



NAPP's 20th Annual Meeting & Conference Schedule At-a-Glance (schedule subject to change)

Thursday, July 28 USPTO Day

7:30 AM 5:00 PM Registration Desk Open

8:00 AM 8:45 AM Breakfast

8:45 AM 9:00 AM Opening Remarks

9:00 AM 10:00 AM The USPTO's Vision for Patent Quality

Commissioner Andrew Hirshfeld

This session will cover the role of the USPTO in the patent quality discussion, and the adaptation of office processes, programs, and initiatives for examiners and applicants in the interest of raising the bar of patent quality.

10:15 AM 11:15 AM USPTO Quality Measurement

Chief Statistician Martin Rater

This session will cover the challenges of Office of Patent Quality Assurance to measure patent and examination quality; the processes and statistical techniques currently utilized by the office; and outreach to the patent community in this endeavor.

11:30 AM 12:00 PM USPTO Ombudsman's Office

Ombudsman's Office Director Anthony Knight

This session will cover the role and resources of the Office of the Ombudsman that are available to avoid roadblocks and promote the efficiency and quality of patent examination and prosecution. Additionally, this talk will include a discussion of the most common issues that we are receiving calls on and tips to either avoid or work through these issues.

12:15 PM 1:15 PM Lunch

Generously Sponsored by: Mike Caldwell- Anaqua

1:30 PM 2:30 PM Patent Quality in the Trenches

Timothy Callahan; Gregory Vidovich, TC Director; Jacqueline Stone, TC Director

This session will cover the experiences of patent examiners, supervisors, and technology center directors in the adaptation of day-to-day examination practice to promote patent quality.

2:30 PM 2:45 PM Coffee Break

Generously sponsored by: Claim Masters

2:45 PM 3:45 PM Design Patent Quality Issues

Joel Sincavage

This session will cover the distinctive challenges for design patent examiners and applicants in the context of patent quality.

4:00 PM 5:00 PM Patent Quality Ethics

OED Deputy Director William Griffin

This session will cover ethics-related issues, generally and in the context of patent quality, that are the current focus of attention of the Office of Enrollment and Discipline.

5:15 PM 6:15 PM Welcome Reception (USPTO Museum)

Dinner on Own

Friday, July 29

Perspectives Day

7:30 AM **5:00 PM** **Registration Desk Open**

8:00 AM **9:00 AM** **Annual Meeting & Breakfast** (All attendee's are invited to attend.)

9:00 AM **9:45 AM** **History of U.S. Patent Quality**

Prof. Adam Mossoff, George Mason University School of Law

This session will cover the frequency and nature of patent-quality-related crises throughout the history of U.S. patent law.

9:45 AM **10:30 AM** **Patent Quality Contrary Viewpoints**

Daniel Nazer, Electronic Frontier Foundation; Charles Duan

This session will discuss why the patent system faces especially steep patent quality challenges for software-related inventions. It will also cover how courts and the USPTO have responded to these challenges and what more might be done.

10:45 AM **12:15 PM** **Patent Quality Case Review**

Priya Cloutier; Lisa Adelson

This session will cover emerging case law from the past year for utility and design patents, and the ongoing struggle of the courts to define patent quality.

12:30 PM **1:15 PM** **Lunch** **Patent Quality from the Bench**

Special Guest Speaker- Judge Randall Rader

1:30 PM **2:30 PM** **Patent Quality Litigation Issues**

Mike Songer

This session will cover the perspective of patent litigators on the state of the patent quality discussion within the court system, and the impact on the practical realities of patent litigation.

2:30 PM **2:45 PM** **Coffee Break**

Generously sponsored by: RWS inovia/Valipat

2:45 PM **3:45 PM** **Patent Quality Industry Use**

Gene Quinn; John White

This session will cover the impact of the patent quality discussion on the industrial use of patents, including technology transfer, licensing, and patent portfolio management.

3:45 PM **4:15 PM** **Filing for Patent Protection Abroad**

Mavis Gallenson

This session will briefly review some important considerations when preparing and filing patent applications outside of the US. These include claim breadth and language, specification adjustments, issues with respect to assignments in terms of the timing of signatures of inventors and the resultant applicant name that is chosen. Also touched upon is the use of the PPH here and abroad and considerations to be made when filing PCT applications.

4:15 PM **5:00 PM** **International Patent Quality**

Tomoya Yanagisawa, JPO Director of Patent Examination Policy Planning Office;

Nobuo Sekine

This session will cover the definition of patent quality by other patent offices and practitioners, and the perspectives and challenges for patent examination, prosecution, and use facing non-U.S. patent systems.

7:15 PM **Monuments by Moonlight Tour**

Meet in Westin Hotel Lobby

Saturday, July 30 Practice Integration Day

8:00 AM 12:00 PM Registration Desk Open
8:00 PM 8:45 AM Breakfast
8:45 PM 9:00 AM Opening Remarks

9:00 AM 10:30 AM Patent Drafting Best Practices

Panel: Jeff Wendt; Gary Maze; Richard Kirkpatrick

This panel session will cover patent drafting strategies (including drawings) to present high-quality patent applications to the USPTO and other patent offices as well as defend those patents in post-grant proceedings and litigation.

10:45 AM 12:15 PM Patent Prosecution Best Practices

Panel: Ernie Beffel; Charles Bienerman; Kerry Culpepper; Steven Greenberg and Mike Caldwell

This panel session will cover patent prosecution strategies to advance patent prosecution and secure high-quality, enforceable patents for client applicants and inventors.

12:30 PM 1:15 PM Lunch & 20 for the 20th Networking

Generously Sponsored by: Larry Hilton- Dominion Insurance

Guest Speaker: Chris Karel- RWS inovia

1:30 PM 2:30 PM International Practice Issues

David Dickerson

This panel session will cover international patent practice strategies to secure patents in non-U.S. jurisdictions in coordination with U.S. patent practice.

2:30 PM 2:45 PM Coffee Break

Generously sponsored by: Patent Designs

2:45 PM 3:45 PM Practice Management Issues (docketing, client development)

Panel: Bruce Young, Priya Cloutier

This panel session will cover the management of patent practice, including securing and advising clients and docket management, to maintain and elevate our standards of patent quality.

4:00 PM 5:00 PM Case Hypotheticals

Panel: Lisa Adelson; Kip Werking; Jerry Miller

This concluding panel session will cover the review of a few hypothetical creative works by a panel of intellectual property practitioners, the availability of various forms of protection for various aspects of such works, and the identification and handling of issues that may arise, including the dynamic state of the law of patent quality standards.

5:00 PM Closing Remarks