INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW tries to balance the incentive to create with society’s interest in spreading the benefits of innovation.

Virginia’s IP program, combining a broad array of courses, hands-on clinics and professors who are focused on the real-world applications of their scholarship, offers students a unique foundation for exploring these challenges.

Being a good intellectual property lawyer requires adaptability in a dynamic field and an understanding of the realities of producing intellectual works. Two patent and licensing clinics, run in conjunction with the University of Virginia Patent Foundation, offer students hands-on experience with learning how and when to file patents and draft licensing agreements, dealing with clients in the science and technology fields, and researching and writing about cutting-edge patent topics. The first clinic involves practical training in patent drafting as well as the negotiation and drafting of patent and software license agreements.

In a second clinic, students may work exclusively with patent attorneys drafting, filing and prosecuting patent applications. Alternatively, students may choose to work exclusively with licensing agents to draft license agreements, negotiate terms and conditions, and prepare confidentiality agreements and marketing documents.

In the field of intellectual property law, PROFESSOR JOHN F. DUFFY has been identified as one of the 25 most influential people in the nation and one of the 50 most influential people in the world by prominent legal news magazines. Duffy has also litigated major patent cases at the U.S. SUPREME COURT and the U.S. COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FEDERAL CIRCUIT in recent years.
**RECENT CLINIC PROJECTS**

- **A PATENT APPLICATION** for a class of metals capable of recovering their original shape and thickness after impact or crushing
- **CONVERTING** a provisional patent application on technology designed by a pharmacology professor that may halt the spread of cancerous cells
- **A BRIEF** on pharmaceutical patents in developing countries
- **PRIOR ART REVIEW**, market research and marketing for a neuro-stimulation technique for the treatment of epilepsy
- **A PATENT APPLICATION** for a battery-operated, handheld imaging device that promises to perform better than most ultrasound instruments
- **PRIOR ART SEARCH** and a draft patent application for a novel seatbelt-control system

**RECENT INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY EVENTS**

- **CLEARCORRECT VS. USITC: REASONABLE REGULATION OF UNFAIR DIGITAL IMPORTS, OR THE DEATH OF THE INTERNET?**, with Alexander Chinoy, partner at Covington & Burling
- **IP CAREERS FOR NON-SCIENCE MAJORS**, with James Johnson Jr. ’79, former in-house trademark counsel for the Coca-Cola Company and Kellogg’s
- **STARTING A TECH COMPANY IN VIRGINIA**, with Jeff Tenney, CEO of Moonlighting
- **SOCIAL MEDIA AND THE LAW**, a student-organized symposium featuring Scott Mellon ’06, associate general counsel in advertising and privacy at Facebook

**STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS**

- **VIRGINIA JOURNAL OF LAW & TECHNOLOGY**
  - Virginia Law’s only e-journal, VJOLT, provides a forum for students, professors and practitioners to discuss emerging issues at the intersection of law and technology. Recent issues have included articles on biotechnology, telecommunications, e-commerce, Internet privacy and encryption.
- **VIRGINIA SOCIETY OF LAW & TECHNOLOGY**
  - VSLAT provides a forum for the discussion of issues relating to law and technology through speakers, panels and symposia. Recent events include a student discussion of career opportunities in the field of law and technology, and presentations by private patent and trademark practitioners. VSLAT works with the faculty and administration to strengthen the Law School’s intellectual property curriculum and supports students pursuing careers in law and technology.
- **E*SOCIETY**
  - The E*Society supports entrepreneurial initiatives across Grounds, providing basic legal advice to UVA startups (with help from a network of local attorneys), connecting law students with students from other schools, and serving as a hub for those interested in entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial law.