

# MATTHEW J. WILSON

UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT | DEAN | PROFESSOR



professorwilson@gmail.com

Tokyo | Utah

## EDUCATION

### *Temple University Beasley School of Law*

- Juris Doctor, 1999
- Temple Int'l & Comparative L.J.

### *University of Utah*

- B.S in Political Science, 1995
- B.A. in Asian Studies, 1995
- Two degrees in about two years

## TRANSFORMATIVE LEADERSHIP

Excel in student recruitment, innovation, community building, profile-raising, strategic planning, fundraising, student engagement, and elevating excellence. Guided institutions through enrollment issues, financial challenges, and deficits.

## ADVOCATE

Global educator, dynamic speaker, and author. Have given hundreds of speeches across the U.S. and around the world on academic, legal, and education topics. Extensive media appearances.

## LANGUAGES

**English**, native

**Japanese**, native level speaking; fluent reading and writing.

## BAR ADMISSIONS

*Florida Bar*, January 2000 (Active)

*New Jersey Bar*, October 2001  
(Voluntarily withdrawn due to inactivity)

## ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Currently in my 11<sup>th</sup> year with Temple University, I draw from the academic and professional experiences listed below in leading institutions.

- **President** (U.S./Asia): Innovator and servant leader tasked with leading the business, administrative, and academic operations of:
  - Temple University, Japan Campus (President/CEO/Dean)
  - Missouri Western State University (President)
  - University of Akron (President).
- **Dean | Associate Dean** (U.S./Japan): Academic and administrative leadership of undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs in Ohio (law school dean), Wyoming (law school associate dean), and Japan (senior associate dean -- undergraduate/graduate/non-degree programs).
- **Professor** (U.S./Asia): Taught in Ohio, Wyoming, Japan, South Korea, and China from 2003. Courses include torts, cross-border negotiations, intellectual property law, e-commerce, internet law, international business law, international dispute resolution, contract drafting, and Japanese law.
- **General Counsel – Education** (Japan): Chief legal counsel handling data privacy, contracts, intellectual property, licensing, governmental relations, dispute resolution, employment, immigration, and other legal matters.
- **General Counsel – Technology & Telecom** (U.S.): General Counsel in Tampa focusing on commercial litigation, intellectual property, corporate transactions, M&A, and employment law.
- **Big Law** (U.S.): Lawyer at Akerman LLP in Orlando focusing on commercial litigation, intellectual property, data privacy, internet law, and international business.
- **International business experience** (Japan): *General Electric Medical Systems* (legal), *Apple Box Corp.* (Sony professional audio and visual); and *Yokogawa Weathac* (manufacturing).

## AREAS OF EXCELLENCE

- |                        |                           |                        |
|------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| ➤ Servant leader       | ➤ Student centric         | ➤ Innovation           |
| ➤ Community engagement | ➤ Fundraising             | ➤ Profile raising      |
| ➤ Advocacy             | ➤ Communication           | ➤ Shared governance    |
| ➤ International        | ➤ Partnership development | ➤ Government relations |

## SENIOR ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

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### TEMPLE UNIVERSITY, JAPAN CAMPUS [2003-09, 2020-PRESENT]

At the Japan campus of this top global university, I am in my second decade of service with Temple University. My current duties include overseeing all aspects of the academic, student, financial, and administrative dimensions associated with 12 undergraduate degree programs, 4 graduate degree programs, and non-degree programs.

#### DEAN | PRESIDENT & CEO (2020-present)

- **Executive level leadership.** Leading a complex organization transparently with a focus on student success, strategic growth, reputation elevation, fiscal stability, community engagement, innovation, public relations, inclusion, and overall excellence.
- **New mission, vision, and strategic plan.** Spearheaded the creation and implementation of the first strategic plan in decades, which focused on providing an exceptional student experience, preparing global-ready students, promoting versatility, fostering innovation, and developing collaborations.
- **Recording breaking enrollments.** Helping orchestrate record growth for over 4 consecutive years including a 100% increase in the undergraduate student population (increase from 1,250 students in fall 2020 to over 2,550 students in fall 2024). Efforts include my personal hands-on involvement in the recruitment process including high school visits (domestic and international), social media strategies, open campus involvement, development of new recruitment pipelines, creation of new recruitment positions, targeted retention activities, and development of new programs.
- **Record financial performance.** Guided campus to unprecedented heights despite Japan's closed borders between 2020-22 because of the pandemic.
- **New satellite campus.** Conceptualized, negotiated, developed, and launched a new multi-building satellite campus in the cultural mecca and imperial capital of Kyoto, Japan. Significant growth and acclaims during my tenure opened the door for this major expansion.
- **Record fundraising.** Oversaw the implementation of largest donation in TUJ history (\$4.5 m). Successfully executed fundraising campaigns for the: *Ukrainian evacuee program, food pantry, and Institute of Contemporary Asian Studies.*
- **Expanded talent** to move campus into a new era including faculty, staff, and senior leadership. My efforts included the near tripling of full-time faculty and improving our adjunct faculty system.
- **Academic quality.** Enhancements to online learning and hiring approaches together with new programs targeted at student leadership, research, academic success, and student retention.
- **Facilities – growth.** To meet student needs and accommodate growth, orchestrated new strategies focused on acquiring buildings and dorms.
- **Government relations - groundbreaking.** Entered into collaborative agreements with Yamanashi prefecture on the main island of Honshu (2022), Nagasaki prefecture on the island of Kyushu (2024), and Ehime prefecture on the island of Shikoku (2024) to facilitate English-language training programs for students and teachers, workforce development programs, research exchange, recruitment pipelines, and internship opportunities. Spearheaded a collaboration agreement with the City of Setagaya in Tokyo.
- **New programs.** Brought the following programs to TUJ including *computer science* (full major and new minors), *Tourism and Hospitality Management* degree, *esports program* (academic and extracurricular), and *Emerging Leaders Program*. These strategic additions resulted in significant jumps in enrollment, external interest, and collaborations.
- **New bridges with our main campus in Philadelphia.** Helped build *Fly2Philly program* (increased TUJ students studying on campus from 2-3 per semester to 25-30); *joint online M.Ed. and Ph.D. program with College of Education*; and *TUJ visiting faculty program*.

## **TEMPLE UNIVERSITY, JAPAN CAMPUS (CONT.)**

### **SENIOR ASSOCIATE DEAN | ASSOCIATE DEAN (2004-09)**

- Served as a member of the senior cabinet and helping develop a consensus among key stakeholders regarding business, legal, and strategic issues.
- Helped guide Tokyo campus through difficult budgetary times and developed new strategies and programs that resulted in student growth, financial stability, and campus expansion.
- Curriculum development, academic policies, and accreditation.
- Main campus liaison and coordination of academic matters with various colleges.
- Supported and managed deans, directors, managers, and staff in strategic planning, problem-solving, quality control, budgeting, staffing, and other functions.
- Supported faculty development, faculty scholarship, and excellence in teaching.
- Oversight of enrollment management, academic advising, registrar, special academic programs, career development, student services, and library.
- Responsible for developing and rolling out a successful global recruitment strategy

### **GENERAL COUNSEL (2004-09)**

- Advised President/Dean about all legal, regulatory, strategic, and risk-related issues as well as managing all aspects of the timely delivery of quality legal services.
- Assisted with government relations in relation to immigration, employment, and operations as well as participated in legislative and political advocacy with the Japanese government. My efforts included Temple University's success in obtaining official governmental recognition from Japan and the Ministry of Education in 2005.
- Oversight and management of outside counsel, associate counsel, and interns.
- Interface and coordination with legal counsel at main campus in Philadelphia.
- Responsible for all university contracts. Contracts encompassed employment, confidentiality, licenses and sublicenses, facilities, corporate and academic affiliations, and other matters.
- Risk assessment, dispute resolution, student conduct issues, and crisis management
- General assistance with compliance, corporate governance, accounting, and audits.
- Management of intellectual property matters and personal data protection issues
- Formulation and implementation of internal policies, standards, rules, and procedures.

### **LAW PROGRAM DIRECTOR (2003-05)**

- Leading and managing the law program (J.D. semester abroad and LL.M. programs).
- Record domestic and record study abroad enrollments while overseeing recruiting, marketing, and public relations activities.
- Curriculum development, accreditation, and annual reporting.
- Led successful American Bar Association accreditation visit in 2004.
- Responsible for faculty hiring, scheduling, and quality control.
- Organized special events, community outreach, and seminars including the Japan Federation of Bar Associations, American Bar Association, U.S. Supreme Court, and others.
- Development of relationships with international law firms, Japanese law schools, Japanese companies, and U.S. military.
- Assisted Japan with trial advocacy training of Japanese criminal lawyers as the country revised its criminal justice to embrace quasi-jury trials.
- Lobbied for certain legal reforms at the invitation of the Japan Federation of Bar Associations.

## MISSOURI WESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY [2019-2020]

MWSU is a comprehensive open-access regional university focused on applied learning and offering a host of degree programs including professional master's degrees, four-year baccalaureate degrees, two-year associate degrees, pre-professional transfer programs, and certificates.

### PRESIDENT

- **Financial rehabilitation:** Spearheaded a successful rehabilitation plan in cooperation with the Board of Trustees, State of Missouri, university stakeholders, and community after our new team discovered a university in severe financial distress and significant problems unknown to the Board and State.
- **Innovative initiatives:** Infused excitement into the campus through major initiatives including:
  - **Center for Service:** new major program enabling students to obtain up to three college credits towards their degree at no cost in exchange for validated community service. This program was supported by funds secured from the government and private donors.
  - **Griffon Guarantee Scholarship:** devised a new distinctive scholarship program that ensured scholarship retention while providing students with automatic upgrades each year. This program helped attract and retain students.
  - **Gold Friday initiative:** conceived an innovative initiative that concentrates courses on Monday-Thursday and dedicates Friday to activities focused on practical learning and student success.
  - **esports program:** rolled out this new initiative to provide pathways for students to flourish academically, socially, and professionally through varsity teams, clubs, and academic programs.
  - **Global Center:** established to focus on recruitment of international students and globally-minded local students; provide innovative global programming; and formation of cross-border relationships with universities around the world.
  - **Greater collaborative efforts:** increased collaborations with Mosaic Life Care, local school district, government, non-profit organizations, military, and Kansas City Chiefs. Projects included an expansion of our nursing program, early childhood programs, K-12 education, downtown revitalization, health services, community development, and expanded veterans center.

## UNIVERSITY OF AKRON [2014-19]

Founded in 1870, the University of Akron is a public research university with multiple campuses offering access to over 300 undergraduate, graduate, postdoctoral, and professional degree programs in the arts, sciences, humanities, business, engineering, health professions, and law.

### PRESIDENT / INTERIM PRESIDENT (2016-18)

- **\$70 million two-year budgetary turnaround:** In 2016, the institution faced a \$30 million deficit. Spearheaded collective efforts together with my new team that resulted in the elimination of our deficit and addition of \$12 million to our reserves. In the second year of the plan, we strategically instituted measures that nearly eliminated a projected \$40 million deficit.
- **Development efforts:** Participated in hundreds of one-on-one visits and events with major university supporters, donors, alumni. Outcomes included:
  - **Making a Difference Moving Forward Scholarship Campaign:** New campaign resulted in a 50% increase in overall scholarship giving with over \$20 million raised for endowed scholarships and over \$600,000 for unrestricted non-endowed scholarship support. Donations from first-time donors grew as well.
  - **Highlights of major gifts** during my presidency include the largest single gift in history (\$23 million bequeathal); \$5 million gift to construct a museum for Native American artifacts; and \$3 million gift for a named College of Polymer Science professorships.
- **External engagement | Hands-on student recruitment:** Following a short-term president, it was critical to re-engage with and reassure stakeholders and feeder schools. As a start, I made over 150 visits to feeder high schools. I also gave several hundred internal and external speeches; conducted over 100 high-level meetings with governmental leaders and civic officials; held more than 50 meetings with higher education partners; and provided over 75 media interviews and appearances.

- ***Innovative approaches to student recruitment, retention, and internationalization:*** Conceived, helped develop, and led innovative approaches to increase enrollment and improve retention. Our successful efforts include the following:
  - **Akron Guarantee Scholarship** formulated a unique scholarship program that ensures scholarship retention while providing students with automatic upgrades each year.
  - **Five-Star Friday initiative:** conceived an innovative initiative that concentrates courses on Monday-Thursday and dedicates Friday to activities focused on practical learning, skills development, career preparation, and student success.
  - **Esports varsity team & club program:** spearheaded the conception and development of a new program designed to tap into the burgeoning world of online competitive video gaming and builds bridges into our academic programs and career pathways.
  - **International Center and new global relationships:** established to focus on recruitment of international students and globally-minded local students; provide innovative global programming; and formation of cross-border relationships with universities in Japan, South Korea, China, Taiwan, and Vietnam.
- ***Expansion of Early College High School (AA degrees) and concurrent enrollment programs.*** Spearheaded initiative to facilitate greater access to college degrees in urban and rural environments through a major expansion of the acclaimed Early College High School (Portage Lakes Career Center and Barberton High School) and dual enrollment programs.
- ***Transparency and shared governance:*** Working transparently and closely with faculty and other university constituencies, we restored credibility, confidence, and hope in University leadership. Together, we created a short-term strategic plan to address serious challenges. To facilitate better strategic planning, we worked with Ernst & Young to develop a data analytic dashboard system focused on enrollment, retention, scholarships, state support, and course offerings. The Higher Learning Commission recognized improvements in shared governance.
- ***Student-first approach and creative engagement:*** Constant interaction with students, social media engagement, and accessibility enabled strengthening of trust and feeling of community. I creatively engaged students through a host of measures such as basketball shooting contests, bowling challenges, sand volleyball tournaments, bingo, and lip sync competitions; hot chocolate stations and golf cart shuttle between classes; performing with our university steel drum band and tuba band; assisting with residence hall move-in and dining hall special events; guiding several study abroad excursions to Asia; joining with students in community service projects; and others.

#### **DEAN OF SCHOOL OF LAW (2014-16) | PROFESSOR OF LAW (2014-19)**

- ***Increased enrollments:*** Restructured admissions and recruiting methods, revamped scholarship system, and redesigned marketing resulting in a 40% increase in new student enrollment.
- ***Successful fundraising and facilities campaign:*** Planning, oversight, and fundraising for a \$21 million comprehensive, debt-free renovation of the law school facilities.
- ***Innovation and collaboration:*** Developed market-changing initiatives in cooperation with the law faculty such as: (i) spring semester start program; (ii) new experiential programs including a Summer Trial Academy, Domestic Relations Court Clinic, Public Health Law Clinic, Immigration & International Human Rights Clinic, and Honors Program; (iii) 3+3 relationships within the University of Akron and external partners; and (iv) Master in Legal Studies degree.
- ***Internationalization:*** Developed a two-year juris doctor program for international lawyers; collaborative relationships with universities in Japan, South Korea, Vietnam, and China; and an innovative study abroad program in Asia.

#### **UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING COLLEGE OF LAW [2009-2014]**

##### **ASSOCIATE DEAN OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS | ASSOCIATE DEAN OF STUDENT AFFAIRS**

- Provided senior leadership, directed administrative matters, and engaged in external relations.
- Strategic planning, problem solving, quality control, special events, and administration.
- Management of faculty hiring, faculty affairs, course scheduling, and budget.
- Enrollment management efforts including recruiting, admissions, branding, and marketing. My direct oversight of the student recruitment resulted in a 20% increase in enrollments.

## PUBLICATIONS

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### BOOKS & BOOK CHAPTERS - HIGHLIGHTS

- “Lay Participation in Court Proceedings – Opportunities for Japan” (Nihon Hyoronsha 2023).
- “Lay Adjudication and the Civil Realm in Japan,” *chapter in* PROSPECT FOR DEMOCRACY IN JUSTICE (Nihon Hyoronsha 2022).
- “The Case for Adopting Civil Jury Trials in Japan,” *chapter in* JURY TRIALS IN JAPAN (Nihon Hyoronsha 2020 published in Japanese).
- “Seeking to Change Society Through Legal Reform in Japan,” *chapter in* CONTEMPORARY JAPAN (2nd Edition Routledge) (2018).
- “Japan’s Lay Judge System: Impact on the Judiciary and Society” in THE LEGAL PROCESS IN CONTEMPORARY JAPAN 『現代日本の法過程』 (Shinzansha 2017).
- “Japan’s Lay Judge System: Impact on the Judiciary and Society” in THE LEGAL PROCESS IN CONTEMPORARY JAPAN 『現代日本の法過程』 (Shinzansha 2017).
- JAPAN AND CIVIL JURY TRIALS: THE CONVERGENCE OF FORCES, Edward Elgar Publishing (2016). Primary author.
- “Clinical Legal Education in Japan,” in WORLD DEVELOPMENTS IN CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION (Palgrave MacMillan) (2015).
- TRIAL ADVOCACY TECHNIQUES, Chapter 2: *Art of Trial Advocacy* (Nihon Hyoronsha 2009). Published in Japanese as 『法廷弁護技術「法廷弁護技術の基本」』 (日本評論社 2009).
- GOVERNMENTS OF THE WORLD (Japan chapter), Macmillan Press (2005).

### ARTICLES - HIGHLIGHTS

- “Keys to Successful Legal Clinical Education Through an American Lens: How Does Japan Compare” (Japan Association of Clinical Legal Education Journal 2023).
- “Assessing the Direct and Indirect Impact of Citizen Participation in Serious Criminal Trials in Japan,” Washington International Law Journal, Vol. 27:1 (Dec. 2017)
- “Importance, Functions, and Role of the American Civil Jury Trial System and Related U.S. Supreme Court Cases, Japanese Journal of American Law (Aug. 2014). In Japanese as アメリカ民事陪審制度の重要性、機能、役割と合衆国最高裁の判決動向。
- “Prime Time for Japan to Take Another Step Forward in Lay Participation: Exploring Expansion to Civil Trials,” Akron Law Review, Vol. 46 No. 3 (2013).
- “Improving the Process: Transnational Litigation and the Application of Private Foreign Law in U.S. Courts,” NYU Journal of International Law and Politics (2013).
- “E-Elections: Law in Asia & Online Political Activities,” 12 Wyo L. Rev. 238 (2012).
- “Demystifying the Determination of Foreign Law in U.S. Courts: Opening the Door to a Greater Global Understanding,” 46 Wake Forest L. Rev. 887 (2011).
- “E-Elections: Time for Japan to Embrace Online Campaigning,” 2011 Stanford Tech. L. R. 4 (2011).
- “Reducing Legal Risks: Online Commerce, Info. Security & the World,” Wyoming Lawyer (2010).
- “U.S. Law School Education Methods and Ideals: Application to the Japanese and Korean Systems,” 18 Cardozo J. of Int’l & Comparative Law 295 (2010).
- “Japan’s New Criminal Jury Trial System: In Need of More Transparency, More Access, and More Time,” 33 Fordham U. Int’l L.J. 487 (2010).
- “Dawn of Criminal Jury Trials in Japan: Success on the Horizon?” 24 Wisconsin Int’l L.J. 835 (2007).
- “Failed Attempt to Undermine the Third Wave: Attorney Fee Shifting Movement in Japan,” 19 Emory Int’l L.R. 1457 (Fall 2005).

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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TEMPLE UNIVERSITY JAPAN CAMPUS	<b>Professor</b> (2020-present) <i>Cross-border Negotiations Strategies as well as guest lectures in Emerging Leaders Program and Organizational Management</i>
UNIVERSITY OF AKRON SCHOOL OF LAW	<b>Professor of Law</b> (2014-2019) <i>International Contract Drafting, International Business Transactions, Internet Law, International Negotiations, Introduction to U.S. Law, and Global Torts</i>
UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING COLLEGE OF LAW	<b>Professor of Law/Assoc. Professor</b> (2009-2014) <i>Torts, E-Commerce Law, Intellectual Property Law, International Business Transactions, and Civil Pretrial Practice.</i>
TEMPLE UNIVERSITY BEASLEY SCHOOL OF LAW	<b>Assoc. Professor</b> (2003-2009) <i>Japanese Law; International Dispute Resolution; International Business Law; International Law; Electronic Commerce; Civil Procedure; and Legal Research and Writing</i>
KYUNG HEE UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL (SEOUL)	<b>International Scholar</b> (2011-14). <i>International Business Transactions, Negotiations, Introduction to U.S. Law</i>
NAGOYA UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL (JAPAN)	<b>Visiting Professor</b> (Summer 2015). <i>Cross-Border Negotiations</i>
KOBE UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL (JAPAN)	<b>Visiting Professor</b> (March 2015). <i>Comparative Tort Law</i>
HENAN UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL (CHINA)	<b>Visiting Professor</b> (June 2019   July 2020). <i>Intellectual Property and Cyberspace Law</i>

## LECTURES, SPEAKING APPEARANCES, AND CONFERENCES

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### BI-ANNUAL LECTURE TOUR (2003-2016)

- **Lecture tour.** Lectured on private international law and various academic/vocational opportunities in the international field over 350 times at nearly 150 U.S. universities.

### PRESIDENTIAL SPEECHES (2016-2018; 2019-Present)

- **Featured speaker.** Several hundred keynote speeches and presentations around the United States, Japan, Asia, and Southeast Asia before state government and legislative committees, local municipalities, chambers of commerce, professional associations, universities, civic organizations, multicultural associations, and others on topics involving law, intellectual property, internationalization, leadership, and education among other topics.
- **High school engagement.** Given dozens of speeches at high schools on careers, leadership, academic success, university preparedness, international opportunities, international business, cross-culture understanding, negotiations, and distinguishing oneself.
- **Commencement addresses** including Temple University Japan, University of Akron, Missouri Western State University, Western Reserve Academy, Akron Early College H.S., and National Inventors Hall of Fame STEM High School.

## LECTURES, SPEAKING APPEARANCES, AND CONFERENCES

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### ➤ *Featured keynote speeches*

- University of Tokyo Presidents Conference, *Tools for Success: Perspectives of a Global University President* (2024)
- Nikkei/Government of Japan, *Asia Undercurrent, People, Technology, and Prosperity* (2024)
- American Chamber of Commerce, *How an American University Became the Fastest Growing University in Japan* (2024)
- Asian Electronic Sports Federation/TUJ, *Role of Higher Education in esports* (2024)
- World Affairs Council, *Connected Economies: The US-Japan Economic Relationship* (2023)
- Japan America Society of Philadelphia, *Pennsylvania's Impact on Japan* (2022)
- Foreign Correspondent's Club of Japan, *Impact of Japan's Closed Borders* (2021)
- Transcultural Management Society, *Developing Global Ready Employees via Higher Education* (2021)
- Showa Women's University, 世界の大学教育～これから必要とされる人材 (*International Higher Education: What Employees are Needed in the Future*) (2021)
- Japan-America Society, *Evolution of Higher Education: COVID-19 and Online Learning* (2021)
- Japanese University Network in the Bay Area, *Recent trends in U.S. Higher Education* (2021)
- American Chamber of Commerce in Japan, *Creating Global Talent in Japan* (2020)
- Japan Network for International Education, *Keys to Internationalizing Education in Japan and How Japanese Institutions Can Effectively Work Together with Foreign Universities* (2020)
- St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce, *Challenges Facing Regional Universities* (2019)
- National Sales & Marketing Executives (*changing culture in higher education*) (2018)
- City Club of Cleveland, *Future of Higher Education* (2018)
- Halo Foundation, *Inspiring and Empowering Our Young Leaders of Tomorrow* (2017)
- Akron Roundtable, *Crossroads in Higher Education* (2017)

### ➤ *Recent presentations*

- Civil jury trials – Keys to success (Tokyo 2023)
- esports, AI, and the law (Seoul 2023)
- Cross-cultural leadership (Tokyo 2023)
- Clinical Legal Education in Japan Evaluated from International Perspectives (Tokyo 2022)
- Perspectives from Japan the Pandemic's Impact and Future of Study Abroad (New Orleans 2022)
- Keys to internationalizing education (Tokyo 2022)
- VI International Jury Trial Congress (Instituto De Estudios Comparados En Ciencias Penales Y Sociales *The importance of civil jury for the judiciary of the XXI Century* (Argentina 2021)
- Legal education and impact of cross border collaboration (Nagoya 2021)
- COVID-19: What is the Impact on Higher Education and Students (Tokyo 2021)
- Post-COVID Landscape for International Study Abroad. (Philadelphia 2021)
- The Civil Jury Trial: New Democracy in Argentina, Japan, China, the US and Beyond (Chicago 2021)
- U.S. Legal Education at a Crossroads – Change, Existential Crisis, and COVID-19 (Nagoya 2020)
- Need to Increase Citizen Participation in Judicial Systems in Japan and S. Korea (Washington DC 2019)
- Jury Systems in Asia and related issues (City Club of Cleveland broadcast 2019)
- New Perspectives on Japanese Law. Special invitation conference of 50 of the top scholars on Japanese Law from around the world. (Harvard Law School 2018)
- Court reform in East Asia and citizen participation (New Orleans 2018)

## **BOARDS, APPOINTMENTS & HONORS**

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### ***Boards and Community Involvement***

- Board member, Japan America Society of Greater Philadelphia (2022-present)
- Executive Board member, JAFSA – Japan Network for International Education (2020-present)
- Executive Member, American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (2020-present)
- Board member, Mosaic Life Care Foundation (2019-2020)
- Executive Board member, Innovation Stockyard Science & Technology Incubator (2019-2020)
- Board Member, Northeast Ohio Council on Higher Education (2016-18)
- Director, Akron Chamber of Commerce (2016-18)
- Board Member, Akron Roundtable (2016-18)
- NCAA esports working group – President representative (2018-2019)
- Member, Law & Society Association (2016-2020)
- Member, Asian Law & Society Association (2014-present)
- Founder/Initial Chair/Committee, East Asian Law & Society Section of AALS (2013-16)
- Jury Trial Project Team, Japan Federation of Bar Associations (2005-2009)
- Interviewer/Evaluator, Japan-U.S. Fulbright Program (2008, 2006)

### ***Awards***

- Waymaker Award – Black Male Summit (2018)
- Outstanding Eagle Scout Award – National Eagle Scout Association (2018)
- Inductee, Kappa Kappa Psi Band Fraternity (2018)
- Honorary professor, Henan University (China) (2017)
- Honoree, National Residence Hall Honorary (2017)
- Inductee, Omnicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Fraternity (2017)

## **LEGAL EXPERIENCE**

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### ***Akerman Senterfitt P.A. (Orlando), Senior Associate, 2002-03 / Associate, 1999-2001***

- **Litigation.** Participated in all phases of commercial, franchise, travel, real estate, international, corporate, employment, IP, telecom, and semiconductor-related litigation and arbitration.
- **Transactional practice** including e-commerce; data privacy; real estate; franchises, software licensing; domain name practice; M&A; telecom; and contracts.

### ***YPD.com / Advanced Telecom. Network, Inc. (Florida/N.J.), General Counsel, 2001-2002***

- Chief legal counsel for Akerman Senterfitt client -- online yellow pages company and telecom reseller located in Tampa and Cherry Hill. Advised CEO on all legal related matters.
- Handled intellectual property matters, e-commerce, data privacy, licensing agreements, employment matters, contracts, acquisitions, corporate, and other business-related matters.
- Served as lead counsel in over 20 lawsuits around the U.S.; managed outside counsel; participated in several mergers and acquisitions; drafting and negotiation of licenses, commercial agreements, e-commerce materials, trademark applications, and other corporate documents.

***Legal consultant*** (Illinois): discovery dispute in U.S. federal court. (2019)

***Legal consultant*** (Illinois): product defect litigation in U.S. federal court in Illinois. (2010-12)

***Expert witness*** (California): Securities lawsuit involving Japanese law in U.S. federal court. (2010-11)

***Legal consultant*** (Florida): financial-related litigation in U.S. federal court. (2009)

***Legal counsel*** (Florida): Co-counsel in real estate/ finance litigation in the U.S. federal court. (2006-07)

***Legal and Japanese language consultant*** (Philadelphia): Assisted in a semiconductor patent infringement litigation in U.S. federal court in California – *CFM v. DaiNippon Screen*. (1999-2002)