

Patent Quality Conferences

Duke Law–Santa Clara Law Patent Quality Conferences

The [Duke Law Center for Innovation Policy](#) and the [Santa Clara High Tech Law Institute](#) invite you to participate in a pair of jointly-hosted conferences on patent quality. The first conference will be held on September 9, 2016, from 9am–5pm, at the Locatelli Center on the campus of Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, California. The second conference will be held on December 13, 2016, from 8:30am–1pm, at the [U.S. Patent and Trademark Office \(PTO\)](#), Alexandria, Virginia. These conferences will convene academics and stakeholders to reflect as a community.

Over the past 7 years, the PTO has made patent quality a major priority, launching initiatives and taking executive action to reduce application pendency, enhance prior art search capabilities, bolster examiner training, increase clarity of the record, enhance transparency, and calibrate examiner incentives, among other steps. As the PTO continues to implement a number of ongoing programs and roll out new ones, these conferences will convene policy-makers, academics, and stakeholders to reflect as a community on what has gone well, what has been learned, and what potential next steps, policies and procedures the PTO might consider for ensuring that U.S. patents are of the highest quality.

The following thematic areas will be covered at the conferences:

- Track One and Differentiating Between Patents
- Clarity of Claims and the Patent Record
- Examiner Search (including Global Dossier)
- Using Post-Grant Outcomes to Improve Ex Ante Quality
- Examiner Work Design (including Time Allocation and Management)
- Maintenance and Other Patent Fees
- Compact / “Once and Done” Prosecution
- Applicant Quality Levers

Interested attendees should contact [Colleen Chien \(email\)](#) and [Arti Rai \(email\)](#).



Follow the conferences at [#PatentQualityConf](#) [@PatentQualityConf](#)



SCHEDULE - September 9, 2016 - Santa Clara University

(Subject to change)

[Register for Sept. 9 Conference](#)

Time	Topic
8:45am – 8:50am	Welcome/Introduction Colleen Chien, Santa Clara Law Arti Rai, Duke University School of Law
8:50am – 9:05am	Claim Clarity Initiatives Valencia Wallace-Martin, USPTO
9:10am – 10:10am	Claim Clarity, Consistency <i>Moderator: Ahsan Shaikh, McDermott, Will & Emery</i> Charles Duan, Public Knowledge Xavier Jaravel, Stanford University Jay Kesan, University of Illinois College of Law Peter Menell, University of California, Berkeley, School of Law Valencia Wallace-Martin, USPTO
10:10am – 10:30am	Break
10:30am – 10:45am	How Examiner Time Is Allocated Andy Faile, USPTO
10:50am – 11:05am	Searching and Time Allocations Survey Robert Marek, GAO
11:10am – 12:05pm	Search and Time <i>Moderator: Karen Wong, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati</i> Colleen Chien, Santa Clara Law Andy Faile, USPTO Michael Frakes, Duke University School of Law Melissa Wasserman, The University of Texas at Austin, School of Law
12:05pm – 1:05pm	Lunch

The conferences are generously supported by:



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(Subject to change)

1:05pm – 1:20pm	EPO Quality Initiatives and Differences Alfred Spiragelli, EPO
1:25pm – 1:35pm	Data on USPTO vs. EPO Colleen Chien, Santa Clara Law Jay Kesan, University of Illinois College of Law
1:40pm – 2:35pm	Once and Done, Feedback Loops <i>Moderator: Arti Rai, Duke University School of Law</i> Alan Marco, USPTO Laura Sheridan, Google Sandy Swain, Microsoft Corporation Stephen Yelderman, University of Notre Dame Law School
2:35pm – 2:50pm	Break
2:50pm – 3:45pm	Applicant Incentives and Choices (including fees), Differentiating between Patents <i>Moderator: Melissa Wasserman, The University of Texas at Austin, School of Law</i> Oskar Liivak, Cornell University Law School Brian Love, Santa Clara Law Josh Makower, New Enterprise Associates Robert Marek, GAO Arti Rai, Duke University School of Law
3:50pm – 4:05pm	Where We've Been - Perspective David Kappos, Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP
4:10pm – 5:15pm	Reflections on Patent Quality - Where We've Been, Where We're Going <i>Moderator: Colleen Chien, Santa Clara Law</i> John Cabeca, USPTO (tentative) Andy Faile, USPTO (tentative) Alfred Spiragelli, EPO Valencia Wallace-Martin, USPTO (tentative)

The event will qualify for 6 hours of California MCLE. Santa Clara Law is a State Bar of California approved MCLE provider.

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