INaugural GW Law IP Symposium A Success

GW Law, along with Howrey LLP and Cornerstone Research, was proud to present the first annual Symposium on Intellectual Property Law. The symposium, held on May 12 at GW Law, brought together colleagues from private practice, the judiciary, government, economic consulting groups, and academia to address current issues and recent developments in intellectual property law.

After introductory remarks by Dean Frederick Lawrence, the opening panel discussed tips and trends for litigating patent cases. The panel included four district court judges who have presided over a significant number of patent cases: the Hon. T.S. Ellis of the Eastern District of Virginia, the Hon. Chad Everingham of the Eastern District of Texas, the Hon. Sue L. Robinson of the District of Delaware, and the Hon. Ronald Whyte of the Northern District of California.

A second panel discussed the future of Section 337 patent cases at the International Trade Commission and included three representatives of the

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GW Law and FCBA Host Inaugural Federal Circuit Symposium

The National Press Club was packed on March 18, 2009 as more than 300 judges, renowned scholars, past solicitors general, and private practitioners gathered for an extraordinary symposium to celebrate the Federal Circuit’s first quarter century and contemplate what lies ahead.

GW Law teamed up with the Federal Circuit Bar Association to present the full-day event, which brought together the circuit’s past, present, and future leadership. The symposium featured three panel discussions examining the institution of the Court, the circuit’s complex subject matter, and scholars’ views of the Court’s performance. Senator Orrin G. Hatch (R-Utah) delivered the keynote address.

The first panel, focusing on the court’s history, gave texture to the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals as an institution, discussing its creation and some of the major issues it has dealt with since its establishment on October 1, 1982. Formed by the merger of the U.S. Court of Customs and Patent Appeals and the U.S. Court of Claims, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit casts a wide net, shouldering responsibility for complex issues ranging from intellectual property to government contracting and international trade. Panelists were a veritable “who’s who” of the circuit bench, featuring the current Chief Judge of the Federal Circuit Paul R. Michel, Senior Judge of the Federal Circuit and former Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of Claims Daniel M. Friedman, and Federal Circuit Judges Pauline Newman and Randall R. Rader (J.D. ’78).

“Together, these four judges have served nearly 100 years on the bench,” says John M. Whealan, associate dean for intellectual property law studies, who moderated the discussion.

The second panel was an unprecedented event, uniting the past four solicitors general for a lively and wide-ranging discussion on the Federal Circuit from a government perspective. Panelists, who served as solicitors general between 1997 and January 2009, included Seth P. Waxman (1997-01); Theodore B. Olson (2001-04); Paul D. Clement (2004-08); and Gregory G. Garre (2008-09; J.D. ’91), who is also an adjunct professor at GW Law. Carter G. Phillips, managing partner of Sidley Austin, moderated the event.

“The level of excellence and experience was unparalleled,” Whealan says of the panel. “Solicitors general may change, political parties may change, but all four panelists are united by excellence in legal advocacy, a strong commitment to service, and a passion for leading the court.”

The final panel of the day brought together a distinguished group of six scholars from law schools around the country for a discussion about the unique role the Federal Circuit plays in the judiciary. The panel was organized by John Duffy, a GW Law professor, and moderated by Rochelle C. Dreyfuss, a professor at the New York University School of Law.

In his keynote address, Hatch addressed the patent reform bill currently being debated in Congress and its need for passage. “It was a one-of-a-kind event,” states Whealan. “We look forward to many more collaborative endeavors with the Federal Circuit Bar Association.”

(Contribution by Jamie L. Freedman)
In June, the IP program held a highly successful two-day conference, “Patents & Entrepreneurship in Business & Informational Technologies,” which focused on whether the current patent system is conducive to enterprising and innovation. One frequently discussed issue was the doctrine of patentable subject matter for business methods and software—a timely subject given the Supreme Court’s decision just weeks before to grant certiorari in Bilski v. Doll, a case involving the patentability of a business method.

Patents have played an integral role in encouraging entrepreneurship with the governmental promise of exclusive rights and protections. A lively debate has developed regarding the helpfulness of the patent system to entrepreneurs not only in well-developed fields such as mechanical, chemical, and pharmaceuticals, but in rising fields such as business and information technologies. The conference explored issues such as whether these fields are fitting for patent rights; whether the difficulties in these fields expose problems with the current patent system; and whether the patent system can be, or should be, modified so that it better suits the practical needs of entrepreneurs in these and other fields.

The keynote speech was given by Judge Randall R. Rader of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit and co-author of a leading casebook on patent law. The event was organized primarily by GW Law IP Professors Michael Abramowicz and John F. Duffy based in large part on a two-year grant they received from the Kauffman Foundation. Internationally recognized IP professors from around the country presented, including Kevin Collins (Indiana University-Bloomington), Christopher Cotropia (University of Richmond), Bronwyn H. Hall (Maastricht University), F. Scott Kieff (GW Law), Edmund Kitch (University of Virginia), Josh Lerner (Harvard), Gerard N. Magliocca (Indiana University-Indianapolis), Michael J. Meuer (Boston University), Kristen Osenga (University of Richmond), Arti K. Rai (Duke University), Michael Risch (West Virginia University), Pamela Samuelson (UC-Berkeley), Joshua D. Sarnoff (American University), Scott Shane (Case Western Reserve University), Ted Sichelman (UC-Berkeley), Alexander Tabarrok, and Samson Vermont (both of George Mason University).


The conference was sponsored by the GW Law IP Center, Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, and the Microsoft Corporation. The Kauffman Foundation’s support is part of a three-year, $450,000 grant to the law school on the topic of law, growth, and innovation.

As part of the Kauffman Foundation’s grant, the IP Center is planning a second conference for May 7-8, 2010, on the subject of legal entrepreneurship. The 2010 conference will address how the provision of law itself can be entrepreneurial and address questions such as whether intellectual property rights for legal innovations can foster or retard legal experimentation. For updates and information on this conference, visit our website at www.lawgwu.edu/ipevents.

### Judge Leval Gives 9th Meyer Memorial Lecture

Judge Pierre N. Leval of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit presented the 9th annual Christopher A. Meyer Memorial Lecture at GW Law in June. Judge Leval spoke on the topic of fair use in copyright law. His talk focused on the vitality of “transformative use,” a phrase that he coined and that the Supreme Court later adopted as a key factor in fair use analysis.

The event was well attended and included noteworthy names in copyright such as Ralph Oman, the former register of copyrights and current Pavel Professorial Lecturer in Patent and Intellectual Property Law at GW Law; David Carson, the general counsel of the U.S. Copyright Office; Shira Perlmuter of the International Federation of Phonographic Industries; and Robert Brauneis, professor at GW Law.

Previous Meyer lecturers have included Professors Robert Gorman and Paul Bender; Jon Baumgarten of Proskauer Rose; Shira Perlmuter; Fred Koenigsberg of White & Case; Arthur Levine of Finnegan Henderson; Eric Smith of Greenberg Traurig; and Henry Horbaczewski, senior VP and general counsel at Reed Elsevier.

The lecture series is held in honor of the late Chris Meyer, a well-known copyright lawyer whose career included stints at the Copyright Office, PTO, and Proskauer Rose. Chris Meyer and Mike Klipper (J.D. ’72) later founded the Washington law firm Meyer, Klipper & Mohr. The event was co-sponsored by the Copyright Society of the United States, its Washington chapter, the Copyright Office, and GW Law.

GW Law looks forward to hosting this annual event in the future, and the 10th Meyer Lecture will take place at GW on April 30– May 1, 2010. To learn about this event or other GW Law IP events, please visit www.lawgwu.edu/ipevents.
### Professor Duffy Featured in Businessweek

**John F. Duffy**

Professor John F. Duffy is a “scholar-activist” who often challenges the conventional wisdom in the field of patent law, according to a June 22 *Businessweek* article. In the article, writer Michael Orey recounts Duffy’s recent activities that have influenced changes in the patent system including his work as co-counsel in *KSR*, which resulted in the Supreme Court changing the law of obviousness. Orey also discusses Duffy’s article in which he challenged as unconstitutional the appointment of administrative patent judges by the director of the USPTO, which resulted in a new law being passed by Congress, and signed by the President, that brought the appointment of such judges in line with the Constitution’s requirements. In addition, Duffy’s recent work is mentioned regarding patentable subject matter and the *Bilski* case, for which Duffy was one of only two attorneys selected by the Federal Circuit to present views at oral argument on behalf of an amicus party. The article also points out that in Duffy’s recent work in the area of patent damages, he co-authored an amicus brief in a case in which Microsoft was found liable for $500,000,000.

On a personal note, the article recounts Duffy’s days as an undergraduate physics major and cross-country runner at Harvard University and his nights counting cards playing blackjack in the casinos. The full article can be found at [http://www.businessweek.com/innovate/content/jun2009/id20090622_878427_page_2.htm](http://www.businessweek.com/innovate/content/jun2009/id20090622_878427_page_2.htm).

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service outside the academic community, Kieff enjoys teaching and writing about the range of legal and business relationships that can be employed to put ideas into practice. “It’s so great to be on the GW team,” says Kieff. “I’m having a blast sharing ideas on research and teaching with such a diverse and outstanding group of colleagues and students. The bench here sure is both wide and deep.”

While growing up in the Hyde Park neighborhood on Chicago’s South Side, Kieff “always liked the urban experience and feels right at home in DC, especially working down the street from a fellow Hyde Parker, our president,” he says. During college at MIT, he majored in molecular biology with a minor in microeconomics, and he conducted research in molecular genetics at the Whitehead Institute. He later attended Penn Law before practicing for several years as a trial lawyer and patent lawyer with the former Pennie & Edmonds in New York and Jenner & Block in Chicago.

Between his jobs with those firms, he worked as a law clerk to Judge Giles S. Rich at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. Judge Rich, known as the dean of American patent law, helped draft Title 35 of the U.S. Code—our present patent statutes—and served as a federal appellate judge interpreting those statutes for over 40 years. While clerking for Judge Rich, Kieff’s academic side began to flourish. Working nights and weekends during his clerkship, he co-authored a casebook and treatise on patent law, *Principles of Patent Law*, which is now in its fourth edition.

Teaching is very important to Kieff, who is well known for committing a great deal of time and energy to helping students learn and get jobs. “What a treat to teach students who are so engaged in the tough issues of the day,” said Kieff. “And it’s always a good investment to leverage a student’s upbeat and entrepreneurial efforts to get a job or a clerkship with any help I can add.” Scholarly and policy impact are also important to Kieff. Before joining the faculty full time, he already was affiliated with GW Law as a faculty member of the Munich Intellectual Property Law Center at Germany’s Max Planck Institute. He also serves as president of the Federal Circuit Historical Society and was one of the founding members of the Federal Circuit’s Appellate Mediation Panel. He also now serves on federal government advisory boards in areas of technology development and deployment, in addition to being a testifying and consulting expert, mediator, and arbitrator.

John Whealan, associate dean for intellectual property law studies, is especially proud to have Kieff join the school’s already excellent team in the field. “There are basically three major patent law texts used in American law schools today and with Scott’s arrival at GW, one or more co-authors from all three books call GW home, meaning that most American law students taking patent law will be learning the subject from a book co-authored by GW Law faculty,” said Whealan.

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**The conference was well attended.**


Additional panels focused on discussions of litigating patents in Europe and on the issue of patent infringement damages. The latter issue is currently being hotly debated by Congress as part of the pending patent reform legislation. Finally, the issue of managing IP litigation in the current economic and litigation environment was explored by panelists who serve as in-house IP corporate counsel at General Electric (Backmaster de Wolf), Sun Microsystems (Noreen Krall), Apple (Chip Lutton), and Eli Lilly (Douglas Norman). The panel was moderated by Mathew Moore (LL.M. ’00), a partner at Howrey.

The Hon. Kimberly Moore, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, gave the luncheon address, in which she provided helpful insights on appellate advocacy including tips for improving brief writing and oral argument. The conference was well attended by approximately 150 in-house counsel, private attorneys, and GW Law students.

John Whealan, associate dean for intellectual property studies, commented, “This symposium is a great addition to GW Law’s IP program, and Howrey and Cornerstone were great partners to work with in creating and executing the conference.”

The date for the next conference is May 11, 2010.
Join GW Law IP Group on LinkedIn

Are you a member of LinkedIn? The IP program at GW Law has established a LinkedIn group, designated GW IP, which is short for The George Washington University Law School Intellectual Property Community. This group is used to allow alumni and friends of GW Law’s IP program to network and learn about upcoming IP events. If you would like to join, just indicate to the group manager (Prof. Robert Brauneis) your affiliation with GW Law’s IP Program. Alumni should indicate the year they graduated, and other friends of GW Law’s IP program should indicate the GW Law faculty member who invited them to join the group. The GW Law IP group can be found at www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=90887.

IP Program Hosts Reception at INTA in Seattle

On May 19, fellow intellectual property alumni and friends of GW Law gathered at the Chinese Room of the Smith Tower for a reception in Seattle, WA, hosted in conjunction with the annual meeting of the International Trademark Association. Approximately 100 guests enjoyed cocktails, hors d’oeuvres, and GW Law giveaways. Robert Brauneis, professor and co-director of the IP program, and John Whealan, associate dean for intellectual property studies, attended the reception and enjoyed getting alums and friends of the GW Law IP Program.

New IP Benefactors: Microsoft, Apple, and Finnegan

GW Law’s IP Benefactors contribute greatly to the school’s IP program. The benefactors program includes IP corporations and law firms that each designate a member to serve on the school’s IP Advisory Board, which provides counsel to the school on how to coordinate the IP program. This spring, Microsoft, Apple, and Finnegan all became IP Benefactors as another way of strengthening their ongoing relationships with GW Law. The current list of IP Benefactors (in alphabetical order) now includes:

- Apple, Inc.
- Finnegan
- Howrey LLP
- Intel Corp.
- Kenyon & Kenyon LLP
- Latham & Watkins LLP
- Lowe Hauptman, Ham & Berner LLP
- Microsoft Corp.
- Ropes & Gray LLP
- Rothwell, Figg, Ernst & Manbeck, P.C.
- Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox P.L.L.C.
- The Bureau of National Affairs, Inc.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Fall IP Speaker Series

GW Law’s Dean Dinwoody Center for Intellectual Property Studies will present four outstanding luncheon lectures featuring IP scholars from around the country who will present and discuss their current research. Lunch will be included.

OCTOBER 1, 1:30 P.M.
Faculty Conference Center, 5th fl. Burns
Dennis Crouch, University of Missouri School of Law
“Is Novelty Obsolete? Chronicling the Irrelevance of the Invention Date in U.S. Patent Law”

OCTOBER 29, 1:30 P.M.
Faculty Conference Center, 5th fl. Burns
Zahr Stauffer, University of Virginia School of Law
“In Defense of Embedded Advertising”

NOVEMBER 5, 1:30 P.M.
Faculty Conference Center, 5th fl. Burns
Joseph Miller, Lewis & Clark Law School
“The Nature and Scope of the PTO’s Regulatory Power”

NOVEMBER 19, 1:30 P.M.
Faculty Conference Center, 5th fl. Burns
Christopher Cotropia, University of Richmond School of Law
“The Folly of Early Filing in Patent Law”

All are welcome to these lunch presentations, which are generously made possible by a gift from the Bureau of National Affairs (BNA). Details on future lunches (including how to R.S.V.P.) can be found at www.law.gwu.edu/ipevents.

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The George Washington University Law School

GW Law announces its new Online Alumni Community

Features:
- Search the Alumni Directory
- Update Your Information
- Manage Your Directory Listing
- Register for Events
- Join Groups Based on Practice Area and Geographic Region
- Share Your Class Notes

http://www.law.gwu.edu/Alumni

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The outstanding IP achievements of GW Law’s graduates were celebrated in an awards ceremony on May 16. As evidence that GW Law is one of the—if not the—finest law schools in the world to study intellectual property law, the Law School bestows more awards in the area of IP than any other. The 2009 graduating class award winners are listed below.

**AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION/BUROEU OF NATIONAL AFFAIRS AWARD**
Given to the members of the graduating J.D. class who demonstrate excellence in the study of intellectual property law, the award honors the six top students in intellectual property law; the Law School bestows more awards in the area of IP than any other. The 2009 graduating class award winners are listed below.

**CHRIS BARTOK MEMORIAL AWARD IN PATENT LAW**
Given to the member of the graduating J.D. class who exhibits excellence in the area of patent law, the award is presented in memory of Chris Bartok, who tragically passed away while a student at GW Law. It was Chris’ great desire to study patent law. Now, it is the wish of his family that his memory live on in the accomplishments of a student highly skilled in this area of the law. The student selected receives a monetary award and a dean’s certificate. The 2009 recipient was **Biju Chandran**.

**PETER D. ROSENBERG PRIZE IN PATENT & INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW**
The prize is presented to the member of the graduating J.D. class who demonstrates excellence in patent and intellectual property law by receiving the highest grades and most accomplishments in the area of intellectual property. The student selected receives a monetary award and a dean’s certificate. The 2009 recipient, **Joseph Edell**, was also nominated by the Law School for the Jan Jancin Award as the best intellectual property student in the nation. Edell earned more As in IP courses than any other graduate and won the on-campus Giles Rich Intellectual Property Moot Court Competition, which allowed him to represent the Law School at the Boston Regional Competition. In Boston, he made the finals and, as a result, advanced to the National Championship at the Federal Circuit.

**ANNE WELLS BRANSCOMB AWARD**
Although not designated as an IP award, this award is presented to the member of the graduating J.D. class who has attained the highest cumulative average in the part-time/evening division during the entire course of the degree. The winner receives a monetary award, a dean’s certificate of achievement, and an engraved Tiffany crystal gavel. This year’s winner, **Kevin Parton**, was a student focusing on IP who, upon graduation, will be clerking for Judge Kimberly Moore of the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

This year’s winners were selected from a group of 36 papers submitted by GW Law students. This year’s awards were presented in May, and any winner who was graduating received the award at the student award reception hosted by Dean Lawrence on May 16.

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**GW Law Graduates Receive Awards for Outstanding Achievements in IP**

*This year’s Finnegans Prize winners (followed by the title of their winning papers) were:*  
- **1st Prize: Thomas Anthony Broughan III (J.D. ’09): “Modernizing Section 337’s Domestic Industry Requirement for the Global Economy”**  
- **2nd Prize: Kevin Rodkey (J.D. expected ’10): “Exhaustion and Validity of Single-Use Licenses for Transgenic Seeds in the Wake of *Quanta v. LG Electronics***  
- **3rd Prize: Theresa R. Esquerra (J.D. expected ’10): “Rethinking the Constitutional Authority for a Design Registration System”**  

To receive the Finnegans Prize, a paper must be of publishable quality and make a significant contribution to the theory and practice of intellectual property law.

This year’s winners were selected from a group of 36 papers submitted by GW Law students. This year’s awards were presented in May, and any winner who was graduating received the award at the student award reception hosted by Dean Lawrence on May 16.
GW Law Adds New Class on Design Law to the IP Curriculum

The IP program’s newest class, Design Law, will focus on an in-depth study of the three major areas used in design law (copyright, trade dress, and design patent) and focus on the way one protects a product design (i.e., the appearance of a product). Topics to be covered include protectable subject matter, how protection attaches, infringement standards, and damages. Consideration of interdisciplinary issues, such as the doctrine of functionality, the “right to copy” doctrine, and proposed legislation on design law will also be covered. The course will be taught by Perry Saidman (J.D. ’73), who is nationally recognized as one of the leading experts and practitioners in design law.

FCBJ Completes Move to GW Law

GW Law rolled out the welcome mat this spring for its sixth national law journal as the Federal Circuit Bar Journal (FCBJ) completed the move to its new home at the Law School. The widely read scholarly publication, focusing on substantive and procedural law, is published quarterly and boasts a subscriber base of more than 3,000 judges, professors, attorneys, and law students.

As the official journal of the Federal Circuit Bar Association and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, the FCBJ provides insightful and timely coverage of myriad legal issues within the court’s purview. Articles cover a broad range of topics, spanning patent and trademark law, environmental and natural resources, government contracts, international trade, tax, and veterans’ appeals.

“The Federal Circuit Bar Journal is a perfect fit for GW, since we have expertise in practically every area of the Federal Circuit’s jurisdiction,” says John Whealan, associate dean for intellectual property law studies, who oversees the journal along with Josh Schwartz, E.K. Gubin Professor of Government Contracts Law, and Steven Schooner (L.L.M. ’89), associate professor of law. “We have one of the best IP programs and international trade programs in the country, the top government contracts program in the United States, and the only vaccine injury clinic in the nation. Many of our students go on to clerk on the Federal Circuit, as well as on the Court of Federal Claims.”

Whealan says the journal has quickly strengthened GW Law’s relationship with the Federal Circuit Bar Association, as well as with the Federal Circuit itself. “One illustration of our growing affiliation is the well-attended symposium on the circuit that we co-sponsored at the National Press Club on March 18,” says Whealan (see related story on page 2). Students benefit in myriad ways from the collaboration, he adds: “The journal provides a diverse set of jurisdictional areas for our students to write about and provides unique opportunities for student editors to interact and network with members of the bar in their areas of subject matter interest.”

Dean Frederick M. Lawrence expressed great excitement over the journal’s arrival at GW Law. “The Federal Circuit is a national court with international implications based in Washington, D.C. — just like GW Law School,” he states. “That’s why we feel a special connection to it. We are delighted that the journal is now housed at our Law School.”

Jim Brookshire, the executive director of the Federal Circuit Bar Association, is equally enthusiastic about the new collaboration. “We are absolutely thrilled,” he says. “Principled, scholarly discourse is at the heart of the mission of the Federal Circuit Bar Association and takes its finest point in the journal. This pairing brings together extraordinarily committed law students, outstanding academic credentials, and the association’s commitment to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit and its community. The journal’s continued national leadership is thus firmly assured.” (Contribution by Jamie L. Freedman)

Undersecretary Kappos to Speak at GW Law

GW Law is proud to announce that the Hon. David Kappos, the newly confirmed undersecretary of commerce for intellectual property and director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office will deliver this fall’s Sidney A. Katz Lecture. The lecture will be given on Wednesday, November 18 at 6:00 p.m. (with registration starting at 5:30 p.m.). A reception will follow.

The Sidney Katz Lecture was generously endowed by Sidney Katz (J.D. ’66). Further details on this event, including how to register, as well as on other GW Law IP events can be found on our website at www.law.gwu.edu/ipevents.
CIEC Studies Software Innovation in Brazil

GW Law’s CIEC director Dr. Michael P. Ryan and the Center for Science & Technology Policy at the University of Sao Paulo (Brazil) are conducting a study of software innovation in Brazil. They asked for nominations from all the Brazilian IT business association presidents and leading public IT research and university leaders. A first set of innovators was profiled and presented in March in Sao Paulo at a conference organized by the Business Software Alliance. Innovators included the woman who pioneered online tax filing for the federal Brazilian government, the inventors of the inter-bank real-time financial liquidation system, and the co-inventors of the bioinformatics system that enabled Brazilian scientists to publish sequences of the genetic codes of plant pathogens in the journals *Nature* and *Science*. A second set of Brazilian software innovators will be presented in Sao Paulo in November at a conference organized by the Brazilian e-commerce association.

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IP Benactors receive a number of benefits from the school, including:

- Membership on the Intellectual Property Advisory Board
- Complimentary firm lunch or reception for students
- Complimentary participation in GW Law’s annual IP Networking Fair
- Invitations to IP events
- Use of GW Law facilities
- Acknowledgement as an IP Benefactor

Further information about the IP Benefactors Program can be found on the Law School’s web page or by contacting Associate Dean John Whealan at 202-994-2195.

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