Join Us in our Efforts to Advance Racial and Ethnic Diversity in IP Law at DiversityInIPLaw.Org
The FADIPL Board of Trustees Consists of 50 IP Professionals Including Prominent Members of the Patent Bar
The 2023 Transformation of the Foundation for Advancement of Diversity in IP Law

For nearly two decades, the Foundation—has dedicated itself to the advancement of racial and ethnic diversity in the IP law profession.

- Between 2002 and 2023, the Foundation provided scholarship-based aid to more than 160 law students interested in exploring careers in IP law.
- Since 2020, the Foundation’s expanded Scholar Program recognizes 25 new STEM-educated Scholars each year.
- We have a goal of expanding out the scholar pool with 50 new Sidney B. Williams Jr. Scholars annually.
Goals And Objectives of the Scholar Program

To increase the representation in the patent law profession diversity-minded individuals by fostering their readiness for possible careers in patent law in the United States through:

• Mentorship opportunities to further academic achievement/professional opportunities.
• Building direct connections to the IP bar
• Assisting in identification of opportunities for patent internships and clerkships.
• Facilitating taking and passing the patent bar examination.
In 2023, The Foundation Provided Scholars Nearly $70,000 In Tuition Grant Awards

• Tuition grant awards of up to $5,000 per Scholar cover the costs of the admissions process!

• In addition, the Foundation currently awards a limited number of $30,000 tuition grant awards to select Scholars, payable over three years. These awards are based on financial need and individual circumstances.
Recruitment Efforts Focus on Social Media, LSAC, STEM-Focused, Diverse Organizations, and Direct Law School Contacts.
Scholar Mentoring & Related Programming

The goal of the Foundation’s Mentoring Program is to provide each scholar with timely, factual, and relevant information from at least one trusted mentor who will encourage & support their professional growth. Volunteer mentors make this possible.

Learn More Here
2023 Sidney B. Williams Jr. Scholars

To Learn More About the 2023 Class Click Here.
Our donors and volunteers are critical to the work of the Foundation, and every and any donation helps! We are excited that with the 2022-23 donations to FADIPL we were able to support our Sidney B. Williams, Jr. (SBW) Scholars with:

- Tuition Grant Scholarships
- Scholar Admissions costs:
- Patent Bar related costs
- Travel and registration costs:
  - Participation in the Loyola Patent Interview Program
  - Travel and accommodation to DC for the FADIPL Scholar Program Convocation in Spring of 1L year
  - Up to $3,000/scholar annually to participate in IP law association meetings
Sponsored Attendance at Annual Meetings of AIPLA, ABA IPL Section, & ACPC

Sidney B. Williams Jr. 2022 Scholars at the 2022 AIPLA Annual Meeting
“Being awarded the Sidney Williams Scholarship was a game-changer for my journey in patent law. Beyond the financial support, having Bill LaFuze as a mentor was transformative. His vast knowledge, paired with his unyielding availability and support, consistently guided me through the intricacies of the legal world. Every career milestone I've reached has Sidney Williams Program’s influence etched into it, and for that, I am deeply grateful.”
Help Wanted

To **sustain** the current Scholar Program (25 new 1L Scholars recognized each year), the Foundation needs substantial additional funding, particularly from corporations and law firms.

To **grow** the current Scholar Program requires more assistance recruiting STEM-educated applicants and increased financial support from both existing and new donors.

To **optimize** the benefits for Scholars, finding more mentoring volunteers, more patent summer associate opportunities, and additional FADIPL committee members is a critical success factor.

For More Information on the Foundation, to Volunteer or to Contribute, Contact Daniella Opabajo, Program Manager, at FADIPL@DiversityInIPLaw.org