

**21st Symposium on Emerging Intellectual Property Issues:
Intellectual Property Frontiers**

**February 28, 2025
SMU Dedman School of Law**

8:15 a.m.

Registration and Breakfast Buffet

Hillcrest Classroom, Underwood Law Library

9:00 a.m.

Opening Remarks

Hillcrest Classroom, Underwood Law Library

Jason P. Nance, Judge James Noel Dean and Professor of Law, SMU Dedman School of Law

David O. Taylor, Co-Director of the Tsai Center for Law, Science and Innovation and Professor of Law, SMU Dedman School of Law

9:00–10:15 a.m.

Patent Reform Legislation: Updates, Debate and Predictions

Hillcrest Classroom, Underwood Law Library

Congress is considering significant patent reform legislation, including bills addressing patent eligibility, the procedures governing the Patent Trial and Appeal Board, and injunctive relief. Come hear updates on the status of these bills, debate regarding whether these bills are meritorious, and predictions related to compromise and passage.

Moderator: David O. Taylor, Co-Director of the Tsai Center for Law, Science and Innovation and Professor of Law, SMU Dedman School of Law

Panelists: Michelle E. Armond, Partner, Armond Wilson LLP

David W. Jones, Executive Director, High Tech Inventors Alliance

David J. Kappos, Former Director, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Partner, Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP

10:15:-10:30 a.m.

Break

10:30–11:45 a.m. Emerging Issues in AI and Law

Hillcrest Classroom, Underwood Law Library

As AI tools have proliferated over the last few years, so have legal issues surrounding them. Some legal issues (such as those concerning patents and copyrights) have spawned litigation, whereas others are looming. This panel will discuss the next wave of issues surrounding the development and deployment of AI tools, with a focus on antitrust and privacy concerns, cybersecurity, and healthcare.

Moderator: Sari Mazzurco, Assistant Professor, SMU Dedman School of Law

Panelists: John Daley, Founder, Helmguard UK

Sean Fulton, Of Counsel, DLA Piper

Nik Guggenberger, Assistant Professor, University of Houston Law Center

12:00–1:00 p.m. Lunch Keynote: A Fireside Chat with the Honorable Barbara J. Lynn

Speaker: The Honorable Barbara M.G. Lynn, Senior District Judge, Northern District of Texas, United States District Court

Moderator: The Honorable Stacey G. White, Lead Administrative Patent Judge, Patent Trial and Appeal Board, United States Patent and Trademark Office

1:15–2:30 Fashion and IP

Hillcrest Classroom, Underwood Law Library

Fashion is a trillion-dollar industry, a powerful vehicle of artistic and popular expression, a core symbol of cultural knowledge, and a driver of technological innovation. This panel will explore a range of challenges surrounding the fashion industry, with a focus on intellectual property law, policy, and practice.

Moderator: Shani Shisha, Assistant Professor, SMU Dedman School of Law

Panelists: Christopher Buccafusco, Edward & Ellen Schwarzman Distinguished Professor of Law, Duke University School of Law

Jeanne Fromer, Vice Dean, Intellectual Life; Walter J. Derenberg Professor of Intellectual Property Law, NYU Law School

Aman Gebru, Assistant Professor, University of Houston Law Center

2:30

Closing Remarks

David O. Taylor, Co-Director of the Tsai Center for Law, Science and Innovation and Professor of Law, SMU Dedman School of Law

About the Tsai Center for Law, Science and Innovation

The Tsai Center for Law, Science and Innovation explores how law and policy affects scientific research and discovery as well as the development and commercialization of new technologies. The Tsai Center also studies the converse—how scientific discoveries and new technologies affect ethics, society, private industry, and governmental institutions and agencies. The Tsai Center offers educational programming, facilitates academic research, and provides educational opportunities in these areas to benefit students, industry, policymakers, academics, and the public.