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WORLD JURIST ASSOCIATION

VISION, STRATEGY, COLLABORATION, EXPERIENCE

Kim Quarles Candidate for WJA President – Campaign Platform

The World Jurist Association is at a crossroads. Since its beginning, in 1963, The WJA has relied on conferences as a revenue source. This was once an effective model because countries were willing, and could afford to sponsor the WJA and there was limited competition from other legal organizations.

For at least the past fifteen years, reliance on conferences has brought the WJA to the brink of financial disaster. As a result, over the past few years, the WJA has begun to realize that its current financial structure was no longer a viable business model. It's time to change that strategy, not increase it.

President Hoet has proposed a complicated restructuring of the WJA that relies solely on conferences. [Which can be viewed on the WJA website] This strategy has a proven history of failure. I propose a different vision for the WJA, one that is based on expanding our global influence; building on the U.N. involvement, which I have developed over the past four years, as the WJA representative to the U.N. in New York; and, focusing on fundable projects that concentrate on Rule of Law initiatives. The World Jurist Association has a unique opportunity to regain its former global stature and position itself as a global leader by expanding this involvement and focusing on those Rule of Law initiatives that can be supported by Foundation funding – relying on conferences solely to increase visibility and provide cash flow.

I have the vision and almost 30 years' of proven corporate and volunteer expertise identifying operational weaknesses and implementing strategies for financial and organizational success. Because I have been involved with many corporate and non-profit organizations over the past several years, I have seen how competition has changed organizations and I have a clear vision of what is needed to move the WJA forward.

MY VISION FOR THE WJA:

A cohesive five part strategy that supports the mission of the World Jurist Association by focusing on:

- An integrated Financial Strategy that focuses on activities that dynamically support the mission of the WJA and includes activities that are likely to secure governmental and/or private foundation funding:
 - Enhancing and expanding the working relationship with the United Nations
 - Collaborating on projects that coordinate the WJA Mission with the U.N.'s Sustainable Development Goals [SDG's]
 - Participating in High Level Political Forums
 - Participating/Coordinating with WJA Judges in the DPI/NGO –Conference in Nigeria
 - Identify projects that align UN SDG's with WJA's mission, such as:
 - SDG 4 – Quality [legal] education
 - SDG 10 – Reduce inequalities
 - SDG 16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
 - Provide a Clearinghouse and information Center
 - Engage in Research, conferences and activities to strengthen rule of law
 - Encourage teaching and study of international law
 - Exchange among nations of lawyers, legal scholars, professors of law
 - International Dispute Resolution
 - After establishing applicable accounting procedures, job descriptions, operational structure/strategic plans and ensuring compliance with local laws reinstating Country Presidents right to vote on the Board of Governors and providing Country Presidents with the ability to establish local WJA chapters with membership fees that are paid to the WJA
 - Using conferences to provide cash flow and increase the visibility of the WJA.
 - Prepare conference calendar with conferences projected at least one year in advance
 - Permits members to plan for meetings and increases likelihood of greater member participation
 - Facilitates visa process for members needing visas
 - Diversify conference strategy
 - leverage enhanced visibility from conferences to develop sponsors, members, and alternate sources of funding
 - develop a calendar of webinars on matters of global interest

- Membership Development - Identify concrete member benefits – a process that was begun in 2012, but which can be more effectively implemented by requiring Country Presidents to submit business plans for membership development that identify plans to grow membership in their countries and align with the WJA mission and objectives
- Classify WJA services that enhance membership
- Determine countries that are not yet represented in the WJA and select country presidents in those countries to develop members. For example:
 - Albania
 - France
 - Cuba
 - Ecuador
- Enhance leadership development with existing initiatives and evaluating additional creative solutions.

I have 30+ years of proven corporate reorganization and volunteer experience together with the skills to evaluate and implement the best opportunities for WJA's growth.

RELEVANT GLOBAL CORPORATE EXPERIENCE

- Identifying non-performing and/or underperforming departments – recommending efficiencies to improve operations
- Structuring/restructuring strategic plans to improve operations
- Working collaboratively with division officers to implement reorganization/restructuring plans
- Rehabilitating a company operation that was losing USD800.00 for every USD1.00 it was earning - within three years, the deficit was eliminated and the program produced 200% profits
- Increasing revenues and operational profits from USD6M to USD23M in 4 years by focusing on strategically identifying and improving client service

RELEVANT VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE:

American Bar Association – February 2017 Elected as a Fellow of the American Bar Association Foundation, an organization comprised of attorneys whose public and private careers have demonstrated outstanding dedication to the welfare of their communities and to the highest principles of the legal profession. Membership is limited to 1% of licensed attorneys in the United States, who are elected by their peers.

United Nations

- Initially, the WJA representative. Elected to the NGO/DPI Executive Committee within one year
- Elected as Vice Chair within three years
 - working collaboratively with IMPACT subcommittee to implement strategic process changes and by-laws improvements
- Elevated WJA reputation within the U.N. by attending/recommending/participating in high level meetings and side events

U.S. Congress

- Working collaboratively with U.S. Congress, both Republicans and Democrats and the Bush White House, to generate consensus and pass the historic Terrorism Risk Insurance Act and its subsequent replacements, TRIREA and TRIPREA;

Local

- Developed a strategic plan to restore deteriorating neighborhood through the use of grants to establish low cost live/work space for artists.
 - Coordinated with the Senate President of the Illinois Assembly, the local village government and village operations, to provide the secure funding for the project
- Austin Development Corporation – The board was comprised of eight Chicago based banks and two community representatives. As one of the community representatives, I was responsible for evaluating business operations and strategic growth plans of local businesses and making recommendations for loans based on the feasibility and practicality of those plans

The WJA must make a crucial decision. We can move forward strategically, or we can continue to rely on a flawed strategy that has proven to be financially detrimental for at least 15 years. Based on my 30+ years in corporate and volunteer involvement in operations/ financial organization/restructuring capacities, I have the vision and the ability to implement the proposed structure; work collaboratively with all WJA members to present an operationally sound structure; and to strategically move the WJA to its next level of success.