

PIIPA Newsletter October 2013



Public Interest Intellectual Property Advisors

"IP resources the right size, at the right time, in the right place"

October 2013 Newsletter

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The Role of Intellectual Property in Biodiversity Protection Seminar

On September 24, 2013 PIIPA held a seminar on *The Role of Intellectual Property in Biodiversity Protection and Access and Benefit Sharing Agreements*. Susan K. Finston, Finston Consulting moderated and presented at the seminar. Our other knowledgeable speakers included Dr. Leonard Hirsch, Senior Policy Advisor, Smithsonian Institution, and Lila Feisee, Vice President, International Affairs, Biotechnology Industry Organization.

The last few years have seen a range of significant developments related to intellectual property rights (IPRs) and biodiversity. At least two major international agreements, both legally binding, deal with this issue: the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the TRIPs Agreement. In addition, WIPO and other international institutions are increasingly becoming active on the subject. At national levels, too, there is considerable activity with legislation, or other measures, which respond to the above treaties or in other ways deal with the relationship between IPRs and biodiversity. This seminar will provide an

overview of IPRs related to biodiversity; explore the relationship between IPRs and biodiversity; and examine the spaces available in existing regimes for appropriate national action. Key findings and the presentations can be downloaded [here](#). The seminar was sponsored by and held at Venable LLP, 575 7th Street NW Washington DC, 20004 USA.

Save the Date for the Last Seminar of 2013!

December 3, 2013

The Role of Intellectual Property in Protection of Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions

Topics: *Protecting the economic and cultural assets of indigenous and local communities and their countries and What does "Protection" mean? Who benefits?*

Biodiversity, Access & Benefit Sharing Agreements Resources

- [Implementation Checklist for the Nagoya ABS Protocol](#)
- [A Comparative Analysis of Developing Countries' National Legislation on Community and Indigenous Peoples' Forest Tenure Rights](#)
- [Preparing a national strategy on ABS](#)
- [ABS Capacity Building South Africa](#)
- [ABS in Farming Communities in Bangladesh](#)
- [Bioprospects less than golden](#)
- [United Nations University ABS Pocket Guide](#)

PIIPA Hosts Seminar at the IMF Fall Meeting

As a founding member of the World Bank's Global Forum on Law, Justice and Development on October 10, 2013 PIIPA sponsored a 90-minute program during the International Monetary Fund's Civil Society Forum on *The Role of Intellectual Property in Developing Countries*. PIIPA's President & CEO R. Mark Davis moderated the panel. The speakers were Dr. Devinder Mahajan, Professor, Stony Brook University; Abanti Bhattacharyya JD, Senior Intellectual Property Manager, Johns Hopkins University Office of Technology Transfer; and Samuel G. Adewusi Esquire, Senior Counsel, African Artists Collaborative. Special guests included Sherif Saadallah, Executive Director, External Relations from WIPO. Presentations can be downloaded [here](#).

PIIPA Announces Pacyinz Lyfoung as our New Program Director

Pacyinz Lyfoung, LLM/JD, has been an active IP Corps member, who most recently served on PIIPA's 2013 Bioprospecting Guide revision team. She has over fifteen years of experience in nonprofit management and development, law and policy, community engagement, and grant management. She specializes in global public health law, with an emphasis on the intersection of public health, trade and intellectual property. She has previous experience with the Department of Public Health, Innovation and Intellectual Property at the World Health Organization. Pacyinz will also be the administrative manager of PIIPA as R. Mark Davis, who has been our President & CEO since 2010, will be leaving us to take the helm of another organization. Pacyinz (pronounced Pa-yang) can be contacted at plyfoung@piipa.org. Welcome Pacyinz!

Message from Pacyinz Lyfoung, PIIPA's Program Director

Dear PIIPA community, when I first found out about PIIPA, I marveled that such an organization working on international intellectual property and human/economic development even existed. Now that I have the opportunity to work for PIIPA, I look forward to maximizing the world-changing potential that PIIPA's 3,000 plus IP pro bono volunteers represent, bringing real intellectual property solutions to the ground, impacting people's lives and promoting economic development where evidenced and self-identified. I look forward to working with all of you and witness the amazing advances related to intellectual property in the focus areas of global health, food security, climate change technology transfer and traditional knowledge that will emerge from PIIPA's projects. Then, I would like to share words of praise and admiration for R. Mark Davis, whose creative and generous spirit guided the energy of PIIPA and its volunteers for the past three years, and strengthened PIIPA's role as a globally-established public intellectual property resource. I wish him the best in his next endeavors, which will be fabulous as everything else he undertakes in life. Finally, I look forward to working with PIIPA's dedicated and talented Board of Directors who remain the backbone and heart of PIIPA through the years, with whom the best is always yet to come.

New Board Members Announcement

PIIPA is thrilled to be able to retain R. Mark Davis' wonderful talents as he has graciously agreed to join our Board of Directors. Along with Mark, Jim Gollin has become part of our governance team. Jim is a highly experienced nonprofit board member, social entrepreneur, investment guru, and a founder of the Social Venture Network. He is fluent in Japanese, Spanish, French, and Italian. As Director of the Angelica Foundation, he travels regularly throughout the Southwest US and Latin America, funding environmental, pro-democracy and human rights groups throughout the region.

Partner Organizations

- [World Intellectual Property Organization](#)
- [United Nations Economic Commission for Africa](#)
- [World Health Organization Department of Public Health, Innovation and Intellectual Property \(PHI\)](#)
- [The World Bank Global Forum on Law, Justice, and Development](#)
- [United States Patent & Trademark Office](#)
- [Organization of American States](#)
- [Canadian International Development Agency](#)
- [Conference Board of Canada](#)
- [SMEToolkit.org](#)
- [Centro Internacional de Agricultura Tropical \(CIAT\)](#)
- [GEF-NGO Network](#)

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