#### UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



### **USPTO Update**

#### **Jessica Patterson**

Senior Advisor and Director for International Worksharing United States Patent and Trademark Office September 16, 2022



### **USPTO** at a glance

#### **USPTO staffing stats**

• **12,931** total USPTO employees

#### **Patents staffing stats**

- 10,186 total Patents employees
  - **9,690** full time and permanent staff
  - 496 part time staff

(through June 30, 2022)

#### **Patents staffing stats**

- **8,402** patent examiners
  - 9 Technology Centers
  - 600+ Art Units
    - Average 11.9 years of service
    - Approximately 40% with advanced or professional degrees

(through August 31, 2022)

(through June 30, 2022)

#### Patents at a glance

#### **Patents stats**

#### FY 2022 filings

(through August 31, 2022)

- New serialized application filings: +1.5%
- Design filings: -1.8%
- **1,086,316** total applications pending (through August 31, 2022)

#### UPR inventory

• **695,723** applications (through August 31, 2022)

#### Patent pendency stats

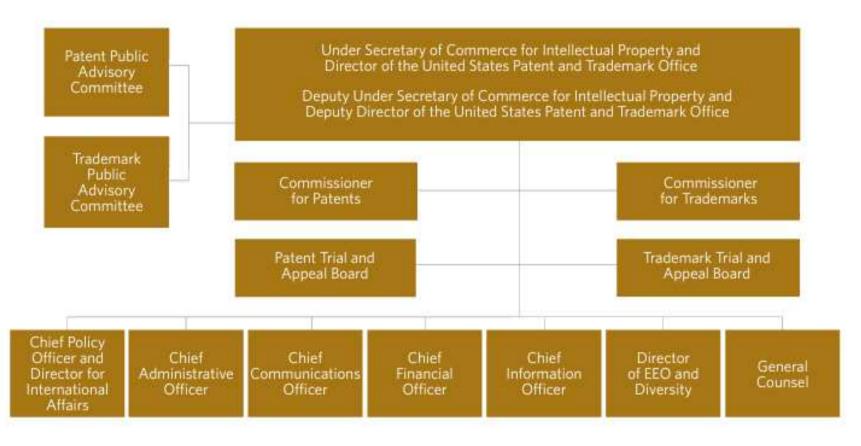
- Patent Term Adjustment Compliance
  - Goal: 90% compliant with PTA timeframes (mailed and inventory)
  - Current status: 80% mailed, 85% inventory
- Total patent application pendency
  - 24.9 months

#### (through August 31, 2022)

#### **Other stats**

- Allowance rate (UPR):
  - 63.5% (through August 31, 2022)
- Appeal
  - 55.6% affirmed
  - 9.3% affirmed-in-part
  - 34.1% reversed
  - 0.9% other (remanded, dismissed, etc.) (through June 30, 2022)

### **USPTO organizational chart**



5

#### **Patents organizational structure**



Commissioner for Patents (acting) Andrew Faile



6

Deputy Deputy Commissioner for Patents (acting) Patents Remy Yucel Robin Evans



Deputy Commissioner for Patents Valencia Martin Wallace



Deputy Commissioner for Patents Rick Seidel



Deputy Commissioner for Patents Robert Bahr



### **Key Initiatives**

- Examiner training, including subject matter eligibility guidance
- Patent quality
- Search
- DOCX

7

Council for Inclusive Innovation (CI<sup>2</sup>)

### **Council for Inclusive Innovation**



### **Council for Inclusive Innovation (CI<sup>2</sup>)**

- Was identified as a USPTO initiative in the <u>SUCCESS Act report</u> of October 2019.
- Developing a national strategy on innovation and intellectual property and a plan of action that will foster the involvement of underrepresented groups as inventors-patentees, entrepreneurs, and innovation leaders.
- Will execute a long-term comprehensive plan for continuing to build America's innovation ecosystem in areas that are key to the next technological revolution.
- Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo serves as the Chair of the re-named Council for Inclusive Innovation (Cl<sup>2</sup>) with USPTO Director Kathi Vidal serves as Vice-Chair
  - "Together, as a Council, it is imperative that we continue working to expand our nation's diversity and increasing opportunities for all innovators and entrepreneurs who are creating new technologies, companies, and industries." – Secretary Raimondo
- Visit the Cl<sup>2</sup> webpage for further information, including our Council members: <u>www.uspto.gov/ExpandingInnovation</u>
- Follow us on social media at #InclusiveInnovation
- For general questions, our email is <u>CI2@uspto.gov</u>



### **Cl<sup>2</sup> Initiatives**

- The USPTO is committed to working to increase participation across the innovation ecosystem with new initiatives.
- Four (4) new initiatives were announced by Director Vidal in a blog as part of our Cl<sup>2</sup> mission to expand innovation. We look forward to developing and announcing more.
  - Read the blog here <u>https://www.uspto.gov/blog/director/entry/secretary-of-commerce-</u> <u>gina-raimondoector's Blog: the latest from USPTO leadership</u>
- Opportunities for collaboration on these initiatives with various organizations



### Innovation internship program

- Target the gap and inequalities associated with students from under resourced communities.
- Establish paid internships to provide real world experience to community college and university students.
- Emphasis on underrepresented and under resourced individuals to pursue careers in the IP/Innovation fields.





# First-time filer expedited examination petition pilot

- Intended for first-time filers with microentity status.
- Noncontinuing, nonprovisional utility applications are eligible for pilot.
- Applicants must complete a patent basic training program.





This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-SA

### **Expansion of free legal services**

- Expanding access to free or pro bono legal services
  - The USPTO's <u>Law School Clinic</u> <u>Certification Program</u> includes over 60 participating law school clinics.
  - The USPTO also supports 21 pro bono regions across the country as part of the USPTO's <u>Patent Pro Bono</u> <u>Program</u>.





### **Community outreach campaign**

- USPTO employees delivering community based awareness and educational programs
  - The IP system
  - Importance of IP and innovation





### Join the conversation

- Watch for updates on the Cl<sup>2</sup> website
- Follow us on social media, #InclusiveInnovation
- Questions, comments or suggestions can be sent to <u>CI2@uspto.gov</u>





www.uspto.gov/ExpandingInnovation

# Questions





## THANK YOU