IMGL wishes to thank the spring conference co-chairs, committee members, the moderators and the panelists for the contribution of their time and efforts in putting together the excellent educational opportunities IMGL is proud to provide at the Spring 2017 conference.

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UNLV Appoints Brett Abarbanel as the New Director of Research, International Gaming Institute

The University of Nevada, Las Vegas, recently appointed Brett Abarbanel as the International Gaming Institute’s new director of research.

Abarbanel studied statistics and architecture at Brown before pursuing graduate degrees in hotel/hospitality administration at UNLV. Combine this with a childhood near a horse track and a friend who knew poker, and this is how Abarbanel became the perfect combination of spectator and participant, scholar and lifelong student. Her path has prepared her well for her new role predicting and progressing the gaming and gambling research that will keep UNLV at the forefront of the field.

Abarbanel focuses on all the latest and greatest in the gaming and gambling industry, including eSports, regulation and policy, and developments in consumer behavior.

She states regarding the new UNLV e-sports lab, “E-sports has been around for a while but really boomed in the last couple years. Because we’re UNLV and in Las Vegas, we want to look at e-sports as it’s relevant to gambling and how those worlds interact and collide, so we’re building out an e-sports space that could exist within a casino.”