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

President's Message:

Vision For LES— Think And Act From A Business Perspective

By Ichiro Nakatomi, President, LES International



Dear Members,

Summer vacation is over, and everyone is back to work and working hard. Some of you didn't get a summer break and are still working hard; there is only so much you can do in a year, so I have decided to focus on implementing my plan.

My theme this year as LESI President is "Sustainable Innovation and Sustainable Collaboration to Support IP Business Goals." This means that no matter how good a discovery or technology is, it will not last without collaboration. To realize this vision of LES, we must think and act from a business perspective. We can't easily create valuable rights or new ways of innovating by just saying it. If you want innovation, you have to partner with others. What do you think? Are internal and external partnerships working well at LES? First, I would like to see all LES members make better use of the LES network by successfully organizing collaborative events where members can work together, joining in hand, to collaborate with outside parties. We recognize that it is still not easy to move freely around the world due to COVID. But I believe that such collaborations—whether in person or virtual—are very valuable.

Second, I would like to see LES become more engaged with others in our community and the public; LES is an open association. I want you to participate in in-person and in virtual activities in the community and enjoy talking with many people. Sometimes it is good to use our hobbies to do things together. We at LES are not

only executives involved in the serious business of innovative technologies, but we're also an enjoyable organization where relationships built at LES often extend beyond our work lives. I want LES to be an enjoyable organization. I think such global interaction is an important element to maintain within LES. Even a small society can learn a lot by being exposed to ancient history and civilizations. We have the opportunity to touch each other among such members. How can we make the most of such opportunities? I think it would be fun to make new discoveries there.

Third, we need to improve our finances and operations. This is the role of the Board of Directors working with the Executive Director—but with viral infections such as COVID-19, the world is moving toward a more sophisticated virtual society. With this in mind, we believe that rational management is needed in the future and creative new approaches. In particular, this year we have added the following new sponsorship to support the work we do: The **LESI Thought Leadership Program** (September 2022). This series of programs will be conducted throughout the year and address three specific topics: Standard Essential Patents (SEPs), the Automotive Industry, and Dispute Resolution. These programs will cover a variety of topics and related articles will be published in *les Nouvelles*. We invite sponsors to support us and become Thought Leaders to further LES

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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.

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conversations on these issues. The first session to kick off the series was held virtually on SEPs on September 29.

Finally, we encourage LES members and non-members alike to purchase the videos from our LESI 2022 Annual Meeting in Venice. On September 26th, we held a virtual executive summary of the meeting titled “Top Take-aways from LESI 2022”—a one-hour live session to celebrate LESI 2022 hosted by the organizers and session moderators. Following this session, LESI released more than seven hours of recording made in Venice, Italy. These videos are available on the LESI website (www.lesi.org) for \$75 USD for LES members and \$150 USD for non-members. We know that not all LES members around the globe could join us—watching these videos is your chance to stay in the loop as we continue conversations on topics started during the next year leading up to LESI 2023 in Montreal! ■



From left: Ichiro Nakatomi, LESI President; Ken-ichi Nagasawa, LES Japan President; Chikako Hashimoto, LES Japan, President-Elect; and three commissioners of the Japan Patent Office (JPO).



Young Members Congress (YMC) enjoy the Venice meeting.