

Patent Public Advisory Committee Quarterly Meeting

Patent Quality Initiative Update



Drew Hirshfeld
Deputy Commissioner for Patent Examination Policy
February 12, 2014



Software Partnership Meetings

- USPTO held four Software Partnership meetings last year:
 - Stanford Law School, CA (February 12, 2013)
 - NYU Law School, NYC (February 27, 2013)
 - Berkeley Law School, CA (October 17, 2013)
 - Alexandria, VA (December 5, 2013)



Software Partnership Meetings

- Alexandria, VA Software Partnership Meeting
(December 5, 2013)
 - Discussed existing prior art resources and search tools available to examiners
 - Sought input from public on enhancing prior art resources
 - FR Notice requesting comments on prior art resources and search techniques (comment deadline – March 14, 2014)



Training Update

- Post-Myriad Training
 - Comprehensive guidance for eligibility determinations of claims involving laws of nature, natural phenomena, and natural products
 - Examiner training – February/March



Training Update

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USPTO Ranks #1 in Best Places to Work in the Federal Government Report

Of 300 federal agency subcomponents, the USPTO was named the best place to work in the federal government's Best Places to Work in 2013 by the non-profit Partnership for Public Service. The USPTO's rise to #1 follows a steady climb from #172 in 2007 to #5 in 2012.



The Director's Forum

A blog from USPTO's leadership



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Best Place to Work in Government

Ranked #1 of federal agency subcomponents



Latest Patent Examiner Guidance



USPTO Track One Prioritized patent



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USPTO NEWS

USPTO To Host Forum To Discuss Proposed Changes To Implement Patent Law Treaties Implementation Act of 2012 – Title I The Hague Agreement

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Ranks #1 in Best Places to Work in the Federal Government

U.S. Secretary of Commerce Penny Pritzker Names Michelle K. Lee as Next Deputy Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark



Training Update

- Upcoming training on 35 USC 112:
 - Claim construction (BRI)
 - Definiteness of claims and sufficient disclosure

****Clarity of the prosecution record continues to be a main theme**



Questions and Comments?

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