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Making intellectual property work for development (IV)

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Speakers bios

Isabel Chng

Isabel Chng, Director of Patents, has been with the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS), since 1990. She obtained her Bachelor's of Law Degree from the University of Singapore in 1990 prior to her joining IPOS and in April 1991, she was admitted to the Supreme Court as an Advocate and Solicitor. During her first few years at IPOS, Isabel examined trademark applications, and had presided over trademark opposition hearings and proceedings. In addition to trademark matters, she was involved in the setting up of the Patent System in Singapore and assisted in the discussions that have led to the introduction of the new patent regime on 23 Feb 1995.

Since then, she has managed the Registry of Patents and would also actively participate in International Meetings e.g. Patent Law Treaty (PLT), Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) Meetings in WIPO, Geneva. In addition, she is involved in legislative changes to the patent laws, keeping them abreast with the latest developments and changes. She also actively participates in providing continued creation of IP awareness within Singapore and overseas. Within Singapore, she has given talks on patents to Universities, Polytechnics and Government Agencies etc. and abroad, she has presented on the Singapore Patent System and the PCT (Singapore's experience). She is also a co-author to a book entitled "Patent Protection Regimes: A Comparative Guide" as well as written a chapter in a book entitled "A Guide to Patent Law in Singapore".

Bryan McPherson

Bryan McPherson is a Senior Intellectual Property Attorney for Caterpillar Inc., and is currently located in Peterborough, England.

Bryan began his career as an engineer with McDonnell Douglas, graduating from the Georgia Institute of Technology with a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Electrical Engineering. Bryan's activities at McDonnell Douglas were associated with developing advanced concepts for aircraft computing systems. During this time period Bryan attended night school and graduated from St. Louis University with his JD degree.

In 1996, Bryan joined Caterpillar as a patent attorney in the Intellectual Property Department. Bryan has served in several roles within the department and has been involved in patent drafting and prosecution, conflict analysis, and IP agreement activities. During this time period Bryan was an adjunct professor for Bradley University. Today, Bryan manages the intellectual property issues arising from all of Caterpillar's European and CIS facilities.

Bryan is also a member of the American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA).

Ana María Pacón

Ana María Pacón is a Professor of Law at the Catholic University of Peru Master of Intellectual Property and Competition Law degree program. She has written and lectured on diverse aspects of intellectual property law, including Patent and Trademark Law. She is also a Professor of Trademark Law of the University of Los Andes Postgraduate Studies program in Merida, Venezuela and a Professor of International and Comparative Law on Industrial Property of the Pompeu Fabra University of Barcelona Master of Business Law (MADE) program in Spain.

She obtained her Bachelor of Laws Degree from the Catholic University of Peru and her Masters and PhD degree from the University of Augsburg, Germany.

Professor Pacón was President of the Tribunal for the Defense of the Free Competition and Protection of the Intellectual Property of the National Patent Office of Peru (Indecopi). She was also negotiator for Peru on intellectual property issues for different international fora, including the World Trade Organization, the World Intellectual Property Organization, the Andean Community and the Free Trade Area of the Americas, where she was the Andean speaker. She was a fellow and a member of the academic staff of the Max Planck Institute for Intellectual Property in Munich, Germany.

In the last few years, she has been working on different IP issues that have implications mainly on developing countries (implementations of the TRIPS-Agreement, effects of the FTAs negotiations on IP, traditional knowledge, access to genetic resources, access to medicines, international harmonization of patent law). Currently, she is also working on different projects on the impacts of the FTAs negotiations with the European Union.

Radha Ranganathan

Radha Ranganathan is the Director of Technical Affairs at the International Seed Federation and co-ordinates seed industry activities in the areas of sustainable agriculture, genetic resources and phytosanitary issues at the international level. She is a member of Steering Committee of the Genetic Resources Policy Initiative, a project that is jointly administered by International Development Research Council and Bioversity International. She has worked both in the public and private sectors and has numerous scientific publications to her credit. She studied at Oxford and Wageningen Agricultural University.

BG Srinivas

BG Srinivas heads European Operations for Infosys Technologies. He has nearly 20 years of operations and consulting experience across multiple geographies and industry sectors. Prior to joining Infosys, BG led corporate process and systems for the process automation and power transmission multinational, ABB. He was instrumental in streamlining the company's supply chain through a BPR initiative using cellular technology in modeling conventional manufacturing into cross-functional, customer-focused teams.

BG has been influential in setting up the enterprise solutions practice for Infosys. The enterprise solutions business unit is responsible for all ERP/CRM solutions and implementations. He was the global head of ES till year 2004. BG heads the EMEA operations for Infosys and today this region is one of the fastest growing Strategic business units. He is also member of the board member of Infosys BPO.

He holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Bangalore University, India, MDP from IIMA and Business Strategy from Wharton.

BG Srinivas is married with one daughter. He has lived and worked in Europe, America and India.