

Abridged Biography for Professor Margo A. Bagley

Professor Margo A. Bagley is Asa Griggs Candler Professor of Law at Emory University School of Law. She rejoined the Emory faculty in 2016 after a decade at the University of Virginia School of Law, where she was most recently the Hardy Cross Dillard Professor of Law. In Fall 2022 she was the Hieken Visiting Professor in Patent Law at Harvard Law School and in 2025, she was the Herchel Smith Visiting Fellow at the University of Cambridge (UK).

Professor Bagley is a well-known and widely cited scholar on a variety of international intellectual property topics and is a foremost expert on international patent law issues. Professor Bagley served on both the National Academies Committee on Advancing Commercialization from the Federal Laboratories, and on the National Academies Committee on University Management of Intellectual Property: Lessons from a Generation of Experience, Research, and Dialogue. She also has served as a U.S. Department of Commerce Commercial Law Development Program advisor, and as a member of the U.S. DARPA (Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency) ELSI (Ethical, Legal, and Societal Issues) Team for the BRACE (Bio-Inspired Restoration of Aged Concrete Edifices) project. She is a member of the American Law Institute and the Scientific Advisory Board of the Max Planck Institute for Innovation and Competition, as well as the Innovation Board of the EU-funded Blue Remedomics project. In addition, she is a McDonald Distinguished Senior Fellow in Law and Religion at Emory Law, a Harvard Law School Berkman Klein Faculty Affiliate, and a member of the Board of the Global IP Alliance.

Professor Bagley has served as a consultant to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the UN Food and Agriculture Organization Secretariat for the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, and as an expert technical advisor to the African Union Commission in several World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) matters. She served for seven years as the Friend of the Chair in the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore, and has also served as a member of the first Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Digital Sequence Information on Genetic Resources for the CBD and Nagoya Protocol. She is a co-director of the Harvard University Global Access in Action Program and has been an expert witness in several patent law disputes. Her scholarship focuses on comparative issues relating to patents and biotechnology, pharmaceuticals and access to medicines, traditional knowledge protection for indigenous peoples and local communities, technology transfer, and IP and social justice.

Professor Bagley has published numerous articles and book chapters, as well as three books with co-authors: Bagley, Okediji, and Erstling, *International Patent Law & Policy* (West Publishing 2013), *Patent Law in Global Perspective* (Okediji and Bagley eds., Oxford University Press 2014), and *Advanced Introduction to International Patent Law* (Margo A. Bagley & Rochelle Dreyfuss, Elgar Press, 2025). At Emory, her courses include domestic and international patent law, trademark law, and international intellectual property. She also co-developed the award-winning TI:GER program (Technological Innovation Generating Economic Results), an innovative educational venture with the Georgia Institute of Technology, which brings together graduate students in law, business, and engineering to learn the process of transforming promising research into commercially viable projects.

Professor Bagley received her JD in 1996 from Emory, where she was a Robert W. Woodruff Fellow, an editor of the *Emory Law Journal*, and elected to Order of the Coif. She is a member of the Georgia bar and is registered to practice before the US Patent and Trademark Office. Bagley worked as an associate with Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP and Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP before joining the Emory faculty in 1999. She was a visiting professor at Washington & Lee University School of Law in fall 2001 and at the University of Virginia School of Law in fall 2005, after which she joined the University of Virginia faculty in 2006. Since 2012, she has been a faculty lecturer with the Munich Intellectual Property Law Center at the Max Planck Institute in Germany, and also has taught International Patent Law and related courses in China, Cuba, Israel, Singapore, and with the Emory Advancing Health Innovations in Africa (AHIA) program.

A chemical engineer with a B.S.Ch.E. degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Professor Bagley worked in industry (with the Procter & Gamble Company and the Coca Cola Company) for several years before attending law school and is a co-inventor on three utility patents: one for reduced fat peanut butter and two relating to bedding technology. Professor Bagley also completed research internships at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, AT&T Bell Laboratories, and the NASA Marshall Space Flight Center.

MARGO A. BAGLEY
Emory University School of Law
1301 Clifton Road
Atlanta, GA 22903
404-727-8293 (office)
mbagley@emory.edu

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

EMORY UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, Atlanta, GA 1999-2006, 2016-present

- Asa Griggs Candler Professor of Law (2016-present)
 - Vice Dean (2023-2024)
 - Associate Dean for Research (2022-2023)
 - Associate Professor (2002- 2006)
 - Assistant Professor (1999-2002)
 - Visiting Professor (Spring 2012, Spring 2013, Spring 2014)
- Courses: Patent Law, International and Comparative Patent Law, Intellectual Property Law, International Intellectual Property Law, Trademark Law
(Fundamentals of Innovation I & II (co-instructor, TI:GER program), Special Topics in Technology Commercialization (co-instructor, TI:GER Program), Contracts, 1999-2006)

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA SCHOOL OF LAW, Charlottesville, VA 2006-2018

- Hardy Cross Dillard Professor of Law (2014-2018)
 - Joseph C. Carter, Jr. Research Professor (2015-2016)
 - Class of 1963 Research Professor (2006-2009)
 - Professor of Law (2006-2016)
 - Visiting Professor (Fall 2005)
- Courses: Patent Law, International Patent Law and Policy, Intellectual Property, Property, International Intellectual Property, Current Issues in Patent Law, Trademark Law, Patent Claim Construction Workshop

HARVARD LAW SCHOOL, Cambridge, MA Fall 2022

- Hieken Visiting Professor in Patent Law
- Courses: Patent Law, International Intellectual Property Law

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, Lexington, VA Fall 2001

- Visiting Professor
- Courses: Patent Law, International Patent Law and Policy

BAR ILAN UNIVERSITY, Tel Aviv, Israel December 2013

- Visiting Professor
- Course: International Patent Law & Policy

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE, Singapore, Republic of Singapore 2007, 2009, 2011

- Visiting Professor (January 2007, July 2009, January 2011)
- Course: International Patent Law & Policy

SINGAPORE MANAGEMENT UNIVERSITY, Singapore, Republic of Singapore Summers 2010 & 2012

- Visiting Professor (June 2010, May 2012)
- Course: International Patent Law & Policy

MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE, Munich, Germany Summers 2012-present

- Munich Intellectual Property Law Center Lecturer
- Courses: Protection of Biotechnological Inventions, Pharmaceuticals and IP

GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY SUMMER INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW PROGRAM,
Max Planck Institute, Munich, Germany, Summers 2005-2010

- Adjunct Professor (Summers 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010)
Course: International Patent Law and Policy.

WHITTIER LAW SCHOOL SUMMER ABROAD PROGRAM, Sun Yat Sen University, Zhuhai, China

- Adjunct Professor (Summer 2004)
Course: International Patent Law

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

Margo A. Bagley & Rochelle C. Dreyfuss, *ADVANCED INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL PATENT LAW*, (Edward Elgar, 2025).

Ruth L. Okediji & Margo A. Bagley (eds.), *PATENT LAW IN GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE*, (Oxford University Press 2014).

Margo A. Bagley, Ruth L. Okediji & Jay A. Erstling, *INTERNATIONAL PATENT LAW AND POLICY* (West Publishing 2013).

BOOK CHAPTERS

With Colleen Chien, *Inclusive Innovation in an Age of AI: Insights from the Innovator Diversity Pilots Initiative*, in *INCLUSIVE INNOVATION IN THE AGE OF AI AND BIG DATA* (Daryl Lim & Peter Yu (eds.) Oxford University Press, forthcoming 2025).

The Draft Design Law Treaty's Forbidden Words, in Dana Beldiman ed. *DESIGN LAW: GLOBAL LAW AND PRACTICE* (Elgar 2024).

"Tool Time": The Continuing Relevance of Compulsory Licensing as a Patent Policy Tool, in *IMPROVING INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY: A GLOBAL PROJECT* (S. Frankel, M. Chon, G. Dinwoodie, J. Schovsbo and B. Lauriat (eds.), Edward Elgar 2023).

Exploring Intellectual Property through the Lens of Religious Thought, in Irene Calboli & Maria Lilla Montagnani eds., *HANDBOOK ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RESEARCH*, Oxford University Press (2021).

"Intellectual Property, Access to Medicines, and Christian Tradition, in Daniel Crane ed. *CHRISTIAN TRADITION AND ECONOMIC REGULATION*, Cambridge University Press (2021).

'Thou Shalt Not Steal': The Morality of Limits on Pharmaceutical Patents, in Thomas C. Berg, Roman Cholij, Simon Ravenscroft, eds., *PATENTS ON LIFE: RELIGIOUS, MORAL, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE ASPECTS OF BIOTECHNOLOGY AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY*, Cambridge University Press (2019).

Designing Disclosure: Disclosure of Cultural and Genetic Resource Utilisation in Design Protection Regimes, in *THE OBJECT AND PURPOSE OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY* (Susy Frankel ed., Edward Elgar 2019).

Towering Wave or Tempest in a Teapot? Synthetic Biology, Access & Benefit Sharing, and Economic Development, in *INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ON THE INTERNET AND THE CONNECTION WITH HUMAN AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT* (Susy Frankel and Daniel Gervais eds., Victoria University Press 2017).

De-Materializing Genetic Resources: Synthetic Biology, Intellectual Property, and the ABS Bypass, in *ROUTLEDGE HANDBOOK OF BIODIVERSITY AND THE LAW*, (Charles McManis and Burton Ong Eds., 2017).

Of Disclosure “Straws” and Patent System “Camels”: Patents, Innovation, and the Disclosure of Origin Requirement, in PROTECTING TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE: THE WIPO INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND GENETIC RESOURCES, TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND FOLKLORE (Daniel Robinson, Ahmed Abdel-Latif, Pedro Roffe eds., Routledge Press 2017).

“Grant Me Justice Against My Adversary”: What Parables Can Teach Us About Organic Seed Growers & Trade Assoc. v. Monsanto, in DIVERSITY IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY: IDENTITIES, INTERESTS, AND INTERSECTIONS (Irene Calboli and Srividya Ragavan eds., Cambridge University Press 2015).

Patent Barbarians at the Gate: The Who, What, When, Where, Why & How of U.S. Patent Subject Matter Eligibility Challenges, in PATENT LAW IN GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE, (Ruth L. Okediji & Margo A. Bagley eds., Oxford University Press 2014).

Pharmaceutical Data Exclusivity Protection, in PHARMACEUTICAL INNOVATION, COMPETITION AND PATENT LAW: A TRILATERAL PERSPECTIVE, (Josef Drexler and Nari Lee eds., Edward Elgar Publishing 2013).

Patents and Technology Commercialization: Issues and Opportunities, in vol. 18, ADVANCES IN THE STUDY OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP, INNOVATION AND ECONOMIC GROWTH (Gary Libecap, ed., Elsevier Science and Technology Books 2007).

A Global Controversy: Biotechnology Patents and Morality, in INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND INFORMATION WEALTH (Peter Yu, ed., Praeger 2007).

ARTICLES

With Justin Hughes, *Secret Traditions as Trade Secrets*, 66 HARVARD INT’L L.J. 103 (2025).

Innovator Ecosystem Diversity as a Global Competitiveness Imperative, MARQUETTE INTELL. PROP. L. REV. (invited) (2024).

Deploying Our Secret Weapon, MARQUETTE LAWYER 25 (Summer 2024).

Michael Halewood, Margo Bagley, Markus Wyss, and Amber Hartman Scholz, *New Benefit-Sharing Principles for Digital Sequence Information*, Science 382, 520 (2023).

“Just” Sharing: The Virtues of Digital Sequence Information Benefit-Sharing for the Common Good, 63 HARVARD INT’L L.J. 1 (2022).

The Fallacy of Defensive Protection for Traditional Knowledge, 58 WASHBURN L.J. 323 (2019, symposium issue).

The Morality of Compulsory Licensing as an Access to Medicines Tool, 102 MINN. L. REV. 2463 (2018).

“Ask Me No Questions”: The Struggle for Disclosure of Cultural and Genetic Resource Utilization in Design Applications, 20 VAND. J. ENT. & TECH. L. 975 (2018).

The Wheat and the (GM) Tares: Lessons for Plant Patent Litigation from the Parables of Christ, 10 ST. THOMAS L. J. 683 (2013, symposium issue, 2014 publication).

The New Invention Creation Boundary in Patent Law, 51 WILLIAM & MARY L. REV. 577 (2009).

The Need for Speed (and Grace): Issues in a First-Inventor-To-File World, 23 BERKELEY TECH. L.J. 1035 (2008) (symposium issue)

Academic Discourse and Proprietary Rights: Putting Patents in Their Proper Place, 47 B.C.L. REV. 217 (2006).

Stem Cells, Cloning and Patents: What's Morality Got to Do With It? 39 NEW ENG. L. REV. 501 (2005, symposium issue).

Patent First, Ask Questions Later: Morality and Biotechnology in Patent Law, 45 WILLIAM & MARY L. REV. 469 (2003).

Legal Movements in IP: TRIPS, Bilateral Agreements, and Access to Essential Medicines, 17 EMORY INT'L L. REV. 781 (2003, symposium Issue).

Still Patently Unconstitutional: A Reply to Professor Nard, 88 MINN. L. REV. 239 (2003).

Patently Unconstitutional: Geographical Limitations on Prior Art in a Small World, 87 MINN. L. REV. 679 (2003).

Internet Business Model Patents: Obvious by Analogy, 7 MICHIGAN TELECOMM. & TECH. L. REV. 253 (2001) (Symposium issue).

Comment, *Using Section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930 to Block Materially Different Gray Market Goods in the Common Control Context: Are Reports of Its Death Greatly Exaggerated?* 44 EMORY L.J. 1541 (1995).

COMMISSIONED WORKS

Margo A. Bagley, *Genome Editing in Latin America: CRISPR Patent and Licensing Policy*, NCSU Genetic Engineering and Society Center (July 2021).

Margo A. Bagley and Frederick Perron-Welch, *Study to Identify Specific Cases of Genetic Resources and Traditional Knowledge Associated with Genetic Resources that Occur in Transboundary Situations or for Which it is not Possible to Grant or Obtain Prior Informed Consent*, as requested by decision 3/13 (paragraph 5(a)) from the Third Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol, CBD Secretariat (August 2020).

Margo Bagley, Elizabeth Karger, Frederick Perron-Welch & Siva Thambisetty, *Fact-finding Study on How Domestic Measures Address Benefit-sharing Arising from Commercial and Non-commercial Use of Digital Sequence Information on Genetic Resources and Address the Use of Digital Sequence Information on Genetic Resources for Research and Development*, as requested by decision 14/20 (paragraph 11(e)) from the Fourteenth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), CBD Secretariat (February 2020).

Margo A. Bagley, *Toward an Effective Indigenous Knowledge Protection Regime: Case Study of South Africa* (Policy Paper, Centre for International Governance Innovation, Paper No. 207, December 2018).

Margo A. Bagley, *Illegal Designs? The Draft Design Law Treaty and Disclosure of Origin Requirements* (Policy Paper, Centre for International Governance Innovation, Paper No. 155, December 2017).

Eric W. Welch, Margo A. Bagley, Todd Kuiken, Selim Louafi, *Potential Implications of New Synthetic Biology and Genomic Research Trajectories on the International Treaty for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture*, (for the Secretariat of the UN FAO ITPGRFA) (2017).

Margo A. Bagley (for the High-Level Panel Secretariat at UNDP in collaboration with UNAIDS), *Background Paper: A Primer on Features of the Intellectual Property System of Relevance to Issues of Access to Medicines* (2016) (UN Secretary General's High-Level Panel on Access to Medicines).

Margo A. Bagley, *Digital DNA: Synthetic Biology, Intellectual Property Treaties, and the Nagoya Protocol* (2015) (Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars).

Margo A. Bagley & Arti K. Rai, *The Nagoya Protocol and Synthetic Biology: A Look at the Potential Impacts* (2013) (Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars).

COMMENTARY

The WIPO 2024 IP Treaties: The Triumph of Inclusivity and Strategic Framing, GRUR INTERNATIONAL (2025).

The GRATK Treaty: Understanding a Triumph of Multilateralism, GENEVA POLICY OUTLOOK (2025).

“*Fraud, Delays, and Nonsense (Marks) . . . Oh My!*,” JOTWELL (October 29, 2024) (reviewing Jeanne Fromer & Mark McKenna, *Amazon's Quiet Overhaul of the Trademark System*, 113 Cal. L. Rev. __ (forthcoming, 2025), <https://ip.jotwell.com/fraud-delays-and-nonsense-marks-oh-my/>).

“*The Diversity Pilots Initiative*,” PatentlyO blog, (May 2023).

With Colleen Chien, “*All Together Now: The Innovator Diversity Pilots Conference*,” PatentlyO blog, (Nov. 2022).

“*Dirty Hands, Dead Patent?*,” JOTWELL (July 2, 2021) (reviewing Sean Seymore, *Unclean Patents*, 102 B.U. L. REV. 1491 (2022), <https://ip.jotwell.com/dirty-hands-dead-patent/>).

“*On Being Human*,” Review of FIRE IN THE BLOOD (directed by Dylan Mohan Gray), in the JOURNAL OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW & PRACTICE (2016).

“*On Shaky Ground?*” Review of Rajshree Chandra, KNOWLEDGE AS PROPERTY: ISSUES IN THE MORAL GROUNDING OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS, in the JOURNAL OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW & PRACTICE (2013).

Review of *The Global Governance of Knowledge: Patent Offices and Their Clients*, by Peter Drahos, 2 IP LAW BOOK REVIEW 15 (2011).

Patents and Morality: A Role for Congress, THE NATIONAL LAW JOURNAL, May 3, 2004.

With Les Bessinger, *Intent and the Powerful Defense of Inequitable Conduct in U.S. Patent Litigation*, published in the December 1998 Intellectual Property Supplement to the FULTON COUNTY DAILY REPORT.

With Joyce B. Klemmer, *Judicial Intolerance of Discovery Abuse*, 2 MANAGING LITIGATION COSTS (Corporate Legal Times, Chicago, Illinois) 1, (1995).

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“*Thou Shalt Not Lie*”: *IP Law, AI, and the Biblical Truth Imperative in INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND RELIGION: CROSS-CULTURAL INTERSECTIONS OF FAITH AND LAW*, Enrico Bonadio, Bryan Khan, and Nicola Lucchi eds.(Hart Publ. 2026).

With Christine Farley, *Framing Harmonization: Illusion and Reality in the Riyadh Design Law Treaty*, IIC-INTERNATIONAL REVIEW OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND COMPETITION LAW, (2026).

With Colleen Chien, *Mentoring as a Facilitator of IP Attorney Flourishing* (2026).

EDUCATION

EMORY UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, Atlanta, GA

1996

Juris Doctor, with Distinction; Final Class Rank: #3 of 228

Honors & Activities:

Robert W. Woodruff Fellow (full tuition scholarship and stipend), Order of the Coif, Thrower Symposium Editor, *Emory Law Journal*, American Jurisprudence Awards for highest grades in Torts and Research, Writing, and Appellate Advocacy (RWA), also highest grades in Regulation of Non-Profit Organizations, Constitutional Law: Church & State, and Civil Rights Legislation, Henry Quillian Prize in Contracts, Lexis "Best Brief" Award, Dean's List - all semesters, Dean's Fellow, Honorable Mention in the first year RWA oral argument competition, Black Law Students Association, Legal Association of Women Students

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN, Madison, WI

1986

Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering

Honors & Activities:

Dean's List 1986

Society of Women Engineers "Outstanding Member" Award, American Institute of Chemical Engineers, National Society of Black Engineers, Volunteer, Elvehjem Museum

OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY (COLLEGE), Huntsville, AL

Honors & Activities:

National Achievement Scholar

Dean's List 1981, 1982, 1983

ACADEMIC, PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC ACTIVITIES/HONORS/ASSOCIATIONS

Professional Service & Organizations (past and current)

Herchel Smith Visiting Fellow, University of Cambridge

Co-Director, Harvard Global Access in Action Project

Member American Law Institute

Harvard Berkman Klein Center Faculty Affiliate

Member, DARPA (Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency) ELSI (Ethical, Legal, Societal Issues) Team for the BRACE (Bio-Inspired Restoration of Aged Concrete Edifices) project

Member, National Academies of Science, Medicine, and Engineering Committee for Advancing Commercialization from the Federal Laboratories

Lead Facilitator and Friend of the Chair, World Intellectual Property Organization Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge, and Folklore

Technical Expert for the African Union, in World Intellectual Property Organization matters and Convention on Biological Diversity matters

McDonald Distinguished Senior Fellow in Law and Religion, Emory Center for the Study of Law and Religion

Co-Director, Diversity Pilots Initiative

Member, National Order of the Coif Society Nominating Committee for the Executive Committee

Consultant, UN Convention on Biological Diversity Secretariat

Technical Expert for the African Union Preparations for the Fourteenth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, Third Meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt

Expert Advisor to the Government of Mozambique, World Intellectual Property Organization Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore, and Standing Committee on Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications

Facilitator, World Intellectual Property Organization Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge, and Folklore

Project Consultant, UN Food and Agriculture Organization International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture Secretariat

Lecturer, Emory Advancing Healthcare Innovations in Africa program, Johannesburg, South Africa

Instructor, CIALE (Center for Inter-American Legal Education) program, Institute Superior de Relaciones Internacionales, Havana, Cuba
Senior Fellow, Center for International Governance Innovation
Consultant, Government of Namibia, Ministry of Trade and Industry, regarding Patent and Utility Model Regulations to implement the 2012 Industrial Property Act
Member, National Academy of Sciences Committee on University Management of Intellectual Property: Lessons from a Generation of Experience, Research, and Dialogue
Member, Atlanta IP Inn of Court
American Association of Law Schools Planning Committee, Mid-Year meeting on Intellectual Property
U.S. Department of Commerce CLDP Advisor, Workshop on Practical Approaches to IP Utilization and Protection in Africa
Lecturer, Practising Law Institute (PLI) Patent Bar Review
Lecturer, BARBRI Patent Bar Review
Provided advice on new Patent Act to Government of Zambia
Provided advice on proposed Patent Act revisions to Government of Nigeria
Prepared New Technology Patentability Assessment Report for Japanese Patent Office
Retained as patent legal expert and consultant in several patent cases and prosecution matters
Member, International Association for the Advancement of Teaching and Research in Intellectual Property (ATRIP)
Member, American Intellectual Property Law Association
Member, American Bar Association

Board Memberships

Member, Scientific Advisory Board of the Max Planck Institute for Innovation and Competition (present)
Member, Innovation Board, Blue Remediomics Project (EU) (present)
Member, Board of Directors, Global Intellectual Property Alliance (Present)
Member, Board of Directors, Society of Christian Legal Scholars
Member, Board of Directors of the Public Patent Foundation
Member, Board of Directors, Atlanta Adventist Academy

Bar Memberships

United States Patent & Trademark Office
State Bar of Georgia

GRANTS

\$50,000 Emory Global Health Institute grant for drug quality assurance program in Mozambique/Malawi with Harvard Global Access in Action (GAiA) program and Emory-Rollins School of Public Health (2018-2020).

\$25,000 UN Convention on Biological Diversity as lead for 12 member team conducting study on domestic measures relating to digital sequence information and benefit sharing (2019-2020).

SELECTED VIDEOS

“The Struggle for Disclosure of Cultural and Genetic Resource Utilization in Design”, <https://faculti.net/the-struggle-for-disclosure-of-cultural-and-genetic-resource-utilization-in-design/> (2022).

“The Importance of Diversity”, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zeQyGAScsXM> (2021).

“Challenges Encountered as a Diverse Inventor”, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FP6RCNRGKw4> (2021).

“Beautiful Things Make Money” <https://www.cigionline.org/multimedia/beautiful-things-make-money;>
https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=62&v=Yc_dGYMw8Ug (Dec. 2017).

“What is Traditional Knowledge?” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=14YInJGNwZc> (June 2017).

ISSUED U.S. PATENTS

11,903,507 Bedding with Personal Flaps

11,426,014 Bedding with Personal Flaps

5,230,919 Composition and process of making fluid, reduced fat peanut butters, etc.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS (since 2017)

"The Riyadh Design Law Treaty and the Illusion of Harmony and Inclusivity," Annual IPSI Lecture, Nova University Law School, Lisbon, Portugal, October 2025.

Panelist, "Building Your IP Arsenal from the Ground Up: Real World Lessons for Fast-Moving Markets " AUTM Eastern Regional Meeting, Atlanta, GA September 2025.

"Secret Traditions as Trade Secrets," ATRIP Annual Conference, Univ. of Copenhagen, Copenhagen Denmark, July 2025.

“Diversity, Deadlock, and Disclosure: The 2024 WIPO Treaties”, Harvard Law School IPX Conference, Cambridge, MA, June 2025.

"A Tale of Two Treaties" or "Much Ado About Disclosure", University of Cambridge Faculty of Law (UK), February 2025.

"A Tale of Two Treaties" or "Much Ado About Disclosure", Leibniz-Institut DSMZ German Collection of Microorganisms and Cell Cultures, Braunschweig, Germany, March 2025.

"The Design Law Treaty and Disclosure of Traditional Knowledge & Genetic Resources" WIPO headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland, October 2024.

“Innovator Ecosystem Diversity as a Global Competitiveness Imperative” 35th Annual Judicial Conference for the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, Washington, DC, October 2024.

Secret Traditions as Trade Secrets, Intellectual Property Scholars Conference, UC Berkeley Law School, August 2024.

Sacred IP, Southeastern Association of Law School’s Annual Meeting, July 2024.

Innovation Policy as an Economic Development Tool, Workshop on the Statute of Monopolies at 400, George Washington University School of Law, May 2024.

Data governance, Indigenous data sovereignty, and intellectual property rights, Roundtable on the Right to Participate in Science, University of Edinburgh (virtual) May 2024.

Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge, Digital Sequence Information, and the Patent System, at a workshop on "Indigenous Peoples, Traditional Knowledge, and Intellectual Property in International Law,” Harvard, Law School, Cambridge, MA, February 2024.

“The African Group Position on the Design Law Treaty”, presentations to the African Group of countries and the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States at the WIPO Special Session on the draft Design Law Treaty, Geneva, Switzerland, October 2023.

The Role of Patents in a Sustainable World, Queen Mary University London, (virtual) September 2023.

Panelist, Building Pipelines to Innovation, The ICDS (JEDI)-Dickinson Law Symposium on Inclusive Innovation, AI, and Big Data, (virtual) August 2023.

Innovator Ecosystem Diversity as a Global Competitiveness Imperative, Intellectual Property Scholars Conference, Cardozo Law School, New York, NY, August 2023.

Panelist, “Increasing Diversity in the Profession”, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Conference, United States Patent & Trademark Office, Alexandria, VA, August 2023.

Panelist, “How NIH Chooses What to Patent and License”, NIH Workshop on Transforming Discoveries Into Products: Maximizing NIH’s Levers to Catalyze Technology Transfer (virtual), July 2023.

“Chairs Text of a Draft International Legal Instrument Relating to Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources, and Traditional Knowledge Associates with Genetic Resources”, African Regional Meeting on the Diplomatic Conference on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Traditional Knowledge Associated with Genetic Resources (WIPO/Govt. of Algeria), Algiers, Algeria June 2023.

“Just” Sharing: The Virtues of Digital Sequence Information Benefit-sharing for the Common Good, TECHNIS Virtual Presentation, May 2023.

“CRISPR Patent and Licensing Policy for Latin America”, IADB Project, Argentina Ministry of Agriculture, Buenos Aires, Argentina, May 2023.

“Just” Sharing: The Virtues of Digital Sequence Information Benefit-sharing for the Common Good, Workshop on Traditional Knowledge and Modern Justice, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA April 2023.

“Innovator Ecosystem Diversity as a Global Competitiveness Imperative”, Helen Nies Memorial Lecture, Marquette Law School, Milwaukee, WI, April 2023.

“Potential Ethical, Legal, and Societal Issues relevant to the BRACE Project”, DARPA BRACE Kickoff meeting, Arlington, VA (Feb. 2023).

Digital Sequence Information Benefit-sharing in the CBD and Beyond, AUTM Annual Meeting, Austin, TX February 2023.

“A Tale of Two DipCons: IP, Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge, and Folklore at WIPO”, AALS Annual meeting, San Diego, January 2023.

Panelist, “DSI and the CBD”, 26th International Consortium on Applied Bioeconomy Research, Bologna, Italy, July 2022 (virtual).

“Digital Sequence Information on Genetic Resources: New Studies on Potential Approaches to Access and Benefit Sharing,” GIZ ABS Capacity Development Initiative webinar, February 2022.

“Just” Sharing: The Virtues of Digital Sequence Information Benefit-Sharing for the Common Good, University of Cambridge (UK) Speaker Series (virtual), February 2022.

“‘Custodians’ and the present knowledge ‘protection’ system at WIPO”, Royal Society of Edinburgh Saltire Research Awards Programme on Scientific knowledge across jurisdictions (virtual) January 2022.

Served as one of three expert panelists in the GIZ (Germany) ABS Capacity Development Initiative Global Webinar on the report of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity’s Informal Co-Chairs’ Advisory Group on Digital

Sequence Information on Genetic Resources December 2021.

“Genome Editing in Latin America: CRISPR Patent and Licensing Policy”, Inter-American Development Bank/NCSU Genetic Engineering and Society Center webinar, December 2021.

Keynote Address: 'Just' Sharing: The Virtues of Digital Sequence Information Benefit-Sharing for the Common Good, Suffolk University Law School Third Annual Intellectual Property & Innovation Conference October 2021.

“What do Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Need to Know About the Patent System?” World Intellectual Property Organization Webinar, “How to Protect and Promote Your Culture”, September 2021.

“Lessons Learned from International Negotiations of Legal Instruments to Protect Traditional Cultural Expressions,” at the WIPO-INDAUTOR Virtual Regional Seminar on Copyright and Traditional Cultural Expressions, September 2021 (virtual).

“‘Just’ Sharing”, Page-Barbour Lecture, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA April 2021 (via Zoom).

Expert Panelist, UNESCO event on “Open Science and Intellectual Property Rights” Paris, France April 2021 (videoconference).

Moderator, “Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources: New and Emerging Technologies,” World Intellectual Property Organization IGC Seminar, Geneva, Switzerland January 2021 (videoconference).

Fact-finding Study on How Domestic Measures Address Benefit-sharing Arising from Commercial and Non-commercial Use of Digital Sequence Information on Genetic Resources UN Convention on Biological Diversity Secretariat webinar on "Process and recent outcomes related to digital sequence information on genetic resources under the CBD", Montreal Quebec, Canada, December 2020 (videoconference).

“What is DSI and What is it Not? (Options and Views)”, UN Convention on Biological Diversity Secretariat/ABS Capacity Development Initiative (GIZ) webinar on “Understanding DSI: a technical overview of its production, distribution and use” December 2020 (videoconference).

“‘What’s Yours is Mine and What’s Mine is Mine’: Digital Sequence Information, Patents, and Benefit-sharing Obligations”, Harvard Law School International Economic Law workshop, Cambridge, MA, November 2020 (videoconference).

“Regulating Digital Innovation and Creativity in Africa: IP, The Nagoya Protocol, DSI, and AI”, African Union Webinar on Unlocking the Potential of Intellectual Property in Africa, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia October 2020 (videoconference).

“Utility Patents on Plants”, Rocky Mountain Seed Alliance (October 2020) (videoconference).

“Ask Me No Questions: The Struggle for Disclosure of Cultural and Genetic Resource Utilization in Design”, Notre Dame University Law School IP Lecture Series, South Bend, IN, September 2020 (videoconference).

“‘What’s Yours is Mine and What’s Mine is Mine’: Digital Sequence Information, Patents, and Benefit-sharing Obligations”, Genetic Engineering and Society Colloquium, NCSU, Raleigh, NC, March 2020 (videoconference).

“Study 4: Domestic Measures on DSI”, UN Convention on Biological Diversity Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Digital Sequence Information, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, March 2020 (videoconference).

“Protection of Copyright in the Digital Environment: Copyright Exceptions and Limitations,” African Group workshop on the Protection of Copyright in the Digital Environment, Permanent Mission of the African Union, Geneva, Switzerland, December 2019.

“Connecting the Dots: Genetic Resources, ABS, and Access to Medicines,” Global Forum on Intellectual Property and Access to Medicines, Max Planck Institute on Innovation and Competition Law, Munich, Germany, December 2019.

“Biopiracy and the Global Use of Biological Data”, 4th Arizona Biosecurity Workshop, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ, November 2019.

“Patents, DSI, and the Treaty: Trends in the U.S. and Beyond,” Eighth Session of the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, Rome, Italy, November 2019.

“Digital Database ‘Protection’ for Traditional Knowledge: Fact or Fallacy?”, Harvard Law School, workshop on Development in the Data Economy, Cambridge, MA, September 2019.

“The Nagoya Protocol and Digital Sequence Information (DSI) on Genetic Resources: Emerging Issues,” webinar presentation to National Academy of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine Committee on Biological Collections: Their Past, Present, and Future Contributions and Options for Sustaining Them, Washington, D.C., July 2019.

“‘What’s Yours is Mine and What’s Mine is Mine?’: Digital Sequence Information and Benefit-sharing Obligations under the Nagoya Protocol,” 23rd International Consortium on Applied Bioeconomy Research Conference, Ravello, Italy, June 2019.

Panelist, “*Alice* at Five: Developments, Trends, and Insights,” State Bar of Georgia IP Section Seminar, Atlanta, GA, June 2019.

“‘Thou Shalt Not Steal’: The Morality of Compulsory Licensing as an Access to Medicines Tool,” Symposium on Intellectual Property and Access to Medicines in the Global South, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA, April 2019.

“‘What’s Yours is Mine and What’s Mine is Mine?’: Digital Sequence Information and Benefit-sharing Obligations under the Nagoya Protocol,” International Intellectual Property Scholars Conference, Florida State University School of Law, Tallahassee FL March 2019; University of the Pacific-McGeorge School of Law Symposium, Sacramento, CA April 2019.

“Like a Red Headed Stepchild”: Traditional Knowledge and the Multilateral IP Protection System, Texas A&M University School of Law, Ft. Worth, TX, March 2019.

“‘What’s Yours is Mine and What’s Mine is Mine?’: Digital Sequence Information and Benefit-sharing Obligations under the Nagoya Protocol,” The Social, Legal, and Regulatory Challenges of Synthetic Biology Workshop, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia February 2019.

“Approaches to Resolving Benefit Sharing in Shared Traditional Knowledge: Experiences from South Africa,” Side event during the 38th Session of the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee, Geneva Switzerland, December 2018.

“Approaches to Resolving Benefit Sharing in Shared Traditional Knowledge: Experiences from South Africa,” Side event during the 14th Conference of the Parties to the CBD, Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, November 2018.

“DSI and the Global Benefit Sharing Mechanism Debates,” Side event during the 14th Conference of the Parties to the CBD, Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, November 2018.

“Disclosure of Origin and the Draft WIPO Design Law Treaty,” African Group Workshop on WIPO Issues, Permanent Delegation of the African Union, Geneva, Switzerland, November 2018.

“The Nagoya Protocol, ABS, and ‘DSI’: Legal Issues,” 11th Pan African Workshop on ABS, African Union Commission, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, October 2018.

“Extension of the Nagoya Protocol to DSI – State of Play and Consequences,” Symposium: The Use and Circulation of Genetic Resources under Measures Implementing the Nagoya Protocol, London School of Economics, London, UK September 2018.

“The Fallacy of Defensive Protection for Traditional Knowledge,” 5th Global Congress on IP and the Public Interest, American University, Washington, D.C., September 2018.

“Illegal Designs? Enhancing Cultural and Genetic Resource Protection Through Design Law,” Fourth Annual Intellectual Property Lecture, Hofstra University, Hempstead, New York, March 2018.

Panelist, “The Growth Engine for Biotech Start-Ups,” SANBio Annual Conference, Pretoria, South Africa, February 2018.

“Square Peg in a Round Hole or the Perfect Fit? Cultural and Genetic Resource Protection Issues at the World Intellectual Property Organization,” Whitney R. Harris World Law Institute of Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri, February 2018.

“Drug Innovation Ventures at Emory,” 1st World Conference on Access to Medical Products and International Laws for Trade and Health, in the Context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, New Delhi, India, November 2017.

“Case Law in Review,” Ninth Annual Georgetown Law-Berkeley Law Conference on the Role of the Courts in Patent Law & Policy, Georgetown University National Law Center, Washington, D.C., November 2017.

“Global Perspectives in Patent Law & Access to Medicines,” Universities Allied for Essential Medicines North American Fall Conference, Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, GA, October 2017.

“Scoping Report on Potential Implications of New Synthetic Biology and Genomic Research Trajectories on the ITPGRFA: Legal Dimensions,” Meeting of the Governing Body of the UN FAO ITPGRFA, Kigali, Rwanda (via video recording), October 2017.

“Making Room at the (Access to Medicines) Table: Is There a Place for Traditional and Holistic Medicine?” University of Minnesota School of Law Symposium, Minneapolis, MN, October 2017.

“Illegal Designs? The Draft Design Law Treaty and Disclosure of Origin Requirements,” ATRIP Congress, Wellington, New Zealand, October 2017.

Panelist, “Supreme Court IP Review: Patent Panel I”, IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law, Chicago, IL September 2017.

“IP and ABS Issues For Researchers and Entrepreneurs in the Seychelles,” NEPAD/SANbio/NISTI Workshop, Mahe, Seychelles, August 2017.

“IP Issues in Africa,” Emory-African Network for Drug and Diagnostic Innovations (ANDI) Workshop, Johannesburg, South Africa, July 2017.

“Filing and Examination of a U.S. Patent Application,” WIPO IP Negotiators Workshop, Geneva, Switzerland, June 2017.

“Dematerializing Genetic Material: Intellectual Property, Synthetic Biology, and the ABS Bypass,” An Open Digital Global South: Risks and Rewards Conference, UC Davis Law School, Davis, CA, May 2017.

“Illegal by Design? The Draft Design Law Treaty and Disclosure of Origin Requirements,” International IP Law

Scholars Workshop, New York University School of Law, New York, NY, April 2017.

“Intellectual Property Regimes and Genetic Resources: The Push for Transparency, Policy Space, and Fairness,” Patents, Social Justice, and Public Responsibility Symposium, University of Michigan Ford School of Public Policy, Ann Arbor, MI, March 2017.

Presentations on "Intellectual Property and Access and Benefit-Sharing"; "Disclosure of Origin: Reality and Perspectives"; and "Digital DNA: IP and Synthetic Biology," World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)/Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Colombia, National Workshop on Intellectual Property, Traditional Knowledge, Traditional Cultural Expressions and Genetic Resources, Bogota, Columbia, March 2017.

“Legal and Policy Issues in Access and Benefit Sharing,” Sixth Meeting of the Ad-Hoc Open-Ended Working Group To Enhance the Functioning of the Multilateral System, U.N. FAO, Rome, Italy, March 2017.

“Disruptive Technologies: Synthetic Biology, Fairness, and Patents,” Vanderbilt University School of Law, Nashville, TN, February 2017.

ACADEMIC SERVICE (selected activities)

Emory University School of Law

Vice Dean

Associate Dean for Research

Member, Emory Global Health Institute Faculty Fellow

Member, Law School Tenure and Promotion Committee

Member, Law School Dean Search Committee (twice)

Experiential Learning Committee

Black Law Students Association 1L success program

Faculty Advisor Emory Adventist Christian Fellowship

President, Emory University School of Law Chapter, Order of the Coif

Advisor, *Emory Law Journal*

Member, Emory University Library Policy Committee

Member, Emory University School of Law Appointments Committee

Member, Emory University School of Law Information Technology Committee

Member, Emory University School of Law Admissions & Scholarship Committee

Vice-President, Emory University School of Law Chapter, Order of the Coif

Principal Emory Law School Director, “Technological Innovation: Generating Economic Results” (“TI:GER”) Program: Significant involvement in numerous aspects of program including creating legal component of program and requirements for Certificate in IP, recruiting and selecting JD students, designing and teaching portions of Fundamentals of Innovation courses, and procuring guest lecturers. TI:GER is a collaboration between the Emory University School of Law, the Emory University Department of Economics, and the Georgia Institute of Technology (“Georgia Tech”), in which Emory J.D. students are teamed with Georgia Tech MBA and PhD science/engineering students to learn the process of commercializing innovation

University of Virginia School of Law

UVA Law School Student Conduct Committee

UVA Law School International Relations Committee

UVA Adventist Christian Fellowship Faculty Sponsor

University of Virginia Faculty Senate

UVA Law School International Relations/Graduate Program Committees

UVA Law School Lecturers Committee

UVA Student Scholarly Lunch Committee

Faculty Advisor, UVA Law School Street Law Society
Member, Law School Dean Search Committee, University of Virginia School of Law
UVA BLSA Mentor

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, LLP, Atlanta, GA

Associate Attorney: Intellectual property practice including design and utility patent prosecution, design and utility patent interferences, patent reexaminations, patent due diligence projects involving U.S., European, and other foreign patents, trade secret counseling, litigation research and brief writing, infringement opinions/infringement clearance analyses, intellectual property assignments and license agreements, U.S. and European client counseling.

SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP, Atlanta, GA

Associate Attorney: Intellectual property practice including drafting patent and trademark applications, responding to PTO office actions, litigation research and brief writing, drafting patent infringement and trademark opinion letters, patent, trademark and copyright assignments and license agreements, counseling clients on patent, trademark, copyright and trade secret issues.

Summer/Student Associate: Researched and drafted legal memoranda in a variety of practice areas including intellectual property, environmental, real estate, and litigation.

KING & SPALDING, LLP, Atlanta, GA

Summer Associate: Researched and drafted legal memoranda for intellectual property, environmental, and real estate attorneys and clients.

OTHER EXPERIENCE

THE COCA-COLA COMPANY, Atlanta, GA

Senior Research Analyst: Coca-Cola USA Fountain Marketing Research

Responsibilities included defining client needs and creating targeted studies. Solicited bids and negotiated study pricing with suppliers. Presented research proposals and results to clients such as Wendy's International. Successfully implemented studies simulating consumer purchase decisions and soft drink promotion success.

THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY, Cincinnati, OH; Mt. Dora, FL

Products Research Group Leader: On-Loan to Sundor Brands, Mt. Dora, FL

Broad product and consumer research responsibilities for four beverage brands. Key achievements:

Identified a way to improve apple juice consumer acceptance while reducing flavor costs by \$200K/year.

Managed Product Development support of 16 oz. Hawaiian Punch Colors convenience store test market, including product manufacture, packaging, distribution, and data collection and analysis.

Products Research/Process Development Engineer: Jif Peanut Butter, Cincinnati, OH Responsibilities included managing support personnel and guiding product development. Key achievements:

Co-inventor on a United States patent for improved peanut butters.

Designed experiments and produced model prototypes that beat regular Jif 2:1 in consumer taste tests.

Contributed insight on how to talk to consumers about new product; increased purchase intent by 33%.

Summer Research Intern, Jif Peanut Butter Cincinnati, OH

Defined peanut wet-roasting parameters, which generated a cost savings potential of \$1M.

Summer Research Intern, Duncan Hines Cake Mixes Cincinnati, OH

Developed a proprietary cocoa treatment process that increased cake chocolate flavor by 20%.

LAWRENCE LIVERMORE NATIONAL LABORATORY, Livermore, CA

Summer Research Intern, Hazards Control

Conducted flammable vapor diffusion studies; assisted in polymer combustion tests.

AT&T BELL LABORATORIES, Murray Hill, NJ

Summer Research Intern, Polymer Science and Technology

Synthesized photosensitive polyimides for use in integrated circuitry.

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY, Oak Ridge, TN

Summer Research Intern, Cryogenic Physics

Assisted in flux line lattice studies of superconducting materials at cryogenic temperatures.

NASA - MARSHALL SPACE FLIGHT CENTER, Huntsville, AL

Summer Research Apprentice, Cryogenics Lab

Investigated effects of oxidation on Nb films for superconductor applications.