Patent Quality Discussion Series

Auburn Hills, MI **Durham, NC**

AGENDA TOPICS

Status of the USPTO's Enhanced Patent Quality Initiative (EPQI). A discussion of the EPQI to date, including the foundation of the program, the enormous stakeholder involvement, and the evolving programs directed at enhancing patent quality developed therefrom. Time at the end of this session will be saved for participants' feedback on the discussed programs and/or new ideas.

Clarity of the Record Programs with Panel Discussion. Clarity of the written patent prosecution record is paramount to confidence in the issued patents resulting therefrom. Consequently, a number of evolving EPQI programs are aimed at enhancing clarity of the record. This discussion will include participation from a panel composed of USPTO experts and local practitioners to identify clarity issues of greatest interest.

Improving Global Patent Prosecution with a demonstration of current tools. This segment will focus on the USPTO's Office of International Patent Cooperation and their programs which aim to improve the quality, efficiency and predictability of global patent family prosecution. Global dossier services will be highlighted, and the Collaborative Search Pilot (CSP) Program will be extolled. Time will be reserved at the end of the segment to discuss new global patent quality ideas.

Measuring Patent Quality with Q&A. A discussion of how clarity together with correctness of patent prosecution can be captured. Further, discussions of current Office of Patent Quality Review (OPQA) processes and how these can be leveraged into more useful quality metrics is planned. This segment will include a Q&A portion where participants can weigh in on possible new metrics and their usefulness.

Enhancing Patent Quality through Remote Examiner Interviews. This segment will discuss one of the most powerful tools in the patent prosecution toolkit – the interview. Data on how effective interviews are perceived will be presented, and themes about in person interviews that were gathered at the Patent Quality Summit will be discussed. A virtual examiner interview will be demonstrated.

Current Patent Automation Initiatives including a Demonstration of Tools. This segment will introduce newly developed patent automation programs to meet changing business needs in Patent Operations.

November 4, 2015
9am-5pm ET
Thomas M. Cooley Law School
Auburn Hills Campus
2630 Featherstone
Auburn Hills, MI 48326

November 6, 2015
9am-5pm ET
North Carolina Central University School of Law
640 Nelson Street
Durham, NC 27707