(RE) THINKING INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS AND NEW PERSPECTIVES

TRIPS and its Achilles’ Heel

Why International Intellectual Property Enforcement Norms Are So Weak?

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Thursday, 12 May 2011
17h30
CEIPI– Amphithéâtre 23
11, rue du Maréchal Juin BP 68
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Abstract:

This lecture will examine why the TRIPS Agreement fails to provide effective global enforcement of intellectual property rights. It attributes such failure to five sets of challenges: historical, economic, tactical, disciplinary, and technological.

The lecture will outline the various actions taken by both developed and less developed countries to steer the TRIPS Agreement and the larger international intellectual property system toward their preferred positions. While developed countries push for the development of stronger enforcement norms, less developed countries resist those demands and complain about the use of bilateral, plurilateral, and regional trade agreements to establish TRIPS-plus standards.

The lecture will conclude with four lessons that can be drawn from the continuous battle between developed and less developed countries over international intellectual property enforcement norms. Given the significance of effective enforcement to both developed and less developed countries, it is the hope of this lecture that a better understanding of these four lessons will lead to a more balanced, robust, and sustainable global intellectual property enforcement regime.

Bio:

Peter K. Yu holds the Kern Family Chair in Intellectual Property Law and is the founding director of the Intellectual Property Law Center at Drake University Law School. He is also a Wenlan Scholar Chair Professor at Zhongnan University of Economics and Law in Wuhan, China. Before joining Drake University, he founded the nationally-renowned Intellectual Property & Communications Law Program at Michigan State University, at which he held faculty appointments in law, communication arts and sciences, and Asian studies.

Born and raised in Hong Kong, Professor Yu is a leading expert in international intellectual property and communications law. He also writes and lectures extensively on international trade, international and comparative law, and the transition of the legal systems in China and Hong Kong. A prolific scholar and an award-winning teacher, he is the author or editor of four books and more than 70 law review articles and book chapters. He serves as the general editor of The WIPO Journal and the editor of two book series.

Professor Yu has spoken at events organized by the World Intellectual Property Organization, the International Telecommunication Union, the U.N. Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Chinese, U.S. and EU governments and at leading research institutions from around the world. He speaks and writes in Chinese and English, and his lectures and presentations have spanned more than twenty countries on all continents except Antarctica. He is a frequent commentator in the national and international media. His publications, which appeared in Chinese and English and have been translated into Arabic, French, Japanese, Persian, Portuguese, and Spanish, are available on his website at www.peteryu.com.