



*For Immediate Release*

## **FACILITIES & DESTINATIONS MAGAZINE NAMES SPECTRA'S SHURA GARNETT TO THEIR WOMEN CONVENTION CENTER EXECUTIVES A-LIST**

St. Charles, MO – Spectra by Comcast Spectacor, the providers of Venue Management to the St. Charles Convention Center, is proud to announce that Shura Garnett, Divisional Senior Vice President, Spectra Venue Management and Food Services & Hospitality, has been named a Facilities & Destinations Magazine A-List member of their Women Convention Center Executives.

A 20-year industry veteran, Garnett was most recently the General Manager of the St. Charles Convention Center before being promoted by Spectra to Divisional Senior Vice President. She has also served as Chairman of the IAVM Convention Center Committee, received the 2005 IAVM Presidential Citation and the prestigious Charles A. McElravy Award in 2014.

Garnett's leadership and management skills quickly became apparent when she entered the industry as an Event Manager in 1987. She soon became a Director in 1988. Among her many industry accomplishments, Garnett opened the 154,000 sq. ft. St. Charles Convention Center in April 2005 after overseeing all aspects of the 18-month construction. In 2010, she was promoted to Regional Vice President by Spectra and remained as the General Manager of the St. Charles Convention Center until her promotion in 2016.

She was also honored in 2007 and 2008 when she was nominated for the GMA's Dove Award given in recognition of outstanding female role models. In 2008 she received the Zonta Yellow Rose Award for her commitment to serving the community and advancing the status of women; and was named that same year as one of Venues Today's Women of Influence. Within her work, Garnett and her staff, through the support of Spectra, host 2-5 charitable events and activities each year.

As an IAVM Member, Garnett has been active since 1988, earning her CFE in 2000. She served as Board Chair of IAVM from 2009-2010 and has also served on numerous volunteer committees for the Association. During Garnett's tenure as Chair of the Association's Board, she was instrumental in purchasing and implementing, *VenueNet*, still considered one of IAVM's core member communication platforms. She also led efforts to change the Association's name in 2009-2010, which was at that time called the International Association of Assembly Managers. She also worked to rebrand the annual conference and trade show, to what it is currently known as, *VenueConnect*.

Facilities and Destinations also recognized Garnett in both 2014 and 2015 as a member of their ELITE Convention Center Executives list.

As an industry leader with years of experience and the list of recognition and awards she has received continuing to grow, it is clear as to why Garnett has made it to the F&D A-List for 2016.

Spectra's Rebecca Bolton, General Manager of the Las Cruces Convention Center; Jennifer Noble, General Manager of the Durham Convention Center; and Karen Totaro, General Manager of the Atlantic City Convention Center, also received recognition on the list.

For 25 years, Facilities Media Group has been a leading news source for professional planners of conventions, meetings, entertainment and special events. Their premiere publications, Facilities & Destinations and Facilities & Event Management, provide useful information and insightful interviews with key industry personnel.

**The Saint Charles Convention Center** opened in April of 2005 and has hosted over 3,600 events since opening. Named “Best Place to Hold a Meeting” by local businesses, the facility boasts an elegant 16,200 sq. ft. Grand Ballroom, and 27,600 sq. ft. of Exhibit Hall space expandable to 35,700 sq. ft. through the adjacent Junior Ballroom. The facility features additional meeting rooms, the Executive Board Room, and our Cyber Café. One-stop shopping is always available as the Center features shipping through the Business and Guest Services Center as well as in-house catering, decorating, audio/visual, state-of-the-art communications, marketing, and event staffing for meetings and exhibitions. The Saint Charles Convention Center is conveniently located on I-70 only 15 minutes from Lambert St. Louis International Airport and is attached to a 296-room Embassy Suites Hotel.

**Spectra by Comcast Spectacor** is the expert in hosting and entertainment, partnering with over 300 clients at 400 global properties to create memorable experiences for millions of visitors every year. Spectra’s expertise is embodied within three divisions: Venue Management (formerly Global Spectrum), Food Services & Hospitality (formerly Ovations Food Services), and Ticketing & Fan Engagement (formerly Paciolan). Learn more at [SpectraExperiences.com](http://SpectraExperiences.com).

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