



Join Us in our Efforts
to Advance Racial
and Ethnic Diversity
in IP Law at
DiversityInIPLaw.Org



**Foundation for Advancement
of Diversity in IP Law**

PROMOTING DIVERSITY IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW



The FADIPL Board
of Trustees
Consists of 50 IP
Professionals
Including
Prominent
Members Of The
Patent Bar



The 2020 Transformation Of The Foundation for Advancement of Diversity in IP Law

For nearly two decades, the Foundation—originally the American Intellectual Property Law Education Foundation—has dedicated itself to the advancement of racial and ethnic diversity in the IP law profession.

- Between 2002 and 2019, the Foundation provided scholarship-based aid to more than 130 racially and ethnically diverse law students interested in exploring careers in IP law through its original Sidney B. Williams, Jr. Scholar Program.
- Since 2020, the Foundation's expanded Scholar Program has recognized more than 50 new racially and ethnically diverse STEM-educated Scholars, offering an array of career preparation and career readiness assistance, preparing them for careers in patent law.



Goals And Objectives Of The New Scholar Program

To increase the representation in the patent law profession of individuals who identify as members of currently underrepresented racial and ethnic groups, by fostering their readiness for possible careers in patent law in the United States through—

- Counseling/mentoring to further academic achievement/professional opportunities,
- Building direct connections to the IP bar,
- Assisting in identification of opportunities for patent internships and clerkships, and
- Facilitating taking and passing the patent bar examination.



In 2022, The Foundation Is Providing Scholars Nearly \$200,000 In Tuition Grant Awards

The Sidney B. Williams, Jr. Scholar Program is open to individual seeking admission to law school as fulltime students and is designed to assist Scholars throughout the law school application and admissions process. 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.



Scholar Program Committees

The Sidney B. Williams, Jr. Scholar Program is built on the work of dedicated Trustees and volunteer partners, who guide and support the Scholar Program through service on the Foundation's—

- Scholar Recruitment Committee
- Scholar Mentoring Committee
- Scholar Convocation Committee
- Scholar Clerkship Committee
- Scholar Application Committee



Scholar Recruitment & Law School Admissions Support

The Sidney B. Williams, Jr. Scholar Program — The Scholar Program of the Foundation for Advancement of Diversity in IP Law provides financial and other support for racially and ethnically diverse, STEM-education students interested in exploring a career in patent law. Scholars receive up to \$5,000 in assistance to offset law school admissions-related expenses (e.g., LSAT test prep, LSAC fees, law school application fees, and seat deposit), student IP bar association memberships, summer associate placement assistance, patent bar prep support, and mentoring and other engagement and opportunities with patent law professionals. Scholars are also eligible for consideration to receive an additional three-year tuition grant award of \$10,000/year. The deadline for applying is **April 1** of the calendar year in which the applicant plans to enroll in law school.



Recruitment Efforts Focus On Social Media, LSAC, STEM-Focused, Diverse Organizations, And Direct Law School Contacts.

Foundation for Advancement of Diversity in IP Law
PROMOTING DIVERSITY IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW

Why apply for recognition as a Sidney B. Williams, Jr. Scholar?

For qualified individuals selected as Scholars, the Foundation provides tuition grant assistance that can cover the full cost of the law school application process, including the Scholar's seat deposit at the end of the admissions process. Scholars are also eligible for consideration to receive a \$30,000 law school tuition grant.

During law school, the Scholar Program offers career-preparation and career-readiness assistance as Scholars explore a career in patent law. This includes assisting Scholars to secure 1L summer patent clerkship opportunities at law firms and companies, as well as covering the costs for Scholars to participate in the annual meetings of the American Intellectual Property Law Association and the Section of Intellectual Property Law of the American Bar Association.

Personalized Mentorship Opportunities:

- Experienced patent law mentor assigned.
- Help navigating law school admission.
- Assistance identifying patent law 1L/2L summer internship and clerkship opportunities.
- Specialized career readiness programming.
- Society of Scholars membership after law school.

SIDNEY B. WILLIAMS, JR. SCHOLAR PROGRAM

Interested in Patent Law?

If you are—

- STEM-educated and from an underrepresented racial/ethnic group,
- Seeking admission to attend full time at an ABA-accredited law school, and
- Interested in exploring a career in patent law in the United States

Apply for admissions and career-preparation assistance, as well as the opportunity to receive a **\$30,000 law school tuition grant award**, as a Sidney B. Williams, Jr. Scholar.

Learn more at: DiversityInIPLaw.org

Financial Assistance Covering Costs Related To:

- The law school application process (up to \$5,000.00)
- Preparing and sitting for the patent bar examination.
- Active participation in the American Intellectual Property Law Association or IP Law Section of the ABA.
- Securing summer internships or clerkship in patent law.
- Attendance at the Convocation of Scholars.



Scholars whom the Foundation sponsored to participate in the October 2021 Annual Meeting of the American Intellectual Property Law Association.

For more details on the benefits of the Scholar Program and a link to the Scholar Application Form, use the QR code below:



Scholar Mentoring & Related Programming

The 1L Year: Foundations of Success

Your 1L year will be a whirlwind - you'll be taking on required classes and adjusting to a new style of teaching, learning, and evaluation, all while seeking a summer internship and planning for your 2L year. The resources below offer advice on how you can succeed and prepare for an IP career.

[Success in your First Year](#)[How to Prepare for your First-Year Classes](#)[Forging a Pathway to an IP Career](#)[Advice From a Former 1L Interested in IP](#)[Learn about the USPTO Law School Clinic](#)[Ten Tips for Transitioning to Legal Writing](#)[Learn to Read, Write, and Think like a Law Student](#)[Ice Breakers to Use with your Mentor](#)

Educational Enrichment and Networking Programs

[IP Transactions Career Panel \(November, 2021\)](#)[How to Best Brand and Market Yourself \(July, 2021\)](#)[Career Paths in Patent Law \(January, 2021\)](#)[Summer Internships: Tips & Tricks \(April, 2021\)](#)

Applying to Law School

[Getting Started with Patent Law](#)[In Person: A Career in Biotech Patent Law](#)[Benefits of a Law Degree: 1st Year Associate Salaries](#)[A Career in Patent Law: At the Cutting Edge of Science, but Not at the Bench](#)[US News: Best IP Law School Programs](#)[US News: Best Financial Aid Programs at Private Law Schools](#)[US News: Best Financial Aid Programs at Public Law Schools](#)

2022 Scholar Convocation Program

June 14-15

3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Fish and Richardson –Federal Circuit Law Clerks Symposium
Co-hosted by the Giles S. Rich American Inn of Court.

[Ahmed Davis](#), Principal, Fish & Richardson and Co-Chair, Scholar Convocation Committee, Host
[Pauline Pelletier](#), Former Clerk to Chief Judge Randall Rader, Symposium Moderator; currently Director at Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Hahn LLP

Panelists:

[James Worth](#), Former clerk to The Honorable Mark A. Robinson, United States Patent and Trademark Office Judge, Patent Trial and Appeal Board, Associate Administrative Patent Judge, Patent Trial and Appeal Board, Trademark Office.

[Adi Williams](#), Former clerk to The Honorable Mark A. Robinson, United States Patent and Trademark Office Associate with Fish & Richardson PLLC, Patent Trial and Appeal Board, Associate Administrative Patent Judge, Patent Trial and Appeal Board, Trademark Office.

[Alicia Lai](#), Clerk to The Honorable Katharine满江, Clerk to The Honorable Katharine满江 Cunningham. [Jan Jancin Awardee](#) (2021) – Clerk to The Honorable Katharine满江 Cunningham. [Rupali Singhal](#) – clerk to The Honorable Katharine满江 Cunningham.

[Molly Silfen](#), Counsel Detailee, Senate Judiciary Committee, Intellectual Property Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property

[Brad Watts](#), Chief Counsel (Minority), Senate Judiciary Committee, Intellectual Property Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property

A Co-Hosted by the Pauline Newman American Inn of Court

11:30am – 12:30 p.m. – Capital Hill – Working Box Lunches – How Policy Becomes Law – The Role of Congress and Congressional Staff

Vince Garlock, AIPLA Executive Director, Moderator

Panelists:

[Jamie L. Simpson](#), Chief Counsel, House Judiciary Committee, Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property

[J. John Lee](#), Minority Counsel, House Judiciary Committee, Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property

[Alicia Lai](#), Clerk to The Honorable Katharine满江 Cunningham. [Jan Jancin Awardee](#) (2021) – Clerk to The Honorable Katharine满江 Cunningham. [Rupali Singhal](#) – clerk to The Honorable Katharine满江 Cunningham.

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[Brad Watts](#), Chief Counsel (Minority), Senate Judiciary Committee, Intellectual Property Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property

CONVOCATION OF SCHOLARS

JUNE 14-15, 2022

WASHINGTON, D.C. – ARLINGTON, VA – ALEXANDRIA, VA

1:30 p.m. – Arrival Welcome and Check-in

Christine Behnke, Pauline Newman American Inn of Court
Madison Atrium

1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Tour – National Inventors Hall of Fame Museum

Sophia Johnson, NIHF Museum Supervisor – Madison Atrium

2:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. – Walking Tour - Public Search Facility and Global Intellectual Property Academy (GIPA)

Madison East

2:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. – Executive Welcome and Overview of the USPTO

Bismarck Myrick, Director, Office of Equal Employment Opportunity and Diversity, USPTO
GIPA, Madison East

2:30 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. – Legal Careers at the USPTO, Part I. Patents Business Unit

Robert Bahr, Deputy Commissioner for Patents
Valencia Martin Wallace, Deputy Commissioner for Patents
Remy Yucel, Deputy Commissioner for Patents
(Moderator: Alford Kindred, Supervisory Patent Examiner, USPTO)



2021 & 2022 1L/2L Patent Summer Associate Placement Assistance

Successfully
Placed 100%
Of Interested
2021 1L
Scholars In
Patent
Summer
Associate
Positions For
Summer 2022



Layla Kousari
Ms. Kousari is pursuing her J.D. degree at Harvard Law School. She received a Bachelor degree in Human Developmental and Regenerative Biology from Harvard University. While pursuing her degree, Ms. Kousari worked as a research assistant in a genetics lab at Harvard Medical School and a tutor for various STEM classes. In her fourth year, she was awarded the Endicott Peabody Saltonstall Prize and the Henry Shaw Post-graduate Traveling Fellowship. Ms. Kousari is a current board member of the Harvard Iranian Alumni Association.



Christine Neipert
Dr. Neipert is pursuing her JD at UNH – Franklin Pierce School of Law with a special focus on intellectual property. After receiving her PhD, she headed intellectual property and business development efforts for a number of biotech and healthcare start-ups and has been frequently retained as a consultant by venture capital to assist with investment target diligence. Dr. Neipert received her Ph.D. in Chemistry from USF and is a Registered US Patent Agent.



Chisom Nwakama
Ms. Nwakama is pursuing her J.D. degree at the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School. She received a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from Creighton University, with minors in Biology, Mathematics, and Philosophy. While at Creighton, Ms. Nwakama was awarded the Clare Boothe Luce Scholarship during her junior and senior year for her excellence as a female researcher and in the classroom. Her research on the physics of cancer is slated to be published in the near future.



Timon Amirani
Mr. Amirani is pursuing his J.D. degree at UCLA School of Law. He received a Bachelor of Science in Electrical & Computer Engineering from Cornell University. Prior to entering law school, Mr. Amirani was employed at Analog Devices, Inc., where he worked as a Product Engineer in the High Speed Converters group. His daily work included working in a lab environment to characterize and evaluate digital to analog (DAC) signal converters, as well as lead a small team in evaluation planning and management for new transceiver technologies.



Jacob Benford
Mr. Benford is pursuing his J.D. degree at Stanford Law School. He received a Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. While at UW-Madison, Mr. Benford was an instructor, teaching assistant, and volunteer tutor for initiatives that teach technology skills to underrepresented youth groups. Prior to entering law school, Mr. Benford was employed as a Senior Software Engineer at PerBlue Entertainment, Inc., where he developed mobile games, working with partners at Disney Interactive to bring Disney and Pixar IP to the small-screen.



Justin Brown
Mr. Brown is pursuing his J.D. degree at the University of New Hampshire Franklin Pierce School of Law. He received a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Mathematics from South Carolina State University. While a student at South Carolina State, Justin served as the Student Body Vice President and Student Body President. After completing his bachelor's degree, Mr. Brown began his career as a software engineer for Eli Lilly and Company where he currently delivers automation solutions across multiple emerging technologies to help Lilly increase its speed and efficiency within the drug development lifecycle.



Jaylen Carr
Mr. Carr is pursuing his J.D. degree at the University of New Hampshire Franklin Pierce School of Law. He received a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry at Norfolk State University, and while at Norfolk State, he was a member of the Dozoretz National Institute for Science and Applied Mathematics. Mr. Carr worked as an undergraduate researcher at the Marie V. McDermont Center for Applied Research in renewable energy resources including quantum dots, and lithium-ion batteries, and



Kylie Palmer
Ms. Palmer is pursuing her J.D. degree at the Northeastern University School of Law. She received a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Southern California. Prior to entering law school, Ms. Palmer worked as a Project Engineer for The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company, where she led teams responsible for completing multi-million dollar construction projects. Working as a bilingual woman in the male dominated construction industry reinforced the importance of diversity in the workplace for Ms. Palmer. She plans to study IP law and hopes to serve as a mentor for those who are underrepresented in the field.



Cecelia Rivera
Ms. Rivera is pursuing her J.D. degree at UC Davis School of Law. She received a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering and Chemistry from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. While completing her degree, Ms. Rivera was a member of the Society of Women Engineers and Engineers Without Borders. Prior to law school, Ms. Rivera worked as a process engineer at bio- and nanotechnology start-ups in the Bay Area.



Annabeth Rodriguez
Ms. Rodriguez received her Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering at Johns Hopkins University with minors in Mathematics and Entrepreneurship & Management. While a student, Ms. Rodriguez interned at the Technology Transfer Department where she composed commercialization recommendations for university and hospital inventions. Prior to attending law school, Ms. Rodriguez worked as a Patent Examiner at the United States Patent and Trademark Office, where she examined electroresistive devices and thermal therapies. In her spare time, Ms. Rodriguez volunteers as a tutor to under-resourced students to promote STEM education.



Aaron Chow
Mr. Chow is pursuing his J.D. degree at New York University School of Law. He received a Bachelor of Science in Biology from the University of California, Los Angeles. As an undergraduate, he served as a physiological researcher in a life sciences laboratory, and presented his work at the International C. elegans Conference and UCLA Research Showcase. Prior to entering law school, Mr. Chow worked as a Litigation Paralegal at Ropes & Gray LLP. During this time there, he participated in the patent application process for a novel pharmaceutical, and facilitated the launch of the firm's Life Sciences Litigation Blog. Mr. Chow also served as a member of Ropes' Diversity & Inclusion Committee, where he sought to promote greater inclusion awareness at the firm.



Haley Chow
Ms. Chow is pursuing her J.D. degree at Stanford University. She received a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering at Princeton University where she graduated with Honors. In her Senior year of her undergraduate education, Haley was elected to the Sigma XI Honor Society. Prior to starting law school, Ms. Chow was employed as an Intellectual Property Litigation Consultant for Elysium Digital, An Aon Company. In her work, Ms. Chow was able to use her technical expertise to consult to counsel on a variety of legal matters including Patent and Trade Secret Infringement, generally surrounding products or services that involve technology.



Victoria Fang
Ms. Fang is pursuing her J.D. degree at Stanford University. Ms. Fang received a Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering from Johns Hopkins University, with a second major in History of Science, Technology, and Medicine. While pursuing her Bachelor of Science degree, she conducted imaging and oncology research at Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, and Massachusetts General Hospital through Harvard-MIT Health Sciences and Technology. She also served as Business Development Lead for a patent-pending drug delivery cranial implant project. Ms. Fang currently works as a Patent Examiner at the United States Patent



Alexander Toney
Mr. Toney is pursuing his J.D. degree at the University of Virginia School of Law. He received a B.S. in Industrial and Systems Engineering and a B.S. in Chemistry (Biochemistry emphasis) from the University of Florida. While at UF, Alex was a grader for operations research and industrial quality control, where he assisted in teaching and evaluating approximately 200 students in those topics. During his senior year, Alex was also a Virtual Student Federal Service Intern at the U.S. State Department, where he co-authored a cable showing how queuing theory and simulation techniques could be used to optimize consular services.



Jefferson Toro
Mr. Toro is pursuing his J.D. degree at Drexel University Kline School of Law. He received a Bachelor of Science in Physics and Mathematics from Villanova University where his major research endeavors involved double perovskite semiconductors and spatial networks. While pursuing his degree, Mr. Toro was an active member of Villanova's LGBTQ+ club, representing students and organizing events. Prior to entering law school Mr. Toro was employed by IQVIA Inc. as a data analyst.



Tarah Wright
Ms. Wright received a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering from Howard University. Prior to entering law school, Ms. Wright was employed as a Senior Developer Analyst at Accenture Federal Services, a company that specializes in technology consulting. In her role, she worked with senior developers to update ABAP programs in production, built machine learning models, helped manage technical platforms for project management processes, created documentation to standardize coding practices, and communicated with the business, technical, and client teams to help oversee updates to the client codebase. While pursuing her Bachelor of Science, Ms. Wright was a member of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, on the executive board of T.A.N.G.L.E.S., and tutored for the Petey

and Trademark Office in the medical imaging and diagnostics space and volunteers at the Ronald McDonald House of DC.



Devdhvi Kasana
Ms. Kasana is pursuing her J.D. degree at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign College of Law. She received a Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering with a specialization in Cell and Tissue Engineering, along with a minor in Business, and a master's degree in Chemical Engineering from the Illinois Institute of Technology. At Illinois Tech, Ms. Kasana was a Camras Scholar, a member of the Biomedical Engineering Society, and an active collegiate member of Alpha Sigma Alpha Sorority and the Order of Omega Greek Honor Society. Ms. Kasana held several executive board positions during her undergraduate studies and represented fraternity and sorority life to Congress during the Fraternal Government Relations Coalition Capitol Hill Visits.



JC Kerr
Ms. Kerr is pursuing her J.D. degree at Lewis and Clark College. She received a Bachelor of Science in Biology from the University of Portland. After completing her Bachelor of Science degree, she provided tutoring services to Native Hawaiian students, assisting with schoolwork and aiding them in navigating remote learning during the pandemic. Prior to entering law school, Ms. Kerr worked as a steward for native land and plant conservation in Hilo, Hawaii. She is a member of the Native Hawaiian Advancement, which enhances the cultural, economic, political, and community development of Native Hawaiians and supports underserved communities in Hawaii.



Mariam Khan
Ms. Khan is pursuing her J.D. degree at the University of Illinois College of Law. She received a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from the University of Houston with a minor in Politics & Ethics. While completing her Bachelor of Science degree, Ms. Khan worked as an undergraduate laboratory researcher for the UH Department of Chemistry. In addition, Ms. Khan is a alumna of the University of Houston Law Center Pipeline Program. After completing the Program, Ms. Khan was recognized as a Southwest Water Company Pre-Law Fellow and interned for the Honorable Kathie E. Davidson, the Supervising Judge of the Family Courts for the 9th Judicial District. She also interned with the Honorable Maria Vazquez-Doles, Orange County Supreme Court. Prior to entering law school, Ms. Khan served as the Pipeline Program's Bridge Intern for Jackson Walker LLC.



Sponsored Attendance At Annual Meetings Of AIPLA, ABA IPL Section, & ACPC



Early Patent Bar Admission Opportunity



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Program Features

- Patware® — A proprietary software feature that replicates the experience of taking the real exam—highlight the text and strike-through answer choices just like on the real Exam. This tool is only available through PLI!
- Fully updated materials, lectures and questions for the Patent Office materials now being tested. The America Invents Act is the focus of the course, from written materials to lectures to practice questions.
- Gauge your progress: Compare your scores on practice questions with the thousands who have taken our course to determine if you are on track to pass the Exam.

Through a partnership with PLI, all Scholars have no-cost access to PLI's Patent Office Exam Course. In addition, FADIPL sponsors the full cost of sitting for the USPTO patent agent registration examination. Scholars are encouraged to become quailed as patent agents early in their law school careers.





From the Perspective Of A Sidney B. Williams, Jr. Scholar:

"This program has had such a significant impact on my career, and I have not even begun school. I look forward to seeing what my career will be with the support of this program."



**Yasmeen Rose, MPH
2022 1L Scholar**



Help Wanted

For More Information On The Foundation, To Volunteer Or To Contribute, Contact Felisha Britton, Program Manager, At FADIPL@DiversityInPLaw.org

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.

To *secure a vital future* for the Foundation, new Trustees with an enthusiasm for our mission are continually being recruited.

