



**Sheraton®
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**Sheraton Grand Chicago Names a Trio of New Leaders:
Director of Sales, Director of Engineering &
Executive Banquet Chef Come with
Impressive Hospitality Experience & Award-Winning Track Records**

Chicago, IL – September 22, 2016 – The Sheraton Grand Chicago has announced the appointment of three new executives at the helm of its leadership team. Director of Sales Robin Grayson, Director of Engineering Eric Wylie and Executive Banquet Chef Miguel Neira assumed their positions this month at the four-star property on the Chicago River that is known for its stellar location and impressive conference and event capabilities and facilities.

Grayson, who will oversee a team of 15, will be responsible for spearheading the sales strategy on the group front. She comes with a wealth of hospitality-focused sales expertise, having worked her way from a sales manager to the director of group sales in her most recent post at the Westin Los Angeles Airport hotel. It was here that Grayson was honored with the 2015 Leader of the Year award for her excellent performance. During her tenure the property recorded two consecutive record-breaking financial years and was nominated for Starwood's western region hotel of the year. Grayson was intimately involved in the implementation of a value perception strategy that was responsible for an impressive 34 spot jump on TripAdvisor. Under her leadership there were noteworthy benchmarks reached within the competitive set on both the group ADR and occupancy fronts, achieving the highest in both categories in 2015. Grayson holds a BA in Communications from DePauw University; her pastimes span from football fan to karaoke, hiking to cooking.

Wylie brings 20-plus years of hospitality experience to the table, most recently serving as the director of engineering at the InterContinental Chicago. In his new post he will oversee the hotel's 1200-plus rooms and suites, 120,000 square feet of meeting space and all other mechanical and engineering functions of the 1.3 million square foot complex. Throughout his tenure in his previous role the engineering department achieved the number-one associate opinion ranking for four consecutive years, with 100% score the past three years. Wylie held similar roles at Swissotel Chicago, Renaissance Schaumburg Hotel

and Convention Center and Holiday Inn and Suites Chicago. He studied at Joliet Junior College and is a Certified Engineering Operations Executive, as well as holding Building Operators Certification Level I. Wylie's roster of certifications is extensive and includes Universal EPA Technician, Stationary Engineer License, Generator Operator Certificate, Fire Safety Director Emergency Preparedness Certificate (City of Chicago), Homeland Security Division Certification and more.

Neira received a well-deserved promotion from chef de cuisine to executive banquet chef at the Sheraton Grand Chicago after an incredible two-year run at the hotel. In July he was recognized as the hotel's "Leader of the Month" for his exemplary work ethic. In his time on property Neira has overseen both the hotel's banquets and restaurants, including Shula's Steak House and the seasonal favorite CBC Lounge. Boasting the largest hotel ballroom in Chicago, the hotel's meeting and events are plentiful and Neira was – and will continue to be – an instrumental part of the food and beverage execution for meetings, conventions and social events. Neira has held a number of chef positions throughout his career, including the hotel opening sous chef at the Marriott Pere Marquette, which entailed the ground-up development of menus for banquets and weddings. Hailing from Ecuador, Neira studied at Laica University there before coming to the USA where he continued his studies at St. Petersburg Community College.

The Sheraton Grand Chicago, which is ideally situated on the Chicago River within walking distance of Navy Pier, fabulous Michigan Avenue shopping, Millennium Park, the Loop business district and more, has long been a Windy City favorite based on its location alone. The hotel's 1,218 guestrooms and suites are now completely renovated, boasting spectacular river, lake and skyline views, alongside Sheraton's ultra-comfortable Sweet Sleeper^(SM) bed; outstanding accommodations to compliment the hotel's fantastic location. For more information please visit www.sheratonchicago.com.

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