## **Meet the Speakers**

**Samantha Aguayo** is Deputy Executive Director and Chief Policy Counsel of Intellectual Property Owners Association. In this role, she serves as the association's lead U.S. government relations attorney, working directly with IPO Board of Directors to adopt strategic public policy positions and representing the association in Congress, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, and other federal agencies. Ms. Aguayo oversees the organization's amicus program as well as its member committee program. She also directs IPO's external communications and serves as editor-in-chief of the popular *IPO Daily News*™ and *IPOwners Quarterly*™ publications and -host of the *IP Chat Channel*™ webinar series. Ms. Aguayo joined IPO in 2000 and has held numerous positions within the association, including Director of Government Relations and Chief Operating Executive. She earned her BA from Kenyon College and her JD from George Washington University Law School.



**Honorable David Kappos** is Co-Chair of Cravath's Intellectual Property Practice. He is widely recognized as one of the world's foremost leaders in the field of intellectual property, including intellectual property management and strategy, the development of global intellectual property norms, laws and practices as well as commercialization and enforcement of innovation-based assets. Mr. Kappos supports the Firm's clients with a wide range of their most complex intellectual property issues, including those pertaining to blockchain, cryptoassets and fintech, as well as data security and privacy. From August 2009 to January 2013, Mr. Kappos served as Under Secretary of Commerce and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). In that role, he advised the President, the Secretary of Commerce and the Administration on intellectual property policy matters. As Director of the USPTO, he led the Agency in dramatically re-engineering its entire management and



operational systems as well as its engagement with the global innovation community. He was instrumental in achieving the greatest legislative reform of the U.S. patent system in generations through passage and implementation of the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act, signed into law by President Obama in September 2011. Mr. Kappos serves on the Boards of Directors of the Partnership for Public Service, the Center for Global Enterprise and the Intellectual Property Owners Education Foundation and on the Advisory Board for C-IP<sup>2</sup>. He is the Chair of the Advisory Council of the Naples Roundtable, and the U.S. Chair of the U.S.-China IP Cooperation Dialogue. He is also an Adjunct Professor at Cornell Law School, where he teaches legal advising for the start-up general counsel. Mr. Kappos received a B.S. *summa cum*  *laude* in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the University of California, Davis and a J.D. from the University of California, Berkeley.

**Chris Israel** joined American Continental Group (ACG) Advocacy in 2010, bringing his experience as an accomplished public and private sector executive with an extensive record of leadership, including senior-level appointments by the President of the United States, service on Capitol Hill and holding a senior-level position within a global media company. At ACG, Chris works with a diverse range of clients to develop and execute effective policy and communications strategies. He has also been called upon to testify before Congress, most recently in 2018 to discuss the impact of strong IP protections on U.S. startups and small businesses before the House Small Business Committee. Chris has experience working with long-standing processes such as the development of the USTR Special 301 Report, as well as newer and ever-changing initiatives such as the Trump Administration's Memorandum on Combating



Trafficking in Counterfeit and Pirated Goods, and Congressional efforts to exert more pressure on ecommerce companies to stem the flow of counterfeits on their platforms. Prior to joining ACG, Chris served for nearly seven years in senior leadership roles in the George W. Bush Administration.

**Kirstin Stoll-DeBell** is a Partner at Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath. She is a registered US patent attorney and has spent her 23+ year career specializing in all- things patent, as well as trademark and trade secret litigation and counseling. For most of her career, Kirstin has managed a large patent portfolio for several companies including Microsoft and more recently is managing patent portfolio development for a large international technology company. She also divides her time between litigating patents and patent analysis in support of licensing programs for her clients. Although Kirstin has always focused primarily on computer software and electrical inventions, she is also experienced in handling a variety of litigation matters covering a broad spectrum of technology areas from



semiconductor circuit design and processing, oxygen scavenging polymer compositions, medical devices, and casino gaming equipment, for example. She joined the Denver office of Faegre Drinker Biddle & Beatri in 2000 after 20 years with the Denver office of Merchant & Gould. Kirstin was recognized by the 2022 1AM Patent 1000 as a "software savant, [with] 'deep prosecution experience [who] is also confident litigating in all IP areas.1" Further, she has been included in 1AM Patent 1000 - The World's Leading Patent Professionals, Colorado, 2017-2020; The Best Lawyers in America for Litigation - Intellectual Property, 2016-2020; Colorado Super Lawyers, Intellectual Property Litigation, 2014-2019; and Colorado Rising Stars, 2010-2013. Kirstin is a co-author of the ABA book on Preliminary Injunctions and Temporary Restraining Orders.

**Olivia Tsai** is Assistant General Counsel and Head of IP at Cruise, a leading autonomous vehicle company with over 3000 employees worldwide. Prior to Cruise, she was at Cisco, Sandia National Laboratories, and in private practice. She has a BS in Electrical Engineering from MIT and a JD from Case Western Reserve University. She was appointed to serve on the USPTO Patent Public Advisory Committee ("PPAC"). She is Co-Founder and Corporate Secretary of Allied Transportation Association to bring together collaborative IP opportunities in the transportation industry and is also Founding Member of Advancing Diversity Across Patent Teams ("ADAPT") to promote the advancement of diversity, equity, and inclusion among patent professionals.



**Tonya Combs** serves as Sr. Vice President, Deputy General Patent Counsel, where she advises senior leaders at Eli Lilly and Company on IP strategy. She also has the good fortune to lead a group of talented and experienced patent attorneys and professionals responsible for global patent and trademark procurement (drafting and prosecuting), maintenance, and aspects of enforcement for Lilly. In addition, she and her team assess third party patents for potential impact on Lilly's development efforts and value in business due diligence. Ms. Combs started her career at Lilly as a chemical engineer in research and development with responsibility for optimizing scale up production of clinical trial material. She's held a number of positions of increasing responsibility in Lilly



Legal, focusing on patent preparation and prosecution, multi-jurisdictional patent litigation, brand support, trade secret protection and enforcement, general counsel for the oncology business unit, and others. Ms. Combs joined Lilly Research Labs in 2001 after receiving a B.S. in chemical engineering from Rose-Hulman Inst. of Tech. She received a J.D. *summa cum laude* from Robert H. McKinney School of Law in 2006. She currently sits on the IPO Board of Directors and was newly appointed to the Executive Committee. She previously served as the co-chair and board liaison to IPO's Pharmaceutical & Biotechnology Issues Committee (and is a former co-chair), and is active in AIPLA, where she was named a Woman to Watch in January 2019. Ms. Combs also serves on the boards of Butler University, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, The Children's Museum of Indianapolis, and the Foundation for Advancement of Diversity in IP Law.

## **Estelle Bakun** is Assistant General Counsel of Technology and IP at ExxonMobil

Corporation. Estelle has spent her entire legal career with ExxonMobil, joining the company while still in law school. She has progressed through various IP and managerial assignments supporting ExxonMobil's Upstream, Downstream and Chemical businesses, including an expat assignment as the Legal Manager for an ExxonMobil affiliate in Australia. Estelle's practice has included patent procurement, licensing, mergers and divestitures, Global Projects, among other things and has recently expanded to include

Cybersecurity. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry from Rutgers and a Juris Doctorate from Seton Hall School of Law. She is a former IPO board member, and remains engaged in industry organizations.

**George Kanabe** is Deputy General Counsel for Product, Brand, IP & Public Policy at McAfee, a worldwide leader in online protection. Before joining McAfee five years ago, he practiced with firms in New York, Atlanta, and most recently as a partner in San Francisco at Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe. George has advised startups to large multinationals in various technology fields, on matters ranging from IP and product development and protection, transactions, M&A and disputes.

**Kelsey Milman** serves as Vice President & Deputy General Counsel and Chief IP Counsel for Caterpillar Inc. In this role, she manages Caterpillar's worldwide Intellectual Property practice, with offices in the US, UK, Germany, China, Japan, and India. In addition, Ms. Milman leads the Legal M&A and Legal Operations teams. Ms. Milman has previously served in several leadership roles within Caterpillar, including managing the North America patent organization, the Asia Pacific Intellectual Property Office, based in Beijing, and the Trademark and Design Section. Ms. Milman is active in the Intellectual Property Owners (IPO) Association, currently serving on the board of directors. She is also a member of the Association of Corporate Patent Counsel (ACPC), serving on the executive committee.

**Henry Hadad** is Senior Vice President & Deputy General Counsel, Innovation Law, at Bristol Myers Squibb in Princeton, NJ, where he is Chief Intellectual Property (IP) Counsel, leading a team supporting the company's efforts to discover, develop and deliver

groundbreaking treatments for patients with serious unmet medical need. He was previously Chief IP Counsel at Schering-Plough Corporation and held roles at Johnson & Johnson and in private practice. During his legal career, Mr. Hadad has represented the innovative biopharmaceutical, generic, medical device and consumer goods industries, with a focus on IP procurement, litigation, transactions and policy in the United States and internationally, and is an active member of numerous IP educational, policy and advocacy organizations. He is a board member of the Intellectual Property Owners (IPO) Association, served as its President (2018-2019), and is currently chair of its Amicus Committee. In September 2022, Mr. Hadad received IPO's Carl B. Horton Distinguished IP Service award for "extraordinary leadership and dedication to promoting the value of intellectual property to society and the global account". In Desember

intellectual property to society and the global economy." In December 2022, he was appointed by the U.S.







Secretary of Commerce to the Patent Public Advisory Committee (PPAC), which is charged with reviewing "policies, goals, performance, budget, and user fees" of the USPTO and advising the Director on these matters. Mr. Hadad holds a B.S. in Biology from Haverford College and a J.D., *cum laude*, from the American University, Washington College of Law.

**Gillian Thackray** joined Thermo Fisher Scientific in 2018 as Vice President and Chief Counsel for IP. Her responsibilities include guiding the company on worldwide Intellectual Property asset creation, protection and enforcement activities, as well as leading an international team of IP experts. Ms. Thackray was previously Chief IP Counsel for The Clorox Company, where she also served as the General Counsel for a \$2 B business unit and advised the company regarding joint ventures, business strategy, advertising and regulatory matters. Ms. Thackray is a proven people leader who effectively leads teams to higher engagement and efficiency as pro-active business partners. Ms. Thackray is a



frequent speaker at events sponsored by ACC, PLI, and Bloomberg Law. She has a JD from Duke University. Gillian is admitted to the California Bar.

**Adam Keser** is Chief IP Counsel at Saint-Gobain Corporation, where he leads a team responsible for worldwide procurement and enforcement of IP rights. Prior to joining Saint-Gobain, Adam served as IP counsel for Otis Elevator Company, a division of United Technologies Corp., and an associate with Morrison & Foerster LLP. Adam clerked for Judge Moore at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. Adam received his undergraduate degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Connecticut, and his JD from the University of Illinois College of Law. Adam serves on the Federal Circuit Advisory Counsel and on the Executive Committee for the Association of Corporate Patent Counsel, he is also an elected member of his local Board of Education.



**Honorable Kimberly Moore**, who was appointed by President George W. Bush in 2006 and assumed the duties of Chief Circuit Judge on May 22, 2021. Prior to her appointment, Chief Judge Moore was a Professor of Law from 2004 to 2006 and Associate Professor of Law from 2000 to 2004 at the George Mason University School of Law. She was an Assistant Professor of Law at the University of Maryland School of Law from 1999 to 2000. She served both as an Assistant Professor of Law from 1997 to 1999 and the Associate Director of the Intellectual Property Law Program from 1998 to 1999 at the Chicago-Kent College of Law. Chief Judge Moore clerked from 1995 to 1997 for the Honorable Glenn L. Archer, Jr., Chief Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. She was an



Associate at Kirkland & Ellis from 1994 to 1995. From 1988 to 1992, Chief Judge Moore was employed in electrical engineering with the Naval Surface Warfare Center. Chief Judge Moore received her B.S.E.E. in 1990, M.S. in 1991, both from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and her J.D., cum laude, from the Georgetown University Law Center in 1994. Chief Judge Moore has written and presented widely on patent litigation. She co-authored a legal casebook entitled Patent Litigation and Strategy and served as the Editor of The Federal Circuit Bar Journal from 1998 to 2006.

**Thomas Beall** is vice president and chief intellectual property counsel for Corning Incorporated. Beall has worldwide responsibility for Corning's intellectual property, including all matters involving patents, trademarks, trade secrets, and copyrights. He has over 25 years of experience in the field. Beall holds a B.S. from Syracuse University, as well as a J.D. from the University of New Hampshire School of Law. Beall has testified before Congress in support of the Defend Trade Secrets Act. He is a member of the New York State Bar, licensed to practice in the United States Patent and Trademark Office, and serves on the Board of Directors for the Intellectual Property Owners Association.

**Brett Hansen** is the Director of Intellectual Property Counsel for Hypertherm, Inc., a US manufacturer of plasma, waterjet, and laser cutting technologies. Brett joined Hypertherm in 2006 and is responsible for the development and enforcement the company's global patent and trademark portfolio, including overseeing global IP litigations as well as anti-counterfeiting investigations and raids. Brett is part of the Hypertherm's Engineering Steering Team and leads innovation development projects for the organization. Prior to joining Hypertherm Brett was a shareholder of the Salt Lake based law firm of Workman Nydegger as part of its IP litigation group. Brett is a graduate of Brigham Young University with B.S. in Mechanical

Engineering and received his law degree from the University of New Hampshire School of Law.

**Ms. Yen Florczak** is Senior Vice President and Chief IP Counsel for 3M Company and President of 3M Innovative Properties Company in St. Paul, MN. From 2016 to 2019, she led 3M's Asia Pacific intellectual property function, headquartered in Shanghai, China. Ms. Florczak has held various positions of increasing responsibilities in her more than 20 years of experience with 3M. Before entering the legal profession, she gained experience as a product development engineer at 3M and as a process engineer at Abbott Laboratories. She received her law degree from the University of Minnesota Law School. She received Bachelor of







Science degrees from the University of Minnesota in chemical engineering and in materials science and engineering.

**Dr. Ben Patel** is owner of First Principles LLC, a technology advisory firm, and serves as an independent director of Lincoln Electric, a world leader in welding solutions. Dr. Patel has over 25 years of experience serving with publicly-traded companies and has broad experience in product development and innovation. Most recently he served as Senior Vice President, Chief Technology Officer of Cooper Tire & Rubber Company, a global manufacturer of tires, and prior to that served as Senior Vice President and Chief Technology Officer of Tenneco, Inc., a global manufacturer of automotive emission control and ride control products.



**Aaron Amstutz** is a passionate material scientist and serial innovator redefining circular design. As NFW's chief technology officer, his favorite days are spent in the lab alongside his team sharing their excitement, getting dirty, and pursuing the next breakthrough. With nearly two decades at Caterpillar designing new materials and exploring patents, he brings a wealth of practical experience and knowledge to NFW's technical team. He specializes in tailoring the morphology of polymeric materials through novel formulations and groundbreaking processing methods. Amstutz leads R&D on NFW's breakthrough material platforms. With a deep belief in the importance of high-performance, bio-neutral materials, he is excellent at imagining categorically new approaches to material science and encouraging those around him to think outside the



box. As a triathlete in his spare time, he tests NFW's performance textiles firsthand. Aaron is married and has four adult children.

**Cordell Hardy** serves as Senior Vice President, Corporate R&D Operations, at 3M Company headquartered in St. Paul, MN. Reporting to the Chief Technology Officer, this role provides a range of critical capabilities required within 3M's corporate technical organization. Examples include international analytical laboratory support, regionalized product development, customer innovation centers globally, hiring/HR processes, crisis management (i.e., COVID-19 risk mitigation), and



product stewardship, among others. Cordell has a B.S. and a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from Florida A&M and the University of Minnesota, respectively. After joining 3M, Cordell worked in the Consumer Business Group, first as a product developer for consumer adhesives and tapes, then in various

management roles within Stationery Products and Home Care laboratories. He then joined the Safety & Graphics Business Group in 2012, taking on a number of managerial assignments prior to his current role. Cordell is an active community advocate and serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors of Minnesota Community Care, the state's largest federally qualified health clinic providing cost-effective care to underserved populations. He also serves on the boards of The Sanneh Foundation, and the GEM Consortium.

**Ali Atefi** is chief patent counsel for the neuromodulation division of Boston Scientific. He manages a team of patent professionals developing a robust global portfolio of intellectual property assets. His role also involves freedom to operate investigations, licensing agreements, litigation support, and M&A diligence. Prior to joining Boston Scientific in 2016, he practiced in various law firms, primarily focusing on patent preparation, prosecution, and opinions. He graduated from Cardozo Law School in NYC and holds a bachelor's degree in Neuroscience from UCLA and a master's degree in Electrical Engineering from USC.



**Chris Johns** maintains a diverse patent practice, ranging from patent application drafting, international patent prosecution, and strategic portfolio development to district court litigation, Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB) trials, and appeals to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. On the prosecution and client counseling side, Chris has experience drafting, prosecuting, and appealing patent applications in areas including electronics, software, telecommunications, shipping and logistics, and business methods. He provides strategic IP counseling, including portfolio management and drafting



strategies, helping innovative companies develop comprehensive approaches and policies to guide the path forward both domestically and internationally. Chris has a particular focus on patent eligibility under 35 U.S.C. § 101 and speaks and writes regularly about this dynamic topic. He coauthored and coedited a book on subject matter eligibility, a work that covers issues relating to eligibility in more than a dozen countries. Chris has experience with inter partes review (IPR) proceedings before the PTAB of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), district court litigations, and International Trade Commission (ITC) investigations. His litigation experience extends from pre-trial investigations through trial and appeal. Chris has litigated cases relating to telecommunications, storage systems, display screens and televisions, medical devices, computer software, household goods, and other technologies. He leverages litigation insights to develop strong patent portfolios and IP strategies for clients. Before joining Finnegan, Chris served for nearly five years as a USPTO patent examiner. He examined patent applications related to cryptography, network communication devices, healthcare systems, financial transaction processing, postage metering systems, and electronic content licensing. **Dr. Steffen Steininger** is the head of Hogan Lovells' Munich patent team and a German trial lawyer with twenty years of experience in patent infringement and validity litigation at all major German District and Appeals Courts, the German Federal Supreme Court, the German Patent Court and the EPO. He can draw on the experience of 300 plus cases in which he acted as lead counsel for his clients. For many of these cases Steffen has masterminded international strategies including parallel litigation in the U.S., the UK, France, the Netherlands and Italy. The strategies which he tailors both for international companies and start-ups strive to provide the best results while using his client's resources efficiently. He is recognized as a leading German patent lawyer by



various directories. For his work Steffen, can draw on a deep understanding of in particular the telecoms, automotive, energy and life sciences industries. Steffen also guides clients through the pitfalls of trade secret litigation, the negotiation of licensing agreements and IP transactions. Steffen co-heads the firm's Unitary Patent and UPC group. He also chairs Hogan Lovells' pro bono activities in Continental Europe.

**Anne Aikman-Scalese** is of counsel with Lewis Roca's Intellectual Property practice group, assisting clients with a wide variety of commercial contracts, worldwide trademark registration strategy and prosecution, copyright protection and licensing, IP due diligence, and IP licensing transactions. She has experience handling global trademark portfolio management, enforcement, and dispute resolution (including TTAB proceedings) for a Fortune 150 aerospace company, a federally-recognized Indian tribe, and a popular resort with casino and entertainment venues, among others. Anne also handles various copyright matters for artists, authors, and Native American communities. She served in Leadership at the International Trademark Association for over 15 years and is named in the World Trademark Review 1000 listing of the world's leading trademark practitioners. Anne has also been a speaker for the American Intellectual Property Law Association, the Practising



Law Institute, the Western Indian Gaming Conference, and the World Intellectual Property Organization. A member of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers' IP Constituency since 2010 and former Chair of the Generic Names Supporting Organization Standing Committee on Improvements, Anne is knowledgeable regarding various IP issues raised by the proliferation of unlimited Top Level Domains. She has also served as an expert witness in federal trademark infringement proceedings. **Dr. Trevor Reed** is an Associate Professor of Law in the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University, where he teaches courses in Property, Intellectual Property, and Federal Indian Law. Dr. Reed's research broadly explores the social impacts of intellectual property law on individuals and their communities. His current scholarship focuses on the linkages between creative production and Native American sovereignty. His recent publications include *Fair Use as Cultural Appropriation* (California Law Review), *Indigenous Dignity and the Right to be Forgotten* (BYU Law review), and *Creative Sovereignties* (Journal of the Copyright Society). Forthcoming writings include *Restorative Justice for Indigenous Culture* in the



UCLA Law Review; *Fabricating Indigeneity* in the journal Anthropological Quarterly; and Sovereign Aesthetics, a new edited volume (with Jessica Bissett-Perea). Dr. Reed is currently advancing community-partnered projects to assist Indigenous peoples as they protect and promote their cultural heritage, traditional knowledge, traditional cultural expressions, and other intellectual properties by strategically drawing on tribal, federal, and international law. Prior to joining the faculty at ASU, Reed taught in Columbia University's Core Curriculum and worked for Columbia's Copyright Advisory Office on the development of intellectual property rights automation.

**Elizabeth Lester** is Assistant General Counsel of Intellectual Property at Equifax, where she oversees all intellectual property and related matters, including mergers and acquisitions, domain names, open source, software audits, and intellectual property terms in contracts. Elizabeth is actively involved in the intellectual property community, serving a two-year term as an at-large member of the Intellectual Property Owners Association, is Vice chair of the Georgia Intellectual Property Alliance's Awareness & Education Pillar, and recently stepped down as Vice Chair and co-founder of the Atlanta ChIPs Chapter.

