

## Annual JASNC Conference Presenter's Bio

### Korey Howard:

**Mr. Korey Howard** currently heads up the International Business Development efforts for the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina. A native North Carolinian, he worked and lived in Japan for more than 20 years prior to moving back home in November 2015. Korey brings extensive corporate experience in transaction advisory and HR-related fields, including with firms like Ernst & Young, Fast Retailing (the world's 4th largest apparel retailer and parent company of brands such as Uniqlo and Theory), and Sanyo Electric. In his current role, Korey oversees EDPNC's network of FDI recruitment offices, and is responsible for identifying and developing business recruitment prospects, particularly in Japan. He studied at UNC-Chapel Hill and Keio University in Tokyo. He speaks, read, and writes Japanese at a near-native level.



### Tohru Sasaki:

**Mr. Tohru Sasaki** is a Managing Director and Head of Japan Markets Research with JPMorgan Chase Bank, Tokyo. Prior to joining JPMorgan in April 2003, he held several positions with Bank of Japan, where he had worked since 1992. Mr. Sasaki served as a BOJ Representative of the Americas (NY office) between 2000 and 2003 where he was responsible for exchanging market information and views with Federal Reserve Bank of New York and other U.S. financial authorities. He also worked as a senior trader of the Foreign Exchange division at the Bank of Japan Tokyo office between 1994 and 1997, where his responsibilities included the execution of the foreign exchange intervention and the provision of foreign exchange market analysis to senior policymakers.



Mr. Sasaki began his career in the Research and Statistics Division at the Bank of Japan in 1992 after receiving his B.A. from Sophia University. He is a Chartered Member of the Security Analysts Association of Japan and Chartered Member of the Security Analysts Association of Japan. Mr. Sasaki is author of "Strong currency in a Weak country (in Japanese language)", Nikkei Publishing Inc., Oct. 2011 and "Why salary increases may not be enough to beat inflation (in Japanese language)", Diamond Inc., Apr. 2013. He ranked #1 in FX strategist ranking in the survey conducted by Nikkei in 2016.

## Atsukuni Waragai:

Mr. Atsukuni Waragai has been the President of Honda Aero Inc. headquartered in Burlington, North Carolina since 2015. He received a bachelor's degree from Tokyo Institute of Technology, Mechanical Engineering Department in 1983. He has held several positions in Honda since he joined the company.



He started working for Honda R&D as a mechanical engineer for Automobile Engine advanced research in 1983 and participated in early VTEC and Wing Turbo programs. He was transferred to the Honda Fundamental Research Center when it was established and started the Jet Engine research program. As Large Project Leader of the HF 118 aircraft engine, he accomplished the first flight of the HondaJet with this engine in December 2003. He became the Vice President of Honda and Executive Vice President of GEHonda Aero Engines in 2004.

The HF 120 aircraft engine was certified in December 2013 when he was the Chief Operations Officer of the Aircraft Engine R&D center.

## Richard K. Zollinger:

**Mr. Richard K. Zollinger** is the Vice President for Learning and Workforce Development at Central Piedmont Community College (CPCC) in Charlotte, North Carolina. As chief academic officer, he oversees over 1,700 faculty and staff and is responsible for approximately 72,000 students in an array of credit and non-credit offerings across the College's six full-service Mecklenburg County campuses as well as two centers and the online campus. In his role as Vice President for Learning and Workforce Development, Richard Zollinger provides leadership for 285 degree and diploma programs and active direction and engagement in implementing innovative practices.



Mr. Richard Zollinger has been instrumental in implementing American-European models through collaboration between the College and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry – IHK Karlsruhe to promote German-American workforce development and training initiatives in such fields as Mechatronics and energy management, resulting in closing the skills gap. He plays a key role at CPCC in the Charlotte Regional Workforce Development initiative, the Apprenticeship Charlotte initiative, the Work-based Learning initiative, and in pursuing and developing grants to help serve the needs of the College, its students, and the community during challenging economic times via the creation of a

stable and productive educational “talent pipeline” that, on the momentum of student success and completion, leads to world-wide job opportunities