

PREPARING FOR A CAREER IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

## **OVERVIEW**

Today's corporate employers require well-trained legal professionals who understand intellectual property law as well as business. Thomas Jefferson School of Law has become the premiere law school in the San Diego/Orange county region for preparing students to meet this need. Our large IP faculty – currently 11 full-time professors – all have significant legal practice experience. We have relationships with business schools, such as San Diego State University's College of Business Administration, that allow our students to earn JD/MBA degrees simultaneously. Our externship program, through which students work for law school credit, scored a top five national ranking in 2012 for full-time student placements and specializes in technology-focused positions. The feedback from employers about TJSL students is overwhelmingly positive and the number of students who move from for-credit externships to paying internships, and ultimately to post-graduate employment, is the best testimony to the success of the program.

Our Center for Law & Intellectual Property regularly sponsors events with practicing lawyers through which our students learn the intangibles of corporate practice by interacting with active members of the bar. And, our international business law summer programs in China and France combine with cutting-edge graduate programs in international trade, finance and taxation to provide unparalleled opportunities for our students to gain insight into international business practice. In 2012, TJSL became the only California law school and one of only 11 in the nation to be certified by the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office in both patent and trademark practice, enabling our students to file applications with the USPTO under the supervision of licensed attorneys.

## **EXPERIENCED FACULTY**

TJSL dedicates nearly a quarter of its full-time faculty and several adjunct professors to intellectual property courses, ranging from the basic to the highly specialized. The full-time IP faculty includes:

- Deven Desai (Copyright & Trademark)
- Kevin Jerome Greene (Copyright, Trademark & Right of Publicity)
- Sandra Rierson (Trademark)
- Aaron Schwabach (Copyright)
- Steven Semeraro (Antitrust Intersection with IP)
- Brenda Simon (Patent)

- Jeff Slattery (Copyright & Trademark)
- Susan Tiefenbrun (International IP)
- Ben Templin (Trade Secret/IP Survey)
- Claire Wright (TRIPS Agreement)
- Julie Cromer Young (Copyright)

#### IP CURRICULUM

TJSL's robust IP curriculum includes doctrinal courses in patent, copyright, and trademark that are offered each academic year; advanced electives for students wishing to specialize; and a survey class for students who want a sampling of all forms of IP. Professor Brenda Simon, a registered patent attorney, works closely with students taking the patent bar, and all IP professors supervise IP-related student papers and hire students to work on IP-related research projects. Our regularly offered IP-related courses include:

- Advanced Topics in IP Law
- Antitrust
- Biotechnology Law
- Computer & Internet Law
- Contract Drafting
- · Copyright Law
- Entertainment Law Transactions

- Information Privacy Law
- Intellectual Property & Competition Law
- International Intellectual Property
- Introduction to Intellectual Property
- IP Survey Course
- IP & Competition Law
- Legal Writing on IP Issues

- Music Law
- Patent Law
- Patent Litigation
- Patent Claim Drafting
- Technology Externship Program
- Trademark & Unfair Competition

#### IP FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

TJSL's Intellectual Property Fellowship program enables students to pursue perhaps the most intensive IP curriculum in the country and it includes the following:

- First-year legal research and writing courses built around IP problems
- A weekend IP survey course in the second semester in which full-time faculty introduce each major area of IP and panels of alumni, judges, and distinguished practitioners discuss how they prepared to become members of the IP bar
- Priority registration for all upper level IP electives, including IP clinical opportunities
- · Assistance in securing a field placement to enable the student to earn credit while working off-campus in an IP position
- Priority in obtaining research positions assisting faculty on IP-related projects
- · Opportunities to write directed study papers and conduct research projects for the law school on all areas of IP law

#### **CENTER FOR LAW & INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

The mission of TJSL's Center for Law & Intellectual Property (CLIP), directed by Professor Julie Cromer Young, is to prepare students to serve industries and communities requiring specialized knowledge of technological development and intellectual property, and to integrate the law school within these public and private sectors. A significant part of the Center's mission is to present IP-related events, bringing together students, the practicing IP bar, and the broader IP community for high level exchanges of ideas across the IP spectrum. Recent CLIP co-sponsored events on campus include:

- Music Copyright Terminations: The Ticking Time Bomb Has Arrived with entertainment law attorneys Lisa Cervantes, Valerie
  Dearth and Lacy J Lodes and a special video appearance by Brian Caplan, the attorney for Village People composer Victor
  Willis who wrote the songs "YMCA" and "Macho Man" (October 2012)
- Hollywood Swinging: Film and Television Creators and the Long Arm of the Law with keynote speaker Jeff Cohen of Cohen and Gardner, Los Angeles (April 2012)
- SOPA & PIPA: Copyright Piracy Protection, or Internet Censorship? with keynote speaker Kevin Keenan, Executive Director, ACLU of San Diego and Imperial Counties (February 2012)
- From Deals to Disputes and Creators to Lawyers: Film, TV and Video Games in the Age of Remix with keynote speaker Denise Beaudoin, Legal and Business Affairs Counsel, the Dr. Oz Show (November 2011)
- The TRIPS Agreement & the Global Integration of IP Law: Convergence or Controversy? with keynote speaker Tim Reif, General Counsel for the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (April 2011)
- Motion to Strike A Pose: Fashion, Intellectual Property Law and Business with keynote speaker Deborah Greaves, General Counsel, True Religion Jeans (March 2011)
- · Patent Bar Workshop covering the process by which qualified students can become patent agents
- Lecture on Green Technologies with Eric Lane, host of the Green Patent Blog

Other recent IP-related events on campus featured two music licensing attorneys/consultants with SESAC and a special presentation with legendary Rock and Roll Hall of Famer and "P-Funk" founder George Clinton, a leading figure in the fight for 70s artists to win back the copyrights to their own songs from the record companies.

## PATENT & TRADEMARK LAW CLINICS

TJSL is the only California law school to have both a patent clinic and a trademark clinic that are U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) certified to provide full patent and trademark application services to business clients. Both clinics are part of our Small Business Law Center (SBLC) that serves small businesses and non-profits. Under the supervision of Adjunct Professors Ross Franks and Tim Dennison, the Patent and Trademark Clinics at TJSL provide



Three students in TJSL's IP Fellowship Program landed internships with "King of Funk" George Clinton and his legal team to work on reclaiming the copyrights of his biggest hits from the record companies.

opportunities for students to learn practical legal skills from client development through the process of obtaining patents and trademarks while serving the needs of independent inventors, small businesses and others.

#### SUMMER INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PRACTICUM

This new, intensive three-week program simulates an IP law firm for motivated first- and second-year law students who wish to serve as summer "associates" and explore the role of IP in technology-driven companies, as well as entertainment and sports settings. Our summer associates participate fully in "client" matters, including meeting with "clients," reporting to "partners" and managing "case" files and a project workload. Summer associates are required to submit several written assignments, including a legal research memorandum, infringement complaint, motion and/or response for summary judgment, cease and desist letter, trademark search analysis and clearance memorandum, trademark application, office action response and license agreement. Summer associates work daily with the firm's legal writing coach.

#### **BUSINESS & IP-FOCUSED SUMMER PROGRAM**

TJSL offers an exceptional summer study opportunity in international business and IP law in Hangzhou, China at the prestigious Zhejiang University Guanghua College of Law. This extremely popular program attracts U.S. and foreign law students and offers courses such as International Business Transactions and International Intellectual Property. Our summer program in Nice, France at the University of Nice School of Law, also regularly includes courses relevant to international business, including Comparative Antitrust and International Investment Law.

## TECHNOLOGY EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM

We put special focus on IP and business-related externships through our Technology Externship Program, part of TJSL's Clinical Field Placement Program. Directed by Professor Judybeth Tropp, the program was ranked fifth in the nation in 2012 based on the ratio of externships to full-time students. Experienced IP attorney and Adjunct Professor Randy Berholtz works closely with externs in high-tech areas to prepare them to deal with the differing challenges posed by working in-house as opposed to a law firm setting. In-house externships, in turn, help provide the valuable experience for our students that will ultimately lead to post-bar employment and satisfying careers.

## **PLACEMENTS**

Each semester, more and more employers are discovering that TJSL students receive superior training, especially in IP, and are productive and positive assets in the in-house corporate settings ranging from Fortune 500 companies to university tech transfer offices to startups. A sampling of companies that have recently recruited TJSL students and alumni includes:

- ACON Laboratories, Inc.
- Allen Barron, Inc.
- Alnylam Pharmaceuticals
- Apricus Biosciences
- Avalon Capital Group
- Balboa Manufacturing
- Bridgepoint Education
- BrightScope, Inc.
- Callaway Golf
- CareFusion
- ChangeLab Solutions
- CONNECT
- Directed
- Disney
- Divergent Language Solutions LLC
- Encore Capital Group
- ESPN
- Everyone Counts, Inc.
- E-Village Solar
- Fallbrook Technologies Inc.

- Fox Cable Networks
- Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company
- HP
- Kazork, Inc.
- Kyocera Wireless Corp.
- Life Technologies Corporation
- Lionsgate
- Mandalay Entertainment Group
- Mediaworks
- Md7
- NBCUniversal
- NuVasive
- OWN
- Pacific Public Adjusting, Inc.
- Pfizer Inc.
- Pharmatek
- Playboy
- Prometheus Laboratories Inc.
- Qualcomm
- RKO Pictures

- SAG-AFTRA
- Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute
- SDSU Technology Transfer Office
- Sempra Energy
- Skinit, Inc.
- Sony Electronics Inc.
- The Ellen Degeneres Show
- The San Diego Chargers
- The San Diego Padres
- The Scripps Research Institute
- True Religion
- TTCC, Inc.
- UCSD Technology Transfer Office
- Universal Music (UK)
- The Upper Deck Company
- Wellpoint, Inc.
- Zeeto Media

# **EXTERNSHIP & EMPLOYMENT CONTACT INFORMATION**

Employers interested in setting up an "extern for credit" position should contact Professor Judybeth Tropp, Director of Externship & Pro Bono Programs, at itropp@tjsl.edu or 619.961.4319.

Employers interested in arranging any other sort of internship or permanent position should contact TJSL's Career Services Office at CareerServices@tjsl.edu or call 619-961-4233.