

## Highlights

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ADVANCING THE BUSINESS OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY GLOBALLY  
CREATING, PROTECTING, AND COMMERCIALIZING INNOVATION | MANAGING AND MONETIZING INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

## President's Message:

## The Need For More Collaboration Within Our LES Family

By Ichiro Nakatomi, President, LES International



Six months have passed since I became President. Looking back on the first half, I wonder if I am following my original plan—are we supporting the LESI Committees and each LES Society as planned after our meeting in Venice? As I noted in my first President's message, my theme for this year is "Sustainable Innovation And Sustainable Collaboration To Support IP Business Goals." I try to think about what is missing, how we can make up for it, and how we can make the LES experience richer and more fulfilling.

It has been an active year so far, and I've been able to engage with a number of events hosted by LES Societies. Table 1 shows my participation and speeches I've given in-person or by video.

I also attended more than 20 Committee meetings and separate programs, led the National Presidents Counsel Meeting on September 21 and Committee Leaders Meeting

on November 17 and had discussion externally with various sections of WIPO on December 6.

After the meetings, I felt that some committees have definitely grown and improved, while others are still in need of improvement. Also, within LESI, there should be more collaboration with outside organizations. Even our daily work could have more external collaborations.

In September, I challenged the Society Presidents to identify external groups that they have worked with or could work with so that we can invite them to join LES meetings or otherwise collaborate on local projects to support and discuss IP licensing. We plan to also invite the heads of these groups to join us in Montreal for the LESI 2023 Annual Conference, April 31–May 2.

In early December I met with the LES Switzerland team in Geneva: Martin Schneider, Peter Ling, and Michèle Burnier. I also visited WIPO and met with Lisa Jorgenson, Edward Kwakwa, Dalila Hamou, Charles Randolph, Chris Ruggerio, Allison Mages, Carsten Fink, Adam Rattray, Olga Spasic, Nadine Hakizimana, Cathy Jewell, Johanne Belisle and Amy Dietterich, among many others, and they thanked us for their current collaboration and we confirmed looking forward to other collaborative activities for mutual interest. Charles Randolph confirmed that he will be the contact person for us.

I attended the 2022 General Assembly and Board Members meeting at LES France. I met with about half of all members at LES France. Arnaud Michel, Alfred Chaouat, Claire le Floch, Jean-Hyacinthe de Mitry and Emmanuel Gougé hosted me. On behalf of Sophie Pasquier, President

**Table 1. Speaking Engagements at Conferences**

June 24:	Annual General Membership Meeting, <b>LES Philippines</b>
July 14-15:	Annual Conference, <b>LES Japan</b>
September 2:	50th Anniversary Symposium, <b>LES Japan</b>
September 29-30:	IP CAMP, <b>LES Turkey</b>
October 6-7:	Annual Conference, <b>LES Thailand</b>
October 15-18:	Annual Conference (APPA <b>Korea</b> , substituted participation)
October 17-19:	Annual Conference, <b>LES USA &amp; Canada</b>
November 9-10:	IIPC (Patent Court of <b>Korea</b> )
November 24:	Asia Pacific Conference, <b>LES Philippines</b>
November 25:	Young Members Congress Asia-Pacific, <b>LES Philippines</b>
December 8:	Annual Conference and Board Meeting, <b>LES France</b>

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[www.lesi.org](http://www.lesi.org)

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[www.lesi.org/les-societies](http://www.lesi.org/les-societies)

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### Call For Content

We request contributions from all societies and individuals about important events, changes in the law in your country or region, conferences, annual meetings, board changes, and the like. You can submit articles or announcements to the editor or use the form on the website at the following address: [www.lesi.org/les-societies/les-global-news/submission-form](http://www.lesi.org/les-societies/les-global-news/submission-form).

Deadlines: December 1, March 1, June 1 and September 1

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of LES France at General Assembly, Claire organized these meetings well. Separately Pascal Attali from LES France gifted me his recent book on the history of patents, *ONCE UPON A TIME, THE PATENT* (reviewed elsewhere in this issue). I would like to thank all the people and LES members I have met above and would like to thank LES for its activities.

As I have said in my public speeches this year, LES members are in the best position to understand and effectively navigate changes to the way businesses collaborate around investments in technology. We understand the finer points of managing and leveraging IP—from creation, to negotiation, to dispute resolution. And, when we collaborate with professional organizations, LES can lead discussions about how to make the best and most valuable use of those assets.

I invite you all to join us and your LES colleagues from around the world in Montreal for LESI 2023. We are again glad to gather in-person and in a wonderful venue. We released a preliminary program in December, which in addition to lots of sessions on topics of interest to IP and licensing professionals, features three great keynote speakers from companies innovating in interesting ways to create global value:

- Daniel Lamarre, Executive Vice-Chairman of the Board, Cirque du Soleil
- François Ramsay, General Counsel, Hydro-Québec
- Marc St-Hilaire, CTO and Vice President, Technology & Innovation, CAE

Join us for this annual event! Register at [www.lesi2023.org](http://www.lesi2023.org).

I wish you all a happy new year! ■



WIPO colleagues meet with Ichiro Nakatomi.



Karthika Perumal, Ichiro Nakatomi and Scott Williams at the LES USA & Canada Annual Meeting.