



Patent Quality Conference

Silicon Valley USPTO Agenda

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

9:00 AM – 5:40 PM PT

9:00 AM – 9:10 AM **Check-in**

9:10 AM – 9:15 AM **Welcoming Remarks**

Ethics Presentation [Interactive]

9:15 AM – 10:15 AM

Ethics Presentation: Professional Responsibility and Practice Before the USPTO

Will Covey, Deputy General Counsel, Office of Enrollment and Discipline, USPTO

(1 hour of MCLE credit in legal ethics will be offered, pending approval from the State Bar of California)

Post Grant Activity [Interactive]

10:15 AM – 10:50 AM **Presentations:**

I. Patent Quality and Post Grant Activities

Russell Slifer, Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Deputy Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office

II. Effect of Patent Quality in U.S. Courts

The Honorable Raymond Chen, Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

10:50 AM – 11:45 AM **Panel Discussion:**

Patent Quality and Its Impact in the U.S. Courts

Moderator: **Charles Molster**, The Law Offices of Charles B. Molster, PLLC

The Honorable Raymond Chen, Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

The Honorable Paul Grewal, Vice President and Deputy General Counsel for Worldwide Litigation, Facebook; Magistrate Judge (ret.), United States District Court for the Northern District of California

The Honorable Paul Michel (ret.), Chief Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

The Honorable S. Jay Plager, Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

11:45 AM – 11:50 AM **Break**

International and Stakeholder Cooperation [Interactive]

11:50 AM – 1:45 PM **Panel Discussions:**

I. International Quality Efforts

Moderator: **Colleen Chien**, Associate Professor, Santa Clara Law

Roger Gobrogge, IP Counsel, ITIP ProFiciency, LLC

Dr. Stuart Graham, Associate Professor, Scheller College of Business, Georgia Institute of Technology

Mark Powell, Deputy Commissioner for International Patent Cooperation, USPTO

Alfred Spigarelli, Principal Director of Quality Management, European Patent Office

II. What Can Applicants do to Enhance Patent Quality?

Moderator: **Arti Rai**, Elvin R. Latty Professor of Law, Duke Law School

Robert Armitage, Consultant, IP Strategy & Policy

Mark Vallone, Lead IP Counsel, IBM

Russell Slifer, Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Deputy Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Saurabh Vishnubhakat, Associate Professor of Law and Engineering, Texas A&M University

Vera Ranieri, Attorney, Electronic Frontier Foundation

1:45 PM – 2:00 PM **Closing Remarks**

Next Steps of Enhancing Patent Quality/Closing Remarks

Andrew Hirshfeld, Commissioner for Patents, USPTO

2:00 PM – 2:30 PM **Lunch Break**

(Program following the lunch break is pre-recorded)

Keynote Speaker [Recorded Viewing]

2:30 PM – 2:45 PM

Advancing Quality in the IP Community

Michelle K. Lee, Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Enhanced Patent Quality Initiative Program Results [Recorded Viewing]

2:45 PM – 4:40 PM **Presentations:**

I. Clarity of the Record Pilot Results

Robin Evans, Director, Technology Center 2800, USPTO

II. Improving Clarity and Reasoning in Office Actions (ICR) Training/STEPP/Automated Pre-examination Search

Greg Vidovich, Associate Commissioner for Patent Quality, USPTO

III. Master Review Form and Quality Metrics Results

Martin Rater, Acting Director, Office of Patent Quality Assurance, USPTO

IV. Topic Submission for Case Studies Results

Brian Hanlon, Director, Office of Patent Legal Administration, USPTO

4:40 PM – 5:40 PM **Panel Discussion:**

Patent Quality in the USPTO – Our Next Steps!

Moderator: **Jack Harvey**, Assistant Deputy Commissioner for Patent Operations, USPTO

Robert Bahr, Deputy Commissioner for Patent Examination Policy, USPTO

Andrew Faile, Deputy Commissioner for Patent Operations, USPTO

Kevin Rhodes, President and Chief IP Counsel, 3M Innovative Properties Company

Hans Sauer, Deputy General Counsel, Biotechnology Innovation Organization

Valencia Martin Wallace, Deputy Commissioner of Patent Quality, USPTO