



(RE) THINKING INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS AND NEW PERSPECTIVES

IP and climate change

Joshua Sarnoff

Professor of law at DePaul University, Chicago and a faculty member in and former director of the Center for Intellectual Property Law & Information Technology (CIPLIT®)

Tuesday, October 6, 2015 at **6.00 pm**

CEIPI– Amphithéâtre 23

11, rue du Maréchal Juin BP 68

67046 Strasbourg

The conference will be held in English and followed by a debate with the audience, moderated by Christophe Geiger, Director General of CEIPI. Free admission subject to availability.

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Abstract:

Over the next few decades, tens of trillions of dollars will be needed for the development and dissemination of a wide range of new technologies to upgrade infrastructure and to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change (climate change technologies). Climate change is expected to cause dramatic changes to weather patterns; to adversely affect health (particularly for vulnerable populations), ecosystems, food production and water availability; to displace populations and disrupt land and resource ownership; and to interfere with existing patterns of satisfying basic human needs. These developments, and the ability of society to mitigate and adapt to climate changes, will be affected in numerous ways by intellectual property rights.

This talk provides an introduction to the interactions of climate change with the global intellectual property system, at a time when new international climate treaty requirements are soon to be adopted in Paris.

Bio:

Joshua D. Sarnoff is a Professor of Law at DePaul University College of Law, and a faculty member in and former director of the Center for Intellectual Property Law and Information Technology (CIPLIT®). He teaches patent law, advanced patent law, administrative law, law and climate change, and other courses. He was previously a professor at the Washington College of Law, American University, in the Glushko-Samuels Intellectual Property Law Clinic, and at the University of Arizona College of Law. From 2014 to 2015, Professor Sarnoff has been a Thomas A. Edison Distinguished Scholar at the United States Patent and Trademark Office. He is a registered patent attorney and a member of the bars of Washington DC and California, a former member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Circuit Bar Association, a former pro bono mediator for the U.S Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, and a member of the boards of directors and advisory boards of various non-profit organizations. Professor Sarnoff has been involved in a wide range of intellectual property legal and policy disputes, has submitted testimony on domestic patent law reform bills, has filed numerous amicus briefs in the United States Supreme Court and in Federal Circuit on important patent law issues, and has been a consultant to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) on international intellectual property, trade, and environmental issues. He is a frequent lecturer on intellectual property law issues and has written numerous articles and book chapters on patent law and on climate change. Professor Sarnoff is the editor of and a contributing author to the forthcoming RESEARCH HANDBOOK ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND CLIMATE CHANGE, to be published by Edward Elgar Publishing.

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