

2022 Annual MeetingOfficer/Director bios

Nominated officers for term ending 2024

Harry Whalen (President)

Mr. Whalen joined the Frisco Economic Development Corporation as Director of Business Development in October 2014. His primary responsibility is the attraction of new national and international investment in Frisco. He has served on development boards and commissions in numerous states, including Texas, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Michigan. Mr. Whalen is a graduate of the University of South Carolina (USC) with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in advertising design. He was a graduate student in journalism at USC and is a graduate of the Industrial Development Institute at the University of Oklahoma. He was elected to the JASDFW Board in 2015.

Lawrence Howorth (American First Vice President/President-elect)

Mr. Howorth is the Director, Mayor's Office of International Business, Richardson Economic Development Partnership and Vice President, International Business Development, Richardson Chamber of Commerce. He focuses on bringing Foreign Direct Investment and new businesses into the City of Richardson, Texas and supports Richardson-based companies in their efforts to grow their international business and enter new international markets. His background includes executive-level positions and over 40 years of multinational business experience in multiple industries and more than 25 countries including Japan and neighboring countries where he led the development of a technology training business. He was a founding member of two multinational companies and currently is the President and Founder of HOWORTH International LLC and an Adjunct Professor with the Dallas Community College.

Tsutomu Wakamatsu (Japanese Second Vice President

Mr. Wakamatsu is Vice President and Regional Manager, Southern Region, USA, Mexico, and Central America for Japan Airlines. His most recent prior post was Vice President, General Affairs for JAL's Hokkaido Region, a position he started in 2014. He has also served as Manager, Strategy Planning; Manager, General Affairs with the Mexico branch; and Assistant Manager in the Flight Crew Planning Department. Mr. Wakamatsu started with Japan Airlines in 1992 and his first roles were in the Japan Asia Airways Cabin Crew Department, and in International Passenger Sales at the Osaka branch. He graduated from the School of Law at Keio University.

Dustin Johnson (American Second Vice President)

Mr. Johnson is a patent attorney and the Administrative Partner in the Dallas-North Office of Haynes and Boone, LLP. He advises clients in all aspects of Intellectual Property, including general counseling, freedom to operate, patent infringement, and patent validity. He manages IP portfolios spanning a variety of technology areas, and he helps clients obtain protection for their developments and inventions. Prior to attending law school, Mr. Johnson worked in the industrial diamond industry. He spent two years living in Osaka as a representative for his church. He holds a B.S. in mechanical engineering from Brigham Young University and a J.D. from American University, Washington College of Law. He was elected to the JASDFW Board in 2016.

Elaine Browning (Secretary)

Ms. Browning has been a JASDFW Board member since 2011 and served as President from 2014 to 2016. She was Host Cities Coordinator for the 2012 Japan-America Grassroots Summit in North Texas. During prior Board service in the early 2000s, she held positions as an officer and also organized JASDFW's Women's Outreach, arranging events between Japanese and American women in the area. While twice living in Japan in the 1990s, she worked as an English teacher and curriculum consultant for a large juku in Mie Prefecture and later as an adjunct instructor in the School of Economics at Sophia University, Tokyo. She holds a B.A. from Mount Holyoke College, an M.B.A. from Southern Methodist University, and a certificate from Tokyo Institute of Japanese Language.

Takashi Kubota (Treasurer)

Mr. Kubota has been an HR Business Partner at NEC Corporation of America since 2013. He started his professional career as an international grain merchandiser at the Archer Daniels Midland Company (ADM) in Decatur, Illinois, where he exported U.S. corn and beans to Japanese customers such as Marubeni and Mitsui. Before joining NEC, he worked as an HR professional at major Japanese companies in the U.S. such as Nissin International and Toyota Tsusho. He studied at Oberlin College in Ohio and earned an M.A. in American Studies from the University of Tsukuba. While at Tsukuba, he was a Japanese Delegate at the 47th U.S.-Japan Student Conference. He served as Japanese First Vice President of JASDFW from 2015-2017 and 2019-2020.

Roshan Mansinghani (General Counsel)

Mr. Mansinghani is Legal Head (NPE) at Unified Patents, LLC. He previously practiced for nearly a decade in the Intellectual Property Practice at Baker Botts L.L.P. He has over a decade of experience in patent litigation and trials, and has also extensive experience in patent counseling and intellectual property due diligence in the context of merger and acquisition transactions and licensing programs. While in law school, Mr. Mansinghani served as an intern for Judge William W. Justice at the U.S. District Court in the Western District of Texas. He earned his J.D. at The University of Texas School of Law and his B.S. in electrical engineering at Rice University. He previously served as General Counsel of JASDFW from 2014 to 2018.

Nominated officer for term ending 2023

Makoto Yasuda (Japanese First Vice President)Bio forthcoming

Nominated elected director for term ending 2023

Anne Moroni

Ms. Moroni is Vice President of Operations Planning and Performance at American Airlines (AA). She leads the strategic planning efforts for AA's Operational divisions, including crew planning/crew scheduling, block planning and schedule reliability planning and leads the Operations Performance & Analytics team for American. Anne joined AA 12 years ago and her career has spanned the Finance, Commercial and Operations organizations. Before joining American, Ms. Moroni spent several years in Investment Banking for Société Générale in Paris, France, and New York City. She holds Bachelor of Business Administration from École Supérieure de Commerce de Paris (ESCP), and a Master of Business Administration from the College of William & Mary, Virginia. Anne is a proud member of PWA, IAWA and an executive sponsor for the Asian Pacific Islander Employee Resource Group at American. She joined the JASDFW Board in January 2022.

Nominated elected directors for terms ending 2025

Naveen Bandla

Mr. Bandla is Senior Manager, Research and Analytics at Dallas Fort Worth International Airport. He has more than 17 years' experience in air service development, statistical analyses, flight scheduling, network planning, forecasting, and fleet optimization, including 12 years with Sabre Airline Solutions. He was named one of the "Top 40 Under 40" industry leaders in the Airport Business Magazine in 2013. He earned a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering and a master's in industrial engineering. He is active in the Asian-American employee resource group at DFW Airport. Mr. Bandla joined the JASDFW Board in 2015 and served on the 2016 Award Dinner Underwriting Committee.

Carlo Capua

Mr. Capua is Deputy Chief of Staff for Fort Worth Mayor Mattie Parker and City Council. As one of Fort Worth's first social entrepreneurs, Carlo started a catering business that created 165 jobs for low-income residents for over 13 years and fed 150,000 food-insecure people during the COVID pandemic. After earning a business degree from Texas Christian University in 2000, he spent 7 years teaching English in Fort Worth's sister cities of Nagaoka, Japan (JET Programme) and Toluca, Mexico (Tec de Monterrey). He recently earned his master's in International Relations from Harvard University and serves on the boards of the Rotary Club of Fort Worth, United Way of Tarrant County, and Sister Cities International. He has started and sold multiple businesses and is a sought-after speaker and emcee. An avid athlete, he has finished 18 marathons (one in North Korea!) and an Ironman Triathlon. He speaks fluent Spanish and Japanese, and is married to Dr. Rachael Capua.

Don Casey

Mr. Casey is Senior Vice President-Revenue Management for American Airlines. He is responsible for all of American Airlines' passenger pricing and yield management activity for its worldwide network. Prior to assuming this position, Mr. Casey was responsible for managing and developing American's bilateral alliance relationships throughout the world, as well as American's participation in the oneworld Alliance. Before joining American in 2000, he was Senior Vice President of Planning for Canadian Airlines. He holds a B.S. in applied mathematics and statistics from the University of Alberta and an M.B.A. from the University of British Columbia. Mr. Casey joined the JASDFW Board in 2004, served as President from 2012 to 2014, and has chaired numerous committees.

Misaki Collins

Ms. Collins is External Relations Manager of the Dallas Mavericks, where she manages stakeholder relationships and corporate social responsibility initiatives for the franchise. Before joining the Mavs, she was on the advance team for the Kamala Harris For The People Presidential campaign and worked for the Dallas Leadership Foundation, focusing on economic mobility in south Dallas. She also serves on the Planning and Zoning Commission for the City of Irving and enjoys volunteering for community organizations. She has previously served as Co-Chair to the Texas Women's Foundation's Young Women's Advisory Council and as a Goodwill Ambassador for the National Cherry Blossom Festival. Ms. Collins is passionate about DEI and engaging younger generations in community building and cultural appreciation. She earned her bachelor's degree from the University of North Texas.

Alec Hagey

Mr. Hagey is senior vice president and chief operating officer at Toyota Financial Services (TFS). He leads more than 2,400 team members across the nation and is responsible for all sales and marketing activities, including remarketing, voluntary protection products, and fleet management, bringing TFS products and services to market. In addition, he oversees the company's service operations efforts. He began his career with Toyota Motor Sales in 1990 and held a variety of key positions in sales and marketing. From 2005 to 2010, he was general manager of Lexus Central, the Denver Region, and the New York Region, leading sales teams to consistently grow market share. Prior to joining TFS in 2019, he was vice president of marketing for Toyota Motor Sales and later served as vice president and general manager of the Los Angeles Region at Toyota Motor Sales. Mr. Hagey earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications Studies at San Diego State University.

David Nishida

Mr. Nishida is a Senior Managing Director, Chief Administrative and Operations Officer, and interim Chief Financial Officer for ORIX Corporation USA (ORIX USA). He is head of the company's corporate operations center in Dallas and is responsible for leading multiple ORIX USA group-wide functions, including enterprise resource planning, information technology and security, operations, cost management, facilities management, and business continuity. Mr. Nishida brings to ORIX USA more than 35 years of private equity, accounting, and finance experience in the U.S. and Japan. Prior to joining ORIX USA, Mr. Nishida held senior management roles at Hudson Japan KK and Morgan Stanley Properties Japan KK. More recently, he served as an independent advisor to Softbank Corp. of Japan, as well as active involvement on several private company and not-for-profit boards. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from the University of California, Los Angeles. Mr. Nishida joined the JASDFW board in 2021.

Allison Payne

Ms. Payne is a partner based in PwC's Dallas office, currently serving both public and private clients primarily within the automotive and industrial products/manufacturing industry sectors. In addition to her client roles, Ms. Payne leads PwC's Automotive Assurance practice nationally and is a member of the Firm's Japan Business Network, a group of PwC partners focused on serving the business needs of Japanese companies with operations in the United States. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for Dallas/Fort Worth chapters of the Japan American Society and the World Affairs Council. Prior to moving to Dallas in 2015, Ms. Payne spent seven years on assignment with PwC in Japan, serving audit clients in the automotive and consumer markets industry sectors. Born and raised in Portland, Oregon, Ms. Payne is a graduate of Oregon State University and is a C.P.A. in Texas and Oregon. She was elected to the JASDW Board as Treasurer in 2016.

Mike Rosa

Mr. Rosa is the Dallas Regional Chamber's Senior Vice President of Economic Development. His team is responsible for economic development marketing and corporate recruitment to the region. Prior, he was a Senior Vice President with the Buxton Company and spent 14 years with the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce, ultimately serving as Senior Vice President of Economic Development. During his career, he has successfully engaged numerous corporate locations and expansions to North Texas, including headquarters projects, such as AT&T, Comerica Bank, Fluor, Hilti North America, Kubota Tractor Corporation, and Toyota Motor North America. In 2015, he served as Chair of the Texas Economic Development Council (TEDC), the 800-member statewide organization for economic developers. Mr. Rosa holds a Master of Science in economic development and a Bachelor of Science in regional planning from the University of Southern Mississippi.

Hiroki Takeuchi

Dr. Takeuchi is Associate Professor and Director of Undergraduate Studies of Political Science at Southern Methodist University (SMU), and Director of the Sun & Star Program on Japan and East Asia in the SMU Tower Center for Public Policy and International Affairs. He received his Ph.D. of Political Science from the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA), his M.A. of Asian Studies from University of California at Berkeley, and his B.A. of Economics from Keio University in Japan. Previously, he taught at UCLA as a faculty fellow of the Political Science Department and at Stanford University as a postdoctoral teaching fellow of the Public Policy Program. Dr. Takeuchi's research and teaching interests include Chinese and Japanese politics, comparative authoritarian politics, and international relations and political economy of East Asia, as well as applying game theory to political science.

Nominated honorary and regular directors for term ending 2024

Grant Ogata (Immediate Past President)

Mr. Ogata serves as Principal of Domitech Products, LLC, and EnerControl, LLC. His professional career spans more than 35 years in the consumer electronics and retail industry for various firms including serving as a corporate officer at RadioShack Corporation, Arkados, Inc., and Powermat, LLC, and as Senior Director at Motorola, Inc., focusing on product development, global sourcing, and marketing. He holds a B.S. in marketing from San Diego State University and has deep roots in Japan, having lived in or worked in Japan for 18 years. Mr. Ogata is active in Southlake Sister Cities and served as Southlake's local coordinator for the 2012 Japan America Grassroots Summit. He joined the JASDFW Board in 2013 and served as JASDFW president from 2020-2022.

Taisuke Iwaki (Immediate Past Japanese First Vice President)

Mr. Iwaki is Vice President, Human Resources of Toyota Motor North America (TMNA), where he leads organizational management, talent development strategy, and labor relations. Prior to Joining TMNA in 2020, Taisuke has been employed by Toyota Motor Corporation in Japan for 17 years and has been responsible for oversea dispatch management, Head Count/Labor cost management strategy, talent development, labor management including been employed by Toyota Motor engineering and Manufacturing North America in Kentucky from 2009 to 2013. He graduated from Hitotsubashi University with a bachelor's in economics.