Office of the Chief Economist Update

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Topics for Discussion

- Overview of the Office of the Chief Economist (OCE)
- Contributions to USPTO priorities
- Research work and findings on IP
- Stakeholder support and engagement
Overview of OCE

- Established in 2010 to advise the Director and Chief Policy Officer
- Accomplished in four primary ways:
  1. By providing deep analytical capabilities
  2. By undertaking research and analysis
  3. By monitoring and interpreting quantitative work
  4. By promoting understanding through better data
Overview of OCE

- OCE is part of the Office of Policy and International Affairs (OPIA)

- OCE’s analytic capacity and research work:
  - Builds the evidence-base for effective IP policy
  - Promotes USPTO collaboration
  - Informs stakeholders through briefings, peer-reviewed articles, working papers, and reports
Contributions to USPTO priorities

- Internal priorities:
  - The USPTO fee setting process (elasticity estimates)
  - The Patent Examination Time Analysis (ETA) initiative
  - Thomas Alva Edison Visiting Scholars Program
  - Requests from other business units
Contributions to USPTO priorities

○ External priorities:
  – Initiatives from the White House
  – Responses to Congress
  – Responses to U.S. Government agencies and international organizations
Research: IP-intensive Industries

- These studies compare economic performance indicators across U.S. industries based on IP use
    » Stimulated similar studies in Europe, China and other countries
    » Used by the White House, Congress, U.S. Government agencies, and others
Research: Other Topics

- OCE has many additional reports and working papers. Some of the topics include:
  - Collaboration and ownership on patents issued to Chinese inventors
  - Patent examination quality, court litigation, and PTAB trials
  - A primer on patent prosecution and the examiner appraisal system
  - New metric for patent thickets
  - An anatomy of U.S. firms seeking trademark registration

- For more, go to: http://www.uspto.gov/economics
Research: Collaborative Projects

○ U.S. Government Collaborations:
  - White House Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator (IPEC)
  - White House Lab-to-Market initiative
  - Office of the U.S. Trade Representative
  - U.S. Small Business Administration

○ International Collaborations:
  - UK IPO & USPTO joint economic study
  - WIPO book project on innovation in mineral mining
  - WTO book project on cross-border trade in knowledge
Stakeholder support and engagement

- **Interact with the policy and scholarly communities:**
  - Northwestern University Searle Center/USPTO Conference on Innovation Economics
  - Participate in policy discussions (e.g. The Brookings Institution events)
  - OECD Statistics Task Force & WIPO Chief Economists Network

- **Release of user-friendly data resources:**
  - Public USPTO data sets: [http://www.uspto.gov/economics](http://www.uspto.gov/economics)
  - PatentsView – A unique visualization and analysis platform with over 40 years of USPTO data on granted patents: [https://www.patentsview.org](https://www.patentsview.org)
Public-Private Partnership
PatentsView User from MIT

“...thanks for making this invaluable tool freely available to the public. As an academic researcher I deeply appreciate and strongly believe that public access to good quality data is a powerful accelerator of scientific and technological progress.”
Facebook
Unlike at Tesla and Intrexon, which are dominated by one pattern, patent holders organize in various ways, perhaps to contribute to different parts of the overall product. One large network has roughly 60 percent of the company’s inventors (dark gray nodes), including the most prolific ones (largest nodes). Yet a set of employees has formed a relatively large and productive secondary network (orange nodes). Others work in smaller, isolated teams.
PatentsView API

API Queries: 3 month MA

74% year-to-date (Sep 2017) growth

104K average queries per day in 2017

27.9M total queries in 2017
Questions and Comments

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