

# TIES THAT BIND

**As Gary Biehn assists local businesses to forge meaningful relationships abroad, he also maintains his family's strong ties to Temple—even when he's a world away.**

Gary Biehn's association with and enthusiasm for Temple University are so strong that one would think he inspired the Temple Made campaign.

In addition to his time at the Fox School, Biehn, *BBA '81*, is in a family with ties to Temple that go back a generation. His father, Donald M. Biehn, worked in grant accounting at Temple; his wife, Diana Barnes Biehn, *MBA '90*, also graduated from Fox; and his older brother, Curtis Biehn, is an architecture graduate. Although he has not made his college decisions, Biehn's son, Christopher, a high school senior, has been accepted to Temple's School of Media and Communication.

"There's a rich history and connection with Temple," Biehn, 54, said. "It's clearly in our blood."

Biehn also maintains Temple pride because of the foundations in business and leadership he gained in college, which helped him succeed at Duke University School of Law and at the law firm White and Williams LLP, where Biehn has worked as a corporate attorney for more than 30 years, currently serving as partner and chair of the China Business Group and International Group.

Biehn's focus in assisting local companies to forge meaningful international business

relations earned him an appointment to the Mid-Atlantic District Export Council as well as the board of the World Trade Center of Greater Philadelphia, of which he is the vice chairman.

The father of two sons, Christopher and Eric, credits his grandparents, who emigrated from rural Germany, for his interest in international business.

"They gave me a very good appreciation of the importance of understanding other cultures," he said.

Biehn has taken business trips to China since 2001. In 2012, he joined Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter, the Philadelphia Orchestra and others in visiting Tianjin, China, the sister city of Philadelphia.

During an event on the trip, Biehn met a Temple alumnus who lived in faraway suburbs. The fellow graduate forged such a bond with Biehn that the man invited Biehn to stay with him and his family.

"It was a kind gesture, and those little moments are so very special because you get insight about people," Biehn said. "Every once in a while, Temple is in the middle of all of that."

Josh Fernandez



**Gary Biehn**

*BBA '81*

*Partner and Chair, China Business Group and International Group, White and Williams LLP*

- **Hometown:** *Churchville, Pa.*
- **Changing campus:** *"As I have stayed close with Temple and been a big Owls basketball fan, it's been amazing to see the campus transform. Having visited with my son, I suspect his first reaction was much different than mine when I was a high school senior."*

**CLASS NOTES** (continued from page 21)

**Kathryn Kubursi, MBA '08**

Appointed senior vice president, distribution management, and global client executive at ACE USA, the U.S.-based retail operations of the ACE Group. As a global client executive, Kubursi works with a select group of multinational clients and distribution partners to coordinate ACE's broad range of global risk management solutions on their behalf. In her role as senior vice president, she oversees key broker relationships and distribution strategies for ACE in the U.S.

**Joseph Nawa, BBA '10**

Named an account executive in the general industry practice of New Day Underwriting Managers, Bordentown, N.J.

**IN MEMORIAM**

**1940s**

Benjamin M. Quigg Jr., *BS '42*  
John W. Wilchek, *BS '49*

**1950s**

Anthony M. Tranchitella, *BS '50*  
William A. Doherty Jr., *BS '51*  
Robert Crane Hogg, *BS '51*  
Arnold Foley, *BS '52*  
Warren Freedman, *BS '53*  
Martin Musicant, *BBA '53*  
John Eugene Fuir, *BS '54*  
James J. Cloney, *BS '56*  
John Peter Kessler, *BS '57*  
Joan S. Davis, *EDU '59, MBA '74*

**1960s**

Richard Anthony Cuccuini, *BBA '69, MBA '76*

**1970s**

Francis T. Gain Jr., *BBA '72*  
Donald E. Spiller, *BBA '75*  
Curtis Searl, *BBA '77*  
Raymond R. Stevens Jr., *AS '79*

**1990s**

Jerry Schneider, *BBA '90*

**2010s**

Patrick A. Kenny, *BBA '11*