

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST: Academic Administrative Appointment for a Faculty Member

NAME: Mark D. West

CURRENT TITLES: Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Nippon Life Professor of Law, and Professor of Law, with tenure, Law School

RECOMMENDED TITLES: Dean, Nippon Life Professor of Law, and Professor of Law, with tenure, Law School

TERM: Five Year, Renewable

EFFECTIVE DATES: September 1, 2013 through August 31, 2018

I am pleased to recommend for Regental approval the appointment of Mark D. West as dean of the Law School, for a five-year renewable term, effective September 1, 2013 through August 31, 2018. This recommendation follows a broad search conducted by a search advisory committee.

Mark West earned his B.A. degree from Rhodes College in 1989 and his J.D. degree in 1993 from Columbia Law School, where he was notes and comments editor of the *Columbia Law Review*. He clerked for the Honorable Eugene H. Nickerson of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York, and practiced in the law firm of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison in New York and Tokyo. From 1997-1998 he was an Abe Fellow at the University of Tokyo Faculty of Law. He has conducted research and taught at Kyoto University, where he has been a Fulbright Scholar and a fellow of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science.

Professor West joined the University of Michigan Law School faculty as an assistant professor in 1998 and was appointed Nippon Life Professor of Law in 2003. From 2003-2007 he served as the director of the Law School's Center for International and Comparative Law, and from 2003-2008 as director of the University of Michigan Center for Japanese Studies. In 2008 he was appointed associate dean for academic affairs. He is also currently the director of the Law School's Japanese Legal Studies Program.

Professor West is the author of *Lovesick Japan: Sex • Marriage • Romance • Law* (2011); *Secrets, Sex, and Spectacle: The Rules of Scandal in Japan and the United States* (2006); *Law in Everyday Japan* (2005), and coauthor of *The Japanese Legal System* (2006, 2nd ed. 2012) and *Economic Organizations and Corporate Governance in Japan* (2004). His current research examines the ways in which group and individual responsibility are presented and analyzed in

Japanese court opinions. In addition to the impressive number of books published over the past decade, Professor West has a strong record of published articles, reviews, commentaries, and presentations delivered nationally and internationally. He has also served as a consultant to the World Bank and to various government offices in the U.S. and Japan. He currently teaches Criminal Law and Japanese Law. His curriculum interest areas include those courses as well as comparative law and corporate law and practice.

I am very pleased that Professor West will assume the leadership of the Law School at a time when thoughtful approaches are needed to basic issues facing legal education. Mark West is an experienced administrator with a strong commitment to fostering an engaged intellectual community within the Law School and across the university, to assisting students with the challenges ahead as the legal profession experiences change, and to fundraising for Law School initiatives. I am pleased to recommend his appointment, effective September 1, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Philip J. Hanlon", written over a horizontal line.

Philip J. Hanlon
Provost and Executive Vice President
for Academic Affairs

February 2013