking. It is a unique occasion to learn and share best practices with peers from around the world. The jury from the sponsoring organisations has examined the applications and awarded four ambitious male and female colleagues from the European land-based casino industry aspiring to a leadership position and hoping to broaden their professional education.

"The ECA scholarship programme recognises the contribution individuals have made within their daily roles that embody the inclusive nature of our profession," stated ECA Chairman Per Jaldung. "The ECA has awarded four candidates working in Monaco, Slovakia, Sweden and Slovenia to take part in the programme to promote the individual growth of the gaming professionals who, through their actions, have supported and enhanced diversity and inclusion within the industry."

The ECA's Diversity Scholarships for 2021 have been awarded to the following candidates:

Joanna Petit - American Games Supervisor, Casino de Monte-Carlo, Monaco. "Being a young female manager has not been easy in a masculine world. I found my place and I have been able to unite my team through enthusiasm, professionalism, listening and communication."

Shalini Kolling - Human Resources Manager, Casino Cosmopol, Sweden. "I believe that the EDP needs more applicants like me who come from minority categories, and possess the foundation quality, that is a genuine hunger to ensure that the individuals and their organisation succeed."



Jan Pecha - Casino General Manager, Olympic Casino, Slovakia. "I am very positive regarding diversity. Under my leadership, everyone has equal rights. I believe the EDP will be a very valuable experience."

Darko Devic - Table Games Manager, Casino Mond, Slovenia. "I was pleasantly surprised that male members of our team can apply for the scholarship. In my opinion, it is crucial to be aware of inequality in the workplace in order to prevent it."

"The partnership formed with Clarion, the Association of Gaming Equipment Manufacturers (AGEM) and the University of Las Vegas has created an opportunity for the ECA to reward four industry colleagues for their outstanding contribution to diversity and inclusion with the gaming sector," stated ECA Secretary Hermann Pamminger. "Each of this year's recipients personify the values of this award, having a passion for the industry and an understanding and empathy for the diverse make-up of both front and back-of-house in the European casino business. The EDP is a perfect reward for such dedication to further their personal and professional growth."

Click [here](#) for more about the scholarship or visit [the EDP website](#) to learn more about the program.

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About the European Casino Association

The European Casino Association (ECA) represents licensed land-based casinos in Europe, with 28 members and over 50,000 direct employees supporting local economies across Europe. It has members from nearly all EU Member States, as well as non-EU countries. The primary purpose and objective of the ECA are to address and promote issues related to casinos and promote the positive contribution of the industry. To find out more about the ECA, please click [here](#).

About UNLV International Gaming Institute

For more than 25 years, UNLV International Gaming Institute (IGI) has provided research-based solutions, cutting-edge insights, and executive education to the global gaming industry. With expertise in areas like gaming and hospitality innovation, regulation and policy, esports, diversity, and responsible gambling, IGI has been called upon to provide its research to more than 50 jurisdictions across the globe. In addition to these offerings, IGI proudly emphasises diversity and community outreach through initiatives like the Young Executive Scholars Hospitality & Tourism Program (YES), which gives high schoolers a behind-the-scenes look at the career and educational opportunities that the hospitality industry provides. Visit <https://www.unlv.edu/igi/>.

About the University of Nevada, Reno College of Business and Extended Studies

Extended Studies at the University of Nevada, Reno is the world's premier provider of gaming management education, offering opportunities for professional development through its certificate

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program, management programs and seminars, and international executive development program. In addition to programs located in Reno, they also offer courses customised to industry casino and organisation needs, using practical application and methods designed by industry experts, brought to your location, reducing expenses and increasing attendance. Visit <https://extendedstudies.unr.edu/gaming.html>.

About Clarion Gaming

Part of the leading international events and media business Clarion Events, Clarion Gaming are an omnichannel service provider for the international gaming neighbourhood with a dynamic mix of digital and live propositions including IGB Live Amsterdam and ICE London – the biggest b2b gaming industry event in the world, which embraces every aspect of the gambling ecosystem, from games creators, innovators, distributors, operators and retailers, to trade associations, strategic bodies and regulators. ICE London takes place in London, UK (1 – 3 Feb 2022). <https://www.icelondon.uk.com/>

About the Association of Gaming Equipment Manufacturers (AGEM)

AGEM is a non-profit international trade association representing manufacturers and suppliers of electronic gaming devices, lotteries, systems, table games, online technology, key components and support products and services for the gaming industry. AGEM works to further the interests of gaming equipment suppliers throughout the world. Through political action, regulatory influence, trade show partnerships, educational alliances, information dissemination and good corporate citizenship, the members of AGEM work together to create benefits for every company within the organisation. Together, AGEM has assisted regulatory agencies and participated in the legislative process to solve problems and create a business environment where AGEM members can prosper while providing a strong level of support to education and responsible gaming initiatives. For more information, visit <http://www.agem.org/>.

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