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# SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

## **Joseph Allen** Executive Director, *Bayh-Dole Coalition*

Joe is the executive director of the Bayh-Dole Coalition. As a professional staffer on the Senate Judiciary Committee to Sen. Birch Bayh (D-IN), he played a key role in the successful passage of the Bayh-Dole Act of 1980 and its subsequent amendments. He later served as the founding director of the Office of Technology Commercialization at the Department of Commerce, where he helped oversee the implementation of Bayh-Dole across federal agencies. He also chaired the Interagency Committee on Technology Transfer, where his work helped guarantee that discoveries made by visiting scientists in America's laboratories and universities would be owned by the U.S. host organizations. And he served as president of the National Technology Transfer Center and vice president and general manager of the Intellectual Property Management Group at the West Virginia High Technology Consortium Foundation.



## **Elizabeth Amster** Chief of Staff, Office of U.S. Representative Jake Auchincloss

Liz serves as the Chief of Staff to U.S. Rep. Jake Auchincloss of Massachusetts, a member of the House Committee on Energy & Commerce. She previously worked for former Rep. Kathleen Rice of New York, starting as a Legislative Assistant and ultimately working her way up to D.C. Chief of Staff. She was a Field Organizer during Rep. Rice's first congressional campaign in 2014. Liz is a native Long Islander and graduated from Hamilton College.



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Kate Hudson has served at AAU since March 2022. As Deputy Vice President and Counsel for Government Relations and Public Policy, Kate assists in managing and directing the Government Relations and Public Policy department and developing and executing strategies to advance AAU's advocacy and public policy priorities in the federal legislative and regulatory arenas. Her portfolio includes intellectual property, technology transfer, open and public access, export controls, sexual harassment, data privacy, and copyright issues. In addition, she supports AAU's policy and federal relations work in areas that require legal expertise, such as tax issues related to research, labor and employment, research security policy, higher education Title IX issues, and other regulatory matters important to America's leading research universities. Kate also leads AAU's General Counsels (GC) constituent group and the CFR Tax Task Force.

Prior to joining AAU, Kate served in the U.S. federal government as a senior attorney-advisor in the legislative and executive branches, most recently with the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO). At GAO, she provided legal counsel on a range of issues including interagency governance bodies, federal financial management, legislative drafting, and technical advice to Congress. Before her work at GAO, Kate served as an attorney-advisor with the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM), as both an administrative litigator before the Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB) and the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) and regulatory counsel. Additionally, she served as agency counsel for three years in the federal litigation surrounding the 2015 OPM cyberbreach case (In re: OPM, 928 F.3d 42 (D.C. Cir. 2019), the largest federal class action privacy lawsuit in U.S. history. Before serving at OPM, she was the inaugural director of the Executive branch CXO Fellows Program at the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) and as a key member of the Office of Government-wide Policy (OGP) providing programmatic support to the Office of the Chief Information Security Officer (OCIO), the Office of Federal Financial Management (OFFM), and the Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP) at the U.S. Office of Management & Budget (OMB).

Before her federal government service, Kate began her legal career as an attorney with the Georgia Legal Service Program (GLSP) Augusta office, providing comprehensive civil and administrative representation to low-income and indigent clients in a thirteen-county area in rural Georgia. Following a move to North Carolina, she became an assistant public defender with the NC Office of the Public Defender in the 13th Judicial District, where she represented clients in criminal misdemeanor, felony, and parole proceedings. Following the subprime mortgage crisis of 2008, Kate became a staff attorney with Legal Aid of North Carolina (LANC) as part of the Mortgage Foreclosure Defense Project, representing clients both in federal and state courts in affirmative litigation on a wide range of special proceedings actions including emergency bankruptcy petitions and negotiating loan modifications to save clients' homes from unlawful foreclosure in a nine-county area. Before law school, Kate worked in government relations with the American Hospital Association (AHA) and as a data analyst with the National Committee for an Effective Congress (NCEC).

An active volunteer, Kate is a member of the Military Spouse JD Network (MSJDN), the Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia (WBA), and Women in Government Relations (WGR). She also provides pro bono legal services to District of Columbia residents through Whitman-Walker Health and the District of Columbia Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project.

## **Kate Hudson**



Deputy VP and Counsel for Government  
Relations and Public Policy  
Association of American Universities



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## **John Kolakowski** Head of IP Policy and Advocacy, Americas Director, Nokia Technology

John Kolakowski is Head of IP Policy and Advocacy, Americas for Nokia Technology Standards. He is an intellectual property counsel and business advisor with over 15 years of in-house worldwide telecommunications patent policy, licensing and litigation experience at Nokia and 10 years of prior private practice district court and ITC patent litigation experience at Morrison & Foerster LLP. Mr. Kolakowski advocates for Nokia before government regulatory authorities and lawmakers, standard development organizations, trade associations and other groups addressing IPR and patent policies. John has successfully negotiated inbound/outbound patent and technology licenses at Nokia, the monetization of patent portfolios with tens of thousands of individual assets, and patent divestments netting significant returns. He is USPTO-barred and a former federal judicial clerk, with a J.D. from Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law and a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Michigan, and now resides in the Washington, DC area.



## **Nicholas Matich** Deputy General Counsel for IP Law and Solicitor, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

As Solicitor, Nicholas Matich supervises the provision of legal advice and litigation regarding intellectual property matters for the agency. He also coordinates with the Department of Justice, the Department of Commerce, and other agencies to develop the U.S. position on major intellectual property cases before the Supreme Court and Courts of Appeals. Immediately before returning to the USPTO for his second tour at the Office, Mr. Matich was a partner at McKool Smith P.C., where he litigated a variety of intellectual property matters. Mr. Matich previously served in several government roles, including Special Assistant to the President and Associate White House Staff Secretary, Deputy General Counsel at the Office of Management and Budget, and Senior Legal Advisor to the USPTO Director. Mr. Matich began his legal career as a law clerk for the Honorable Richard C. Wesley of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. Before that, he served in the United States Navy as a Surface Warfare Officer and made several overseas deployments. Mr. Matich earned his bachelor's degree, summa cum laude, from the University of Notre Dame and his law degree from the University of Virginia School of Law, where he was a Senior Editor on the Virginia Law Review.



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## **Evelyn Chen** Director, *Ericsson*

Evelyn Chen is a Director in Ericsson's IP Rights & Licensing group. In her role, Evelyn supports Ericsson's patent licensing policies and practices for its industry-leading patent portfolio of over 60,000 patents. Evelyn is also serving as the Immediate Past President and Chair of LES (USA & Canada).



## **Brian O'Shaughnessy** Partner, *Dinsmore & Shohl LLP*

Brian P. O'Shaughnessy is a Partner and Chair of the IP Licensing and Transactions Group of Dinsmore & Shohl, Washington, DC. He is the Board Chair of the Bayh-Dole Coalition; and a Past President of the Licensing Executives Society, USA & Canada, now serving as its Sr. Vice President, IP Policy. He is a registered patent attorney with over 35 years' experience counseling clients in the strategic use of IP. He has been retained as a testifying expert witness in IP and licensing disputes by the U.S. Department of Justice, the U.S. Treasury, and private enterprises; and as an arbitrator in IP licensing disputes.



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Honorable Paul Redmond Michel was appointed to the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit in March of 1988 by President Ronald Reagan. On December 25, 2004, he assumed the duties of Chief Judge. After his elevation to Chief Judge, he served as one of 27 judges on the Judicial Conference of the United States, the governing body of the Judicial Branch. In 2005 he was appointed by Chief Justice Rehnquist to also serve on the Judicial Conference's seven-judge Executive Committee. On May 31, 2010, Chief Judge Michel stepped down from the bench after serving more than 22 years on the court. In his years on the bench Judge Michel judged thousands of appeals and wrote over 800 opinions, approximately one-third of which were in patent cases.

Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Michel was assistant district attorney in the Office of the Deputy District Attorney for Investigations in Philadelphia from 1966-74, as well as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army Reserve from 1966-72. From 1974-75, he was the Assistant Watergate Special Prosecutor, and from 1975-76 was assistant counsel to the United States Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. He then became the deputy chief and Koreagate prosecutor for the Public Integrity Section of the United States Department of Justice from 1976-88. He was the associate deputy U.S. attorney general in 1978 and in 1981 became counsel and administrative assistant to U.S. Senator Arlen Specter until his judicial appointment. He has served as adjunct faculty at several institutions of higher education including the George Washington University Law School and John Marshall Law School. In 2012 he joined the Intellectual Property Advisory Council at the University of Akron School of Law.

Judge Michel has been the recipient of numerous awards including the Jefferson Medal, the Frederico Award, the Katz-Kiley Prize, the Eli Whitney Prize, the Sedona Conference® Lifetime Achievement Award, and awards by the ABA Section of Intellectual Property, AIPLA, IPO, the Linn Intellectual Property American Inn of Court, and other leading organizations. He was named one of the 50 most influential leaders in intellectual property in the world by Managing Intellectual Property magazine and inducted into Intellectual Asset Management magazine's International Hall of Fame. A frequent speaker on IP subjects, he has also testified before Congress on patent reform legislation and has served as Special Advisor to the Patent Reform Task Force. Judge Michel earned his B.A. from Williams College in 1963 and his J.D. from the University of Virginia in 1966.

## **Hon. Paul R. Michel**



Former Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of  
Appeals for the Federal Circuit



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# Peter-Anthony Pappas



Director of Intellectual Property Policy,  
U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary

Peter-Anthony Pappas is a senior U.S. intellectual property (IP) policy leader licensed to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). He serves as the Director of Intellectual Property Policy for the U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary under Senator Thom Tillis – Chairman of the Subcommittee on IP – to whom he advises on all IP matters (e.g., patent, copyright, trademark, trade secret). Peter-Anthony also advises Senator Tillis on tech policy (e.g., artificial intelligence, blockchain, etc.), antitrust, and Judiciary Committee nominations, including Supreme Court confirmation hearings. Peter-Anthony previously served as a Professional Staff Member Detailee for the U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary under Senator Tillis – then Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on IP. Prior to his roles in the U.S. Senate, Peter-Anthony served as the Special Advisor Detailee to Under Secretary of Commerce for IP and Director of the USPTO Andrei Iancu, advising the Under Secretary on IP, artificial intelligence (AI), and operational agency matters. Most notably, Peter-Anthony helped develop the 2019 “Revised Patent Subject Matter Eligibility Guidance” (PEG), a framework for how the agency could leverage AI for assisting in search during examination, and the first agency working group tasked with considering the interplay between AI and IP. He has also served in various other USPTO roles, including Patent Trial and Appeal Board Branch Chief, Supervisory Patent Examiner, Primary Patent Examiner, and as a Patent Examiner. While at the USPTO Peter-Anthony served on the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) Networking and Information Technology Research and Development (NITRD) Subcommittee AI Research and Development Interagency Working Group and he served on the Department of Commerce Interagency Committee on Standards Policy (ICSP) AI Standards Coordination Working Group. Peter-Anthony has co-authored two papers with the USPTO’s Office of the Chief Economist – “Closing the Gender Gap in Patenting: Evidence from a Randomized Control Trial at the USPTO,” which was published in the American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, and “Patents and the Independent Inventor Lifecycle.” These papers are based on USPTO’s first randomized control trial (RCT), which Peter-Anthony created. This RCT also served as the foundation for the creation of the agency’s Pro Se Pilot Program, which provided affirmative patent assistance to independent inventors and small businesses. Peter-Anthony has served on numerous IP and non-IP related boards and committees. He served on the Supervisory Patent Examiners and Classifiers Organization (SPECO) Board of Directors for over a decade and for nearly five of those years served as Chairman of its Board of Directors. SPECO is a nonprofit organization that promotes the progress of its members and of the U.S. patent system. Established over 50 years ago and officially recognized by the USPTO, SPECO is composed of over 400 USPTO managers and professionals. Peter-Anthony has also spoken at numerous domestic and international events regarding U.S. IP policy, law, and related legislation, and he has guest lectured at Harvard Law School, the University of New Hampshire Franklin Pierce School of Law, and the George Washington University Law School. Peter-Anthony received a Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology and received an Executive Certificate in Public Leadership from the Harvard Kennedy School. He is the third generation of his family to pursue public service.



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## **David Ridders** President, Expedited Climb

David has 35 years of experience in technology development and licensing. He served as a US Air Force officer leading technology development programs, including upgrades to the Airborne Warning & Control System (AWACS) radar, missile defense radars in the Middle East, and systems to fight drug trafficking in Columbia. He currently leads Expedited Climb, [xclimb.com](http://xclimb.com), a firm focused on innovation and transactions in the aerospace and defense industry. In addition, David advises clients on complex, strategic legal matters through a law firm at [datarights.law](http://datarights.law). David has extensive experience in intellectual property (IP) creation and licensing, and related dispute resolution, across government and commercial markets. He has held senior roles at a leading defense contractor, twice chaired the Aerospace Industries Association IP Committee, and managed large patent and trademark portfolios. He has negotiated resolutions to many high-stakes IP disputes and prevailed in IP litigation, including against the U.S. Army. He also serves on the Board of Directors of the Licensing Executives Society Standards Development Organization, which has issued multiple American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standards for intellectual property and continues to shape new industry frameworks. Early in his career, David served at the Secretary of the Air Force, Office of the General Counsel and interned at the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit for Judge Pauline Newman. David holds a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, a J.D. from The George Washington University Law School, and a MIT Professional Certificate in Architecture and Systems Engineering.



## **Giorgio Rizzoni** Professor, Director at The Ohio State University

Giorgio Rizzoni, the Ford Motor Company Chair in ElectroMechanical Systems, is a Professor of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering and of Electrical and Computer Engineering at The Ohio State University (OSU). He received his B.S. (ECE) in 1980, his M.S. (ECE) in 1982, his Ph.D. (ECE) in 1986, all from the University of Michigan. Since 1999 he has been the director of the Ohio State University Center for Automotive Research (CAR), an interdisciplinary university research center in the OSU College of Engineering. His research activities are related to modeling, control and diagnosis of advanced propulsion systems, vehicle fault diagnosis and prognosis, electrified powertrains and energy storage systems, vehicle safety and intelligence, and sustainable mobility. He has contributed to the development of graduate curricula in these areas, and has served as the director of three U.S. Department of Energy Graduate Automotive Technology Education Centers of Excellence: Hybrid Drivetrains and Control Systems (1998-2004), Advanced Propulsion Systems (2005-2011), and Energy Efficient Vehicles for Sustainable Mobility (2011-2016). Between 2011 and 2016 he served as the OSU Site Director for the U.S. Department of Energy China-USA Clean Energy Research Center - Clean Vehicles. He is currently leading an ARPA-E project in the NEXTCAR program. During his career at Ohio State, Prof. Rizzoni has directed externally sponsored research projects funded by major government agencies and by the automotive industry in approximately equal proportion. Prof. Rizzoni is a Fellow of SAE (2005), a Life Fellow of IEEE (2004), a recipient of the 1991 National Science Foundation Presidential Young Investigator Award, a Fellow of ASME (2022) and of many other technical and teaching awards.





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## **Corey Salsberg** Vice President and Global Head of IP Affairs, Novartis

Corey Salsberg is Vice President and Global Head of IP Affairs for Novartis, one of the world's leading innovative medicines companies. He is also the President of the Federal Circuit Bar Association (2025-2026) and serves as a Board Member of the Intellectual Property Owners Association (IPO) and of California Lawyers for the Arts.

A seasoned attorney with over twenty-five years of experience, Mr. Salsberg is recognized globally as a thought leader and strategist in the fields of IP and innovation law and policy. He has testified before both chambers of the United States Congress, has appeared before WIPO, the WHO, and the United Nations, and is regularly featured in media.

Mr. Salsberg is the proud recipient of the prestigious 2026 Pauline Newman Award, created by IP Watchdog and the Honorable Judge Pauline Newman of the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, which recognizes the unique achievements of one IP attorney over the course of their career. He has been recognized four times by IAM 300 as one of the world's leading IP strategists, and has been named a Managing IP Corporate Star for each of the last six years. Mr. Salsberg earned his JD from Stanford Law School in 2001, and his undergraduate degree from Yale University in 1997. Outside of the IP world, he is known as the author of Resurrecting the Woolly Mammoth, one of the seminal works on the science, law and ethics of the emerging field of "de-extinction."



## **Jamie Simpson** Chief Policy Officer and Counsel, C4IP, Council for Innovation Promotion

Jamie Simpson is Chief Policy Officer and Counsel for The Council for Innovation Promotion (c4IP), which is a bipartisan coalition dedicated to promoting strong and effective intellectual property rights that drive innovation, boost economic competitiveness, and improve lives everywhere.

Simpson has almost 20 years of experience in policy and a specific focus on IP-related issues. She previously served as Chief Counsel on the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Courts, IP, and the Internet; Counsel to the Senate Judiciary Committee while on detail from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; and Associate Solicitor at the USPTO.

A graduate of Harvard Law School and, previously, a law clerk at the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, Simpson has extensive expertise in intellectual property law and policy, as well as an earlier background of working on patent litigation and licensing disputes.



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## **Michael Schultz** Co-Founder and Chief Science Officer, Perspective Therapeutics

Michael K Schultz PhD is a Co-Founder and Chief Science Officer of Perspective Therapeutics, a public company (CATX) originally spun out of the University of Iowa, where Dr. Schultz is also Associate Professor, Emeritus of Radiology and Free Radical and Radiation Biology. Dr. Schultz has been a leader in radiopharmaceutical research and the development of new therapeutic medicines and imaging-based diagnostics for cancer for over 20 years producing. Perspective Therapeutics is currently conducting clinical trials across the United States for three new radiopharmaceutical therapies for cancer – with a growing pipeline of new products at various stages of pre-clinical development. Dr Schultz has published over 90 peer-reviewed articles in the radiation sciences and radiopharmaceuticals – primarily focused on targeted alpha-particle targeted radionuclide therapy for cancer and most recently on Pb image-guided Pb alpha particle therapy.



## **Laurie Self** Senior Vice President & Counsel, Government Affairs, Qualcomm

Laurie Self is Senior Vice President and Counsel, Government Affairs at Qualcomm Incorporated, where she specializes in U.S. patent policy matters at the federal and state level. Based in Washington, D.C., Ms. Self also supports Qualcomm's government affairs initiatives to promote strong intellectual property rights in emerging markets. Ms. Self's particular focus is on ensuring that U.S. intellectual property laws and policies provide the necessary protections and incentives to support the company's R&D-driven business model.



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## **Mark Vallone**

Chief Patent Counsel, Americas, IBM Corporation

Mark Vallone is Chief Patent Counsel, Americas at IBM, where he manages the company's patent procurement team in the Americas and its patent portfolio management team, and where he serves as a leader in patent strategy and policy matters. He previously served as lead IP Counsel for IBM Cloud and IBM Commerce, for which he supported transactions and product clearances, led patent procurement operations, and provided advice and counsel on a wide range of other IP matters. He also previously led patent procurement operations for IBM Consulting and IBM Global Markets. Mark received his B.S. in Computer Science from The Pennsylvania State University in 1998, after which he spent five years as a software developer for IBM in the areas of network security, distributed computing, and e-commerce. He received his J.D., summa cum laude, from Syracuse University in 2006. He is a registered to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and is a member of the New York State Bar.



## **Blair Watters**

Vice President, Government Relations & Standards Policy, Interdigital, Inc.

Blair Watters is the Vice President of Government Relations and Standards Policy at InterDigital, Inc., where she educates U.S. policymakers on patents, intellectual property, spectrum, wireless communications, corporate tax reform, international trade, and workforce skills. In 2021, she was named one of The Hill's Top Lobbyists. Before joining InterDigital, Blair was a Partner at The Madison Group, handling telecom, banking, commerce, trade, and tax issues. She also served as Director of Special Projects for the House Democratic Caucus and worked for Representative Karen McCarthy (D-MO), managing her work on the House Energy and Commerce Committee.





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## Brad Watts



Global Innovation Policy Center, U.S.  
Chamber of Commerce

Brad Watts, senior vice president at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Global Innovation Policy Center (GIPC), oversees the center's day-to-day operations. He also leads the development and implementation of the Chamber's U.S. and global intellectual property (IP) agenda to foster a political, legal, and economic environment where innovators and creators can invest in the next big thing for the benefit of Americans and the world.

Watts previously served as the Republican chief counsel on the Senate Judiciary Committee Subcommittee on Intellectual Property. There he was responsible for planning and implementing Senator Thom Tillis' (R-NC) and the Republican party's legislative portfolio on all aspects of IP law.

In the 116th Congress, when Senator Tillis was chairman of the subcommittee, Watts served as majority chief counsel and staff director for the Senate Judiciary Committee Subcommittee on Intellectual Property. He was responsible for implementing the senator's legislative and oversight agenda on all aspects of America's innovation economy.

During Watts' tenure as majority chief counsel, the subcommittee held 17 legislative and oversight hearings and multiple staff briefings on IP issues, ranging from the state of patent eligibility law in America to reforming the Digital Millennium Copyright Act of 1998. Under his leadership, the subcommittee passed the CASE Act, the Trademark Modernization Act, and the Protecting Lawful Streaming Act, three landmark bills that collectively represent the largest changes to IP law since the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act.

Earlier, Watts was chief immigration counsel to then-Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley (R-IA). He began his career with former Senator Jeff Sessions (R-AL) as a legislative counsel on the Subcommittee on Immigration and the National Interest, handling civil rights and civil liberties law, general tort law, bankruptcy, telecommunications, and IP issues for the senator.