

## ***SIMposium* Introduces RLFers to SIM**

**Almost 200 RLF graduates** (mostly 2016 graduates, but some from earlier years taking part in an RLF Reconnect) **are preparing to be part of *SIMposium 2016*** at the Mohegan Sun in Connecticut. *SIMposium* is the first step in establishing a lasting relationship between SIM and its newest members and is a great example of the strong relationship between SIM and RLF.

*SIMposium* has always been an integral part of the RLF program. It provides the setting for celebrating RLF accomplishments at the national RLF graduation. It is the one opportunity for members of each RLF forum to meet RLFers from other forums to share common bonds and experiences and develop relationships.

*SIMposium* is also an introduction to the SIM organization and SIM Chapters and a compelling illustration of the value SIM membership provides. As such, while it signals the end of most RLF programs (though not the end of the RLF experience by any means), it marks the beginning of the contributions that RLF makes to the chapters. RLFers will learn how they can stay involved with SIM after RLF through their local chapter. Some will become very engaged with their local chapter through active membership, even taking on administrative responsibility.

The theme for *SIMposium 2016* is “The Future is Now: Lead, Secure, Empower.” Concepts of leadership and empowerment are woven throughout the RLF curriculum and become key strengths of RLF graduates who are poised to represent the brightest future of our industry.

*SIMposium* is an unmatched opportunity for new RLF graduates to attend valuable thought-leadership conference sessions, network with hundreds of leaders and practitioners who comprise the world class *SIMposium* attendees, and to see firsthand the value of SIM and local Chapter membership. It also provides a golden opportunity for SIM and Chapter leadership to reach out to and connect with new RLF graduate members – and to start that process of building enduring relationships.