Call for Papers: Special Issue on Intellectual Property

International Journal of the Economics of Business

Deadline: April 30, 2017

The International Journal of the Economics of Business (IJEB) is sponsoring a special issue to be edited by a scientific committee led by Alan Marco and Andrew Toole of the Office of the Chief Economist (OCE) at the US Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). IJEB is devoted to the dissemination of original, high-quality, peer reviewed research in economics that is clearly applicable to business or related public policy issues. The focus of the special issue is on the economic impacts of intellectual property (IP) on market outcomes, with a particular emphasis on incentives for innovation and the development of new goods and services. The scientific committee is interested in research focusing on all types of IP, including patents, trademarks, copyrights, and trade secrets. Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Industry-specific studies on the economic impacts of IP
- Complementarities in the use of various forms of IP protection, i.e., the substitutability of patents and trade secrets in biopharma and key factors for switching between the two
- The role of standards and technology licensing in the diffusion and development of new technologies
- The interactions between IP and competition policy, such as in patent licensing in high tech
- The impact of major IP-related court decisions on firms and industries
- The use of IP in capital markets, e.g., the use of IP as collateral in financial arrangements
- Tax policies as they impact innovation, for example “patent boxes” and the off-shoring of IP holdings
- The impact of voluntary initiatives to address online infringement of trademarked and copyrighted materials
- The relationship of IP to open access and open licensing models
- The impact of digitization on market structure and performance in content provision, e.g., the impact of online news aggregators on the quantity and quality of news and content licensing

The scientific committee welcomes empirical work from a range of research styles, including case studies as well as econometric analyses. OCE will host a conference for initial submissions, followed by peer review for final submissions. Submissions to the conference must include at least a substantial description of the underlying research question, the methods and dataset(s) to be employed, and the current stage of the research (e.g. data collection, analysis stage, etc.). Preliminary or early drafts of research papers, if available, are most welcome.

Initial submissions should be sent electronically to Richard Miller at economics@uspto.gov, no later than April 30, 2017. Authors will be notified regarding selection to the conference by May 22, 2017. The conference will be held in Alexandria, Virginia in the latter part of September 2017. Subject to budgetary approval, travel expenses for one author per paper will be covered. Final submissions will be due in March 2018, and may be published in the USPTO Economic Working Paper Series (SSRN). After an expedited refereeing process, IJEB will publish accepted papers in the November 2018 issue.