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 Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit in recent years. “I’ve always felt that legal theory and scholarship can and should have practical effects, and my work on litigated cases is one way of demonstrating that academic scholarship has relevance to the real world,” Duffy said. “I also believe that there’s a great message in all of this for students: Law is a deeply intellectual field, and the theoretical issues students learn in law school will be extremely important to the work they will do later as practicing attorneys.”

THE INNOVATIONS THAT PRODUCE economic growth and social progress first arise as ideas. The cost of bringing a new idea to market can be extraordinarily high, but the cost of copying that innovation is often very cheap. Intellectual property law tries to balance society’s interest in having incentives to create intellectual property with the need to distribute that property optimally for social benefit. The ability of digital technologies to copy and exploit the advantages of unique intellectual achievements presents new challenges for intellectual property law, making it one of the fastest-growing legal specialties in the United States.

PATENT AND LICENSING CLINICS 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 offer students hands-on experience with learning how and when to file patents and draft licensing agreements, as well as dealing with clients in the science and technology fields. The first clinic involves practical training in patent drafting as well as the negotiation and drafting of patent and software license agreements. Students are assigned to one or more significant drafting and counseling projects and work in the office of the University of Virginia Patent Foundation one day per week. Clinic participants may evaluate inventions and computer software for patentability and commercial value; counsel UVA faculty inventors regarding patentability, inventorship and the patenting process; prepare, file and prosecute provisional U.S. patent applications; and deal with patent examiners and research current issues in the fields of intellectual property and technology transfer. 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.

CONTINUED
**PROFESSOR DOTAN OLIAR WAS ONE OF FIVE UVA LAW PROFESSORS** to present a paper at the American Law and Economics Association annual meeting in 2014. Oliar’s paper is the first to study the contents of individual copyright registration records, and is part of a movement towards more empirical work on copyrights. “We want to lay the foundation for subsequent work, by ourselves and hopefully by others too,” he said. Looking at 2.3 million registrations from 2008 to 2012, Oliar and his co-authors discovered patterns in how businesses and people of different ages register their creative work.

**RECENT CLINIC PROJECTS INCLUDE:**

- 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
- 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
- PRIOR ART REVIEW, market research and marketing for a neuro-stimulation technique for the treatment of epilepsy

**COURSES AND SEMINARS**

- Intellectual Property
- Emerging Growth Companies and Venture Capital
- Financing: Principles and Practice
- Intellectual Property Law Policy
- International Patent Law and Policy
- Legal Practice and the Startup Company: An Inside Look
- Patent Law
- Patent Reform Act of 2011
- Privacy and Surveillance
- Property II
- Survey of Patent, Copyright, Trademark
- Trademark Law
- Trade Secrets: History, Theory and Practice
- CLINICS
- Patent and Licensing Clinic I
- Patent and Licensing Clinic II

**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 include articles on biotechnology, telecommunications, e-commerce, Internet privacy and encryption. VJOLT publishes full-text articles directly to the Web.

**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 a presentation by private patent 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.

**RELATED ORGANIZATIONS**

- THE VIRGINIA LAW AND BUSINESS SOCIETY explores the nexus between the worlds of law and business, featuring speakers on intellectual property topics.
- THE JD/mba SOCIETY serves as a focal point for communication between J.D. and MBA students and sponsors events and activities that promote interaction among the Law and Business School communities.

**EVENTS**

Recent events related to intellectual property include:

- THE EFFECT OF DISRUPTIVE TECHNOLOGY ON AN ECONOMIC RECOVERY, with Harvard Business School Professor Clayton Christensen
- WHAT SHOULD WE DO ABOUT PIRACY? THE VIEW FROM HOLLYWOOD AND WASHINGTON, D.C., with Al Perry, vice president of worldwide content protection and outreach at Paramount Pictures; and Art Brodsky, communications director at Public Knowledge
- THE FUTURE OF FASHION LAW: BLURRING THE SEAMS BETWEEN THE ACADEMY AND THE Runway, a symposium sponsored by the Virginia Journal of Law & Technology
- HOW TO SURVIVE AND SUCCEED WORKING AT AN IP FIRM, with attorneys from Sterne Kessler Goldstein & Fox
- THE NAGOYA PROTOCOL AND SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY RESEARCH: A LOOK AT THE POTENTIAL IMPACTS, with UVA Law professor Margo Bagley and Duke Law School professor Arti Rai
- COPYFRAUD AND OTHER ABUSES OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW, with Brooklyn Law School professor Jason Mazzone
- WHAT DOES IT TAKE? with James R. Miller, vice president of operations at Google Inc. and formerly of Intel, Amazon and Cisco, at an event sponsored by the Darden School of Business and the Darden Technology Club

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**VIRGINIA SCHOOL OF LAW**