2015 Distinguished Alumni Award Ceremony

University of Michigan Law School

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2015

Distinguished Alumni Award Ceremony

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN LAW SCHOOL
Welcome to the 2015 presentation of the University of Michigan Law School’s Distinguished Alumni Awards. For the fifth time, we are pleased to honor our most outstanding alumni as part of Reunion Weekend.

During Reunion, alumni return home to the Law Quad and reflect on how Michigan Law has influenced their personal and professional lives. Just as their time in the Quad impacts them, our alumni impact society through their work and service. This year’s honorees have made significant marks in their careers and showcase the divergent paths for which a Michigan Law education prepares graduates. They represent the leaders and best of Michigan Law’s more than 22,000 living alumni, and they are wonderful role models for our students and for the lawyers of tomorrow. I am honored to congratulate them and to present their awards today.

Please join me in saluting these alumni and their accomplishments.

Mark D. West
Dean
Nippon Life Professor of Law
Program of Events

Welcome and Introductions by
Master of Ceremonies Herbert Kohn, '63

Greetings on Behalf of Students
LSSS President James Eland, 2L

Introduction of
Professor Emeritus Thomas E. Kauper, '60
by A. Paul Victor, '63

Introduction of
Yoichiro Yamakawa, MCL '69
by Professor Emeritus Whitmore Gray, '57

Final Remarks
Dean Mark West

Musical Conclusion
Headnotes

Reception immediately following
Thomas E. Kauper is the Henry M. Butzel Professor of Law Emeritus. He joined the Law School’s faculty in 1964. Professor Kauper is an antitrust expert who, in recent years, has focused on international antitrust and competition policy of the European Union. He has twice served in ranking positions with the U.S. Department of Justice, first as deputy assistant attorney general in the Office of Legal Counsel and then as assistant attorney general in charge of the Antitrust Division, the chief enforcement officer in that field. In these positions, he worked on matters ranging from executive power and treaty obligations to the application of American antitrust laws to international transactions and conduct abroad. He also served for 14 years as a member of the American Bar Association Council of the Antitrust Section and for one year served as vice-chairman of the Section. Professor Kauper spent the winter 2002 semester as the John M. Olin Visiting Professor of Business, Economics, and Law at Harvard Law School. He has written in the fields of property and antitrust, and is coauthor of Property: An Introduction to the Concept and the Institution. He earned both his AB and JD degrees from the University of Michigan. At the Law School he was editor-in-chief of the Michigan Law Review, a member of Order of the Coif, and the recipient of the Henry M. Bates Award, considered the highest student award at the School. Following a clerkship with U.S. Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart, he practiced law in Chicago before beginning his academic career at the Law School.
Yoichiro Yamakawa is a partner in the Tokyo firm of Koga & Partners. He sat on the boards of Mitsui Sumitomo Financial Group and Daiichi Mutual Life Insurance Company until June 2009, and Renesas Electronics Corporation until June 2014; Yamakawa now serves on the boards of Nisshin Steel Co. Ltd. and Daio Paper Corporation. His areas of practice include freedom of expression matters, general corporate work, and international transactions and litigation. He has represented major media in some of Japan’s most high-profile First Amendment cases, including Mainichi’s Okinawa secret telegram case and NHK’s newsmen’s privilege case. During the 1991-1992 academic year, he was a visiting professor at Michigan Law, co-teaching Freedom of Speech in the U.S. and Japan with then-Dean Lee Bollinger. Yamakawa has written widely on constitutional litigation and freedom of expression, and on issues related to defamation and privacy. He also has translated into Japanese both Archibald Cox’s The Warren Court and Joseph Sax’s Defending the Environment. He holds a bachelor of law degree from the University of Tokyo.

Yamakawa currently serves on the Dean’s Advisory Council at the Law School. He is married to Chieko Yamakawa, and they have two daughters, Maiko and Emi. Maiko studied for one year in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts at the University of Michigan.
PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS

2011
The Honorable Harry T. Edwards, '65
Robert B. Fiske Jr., '55, HLLD '97
Richard W. Pogue, '53

2012
Bruce P. Bickner, '68
The Honorable Amalya L. Kearse, '62
James J. White, '62

2013
Valerie B. Jarrett, '81
John M. Nannes, '73
Theodore J. St. Antoine, '54

2014
Roger W. Wilkins, '56