

Intellectual Property



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Chair's Comments

By Bob Cumbow

Welcome to the first-in-a-long-time issue of the Washington State Bar Association's IP Section Newsletter. Reviving this newsletter is one of several plans we have for making the Section more responsive to the needs and interests of Section members, and to give you a little more bang for those extra fifteen bucks a year.

2002-2003 Recap

The past year has been particularly productive for the Section. Under the leadership of Chair **Jerry Riedinger**, the Section Executive Committee increased efforts at coordination with other sponsors of continuing legal education in the Northwest, including the King County Bar Association, Seattle University, University of Washington, Oregon State Bar and the Pacific Rim Computer and Internet Law Institute. The hope is to avoid duplication and conflicts and to cross-promote programs.

The Section continued its support of Washington Lawyers for the Arts by funding the group's well-attended brown bag seminar series in which local experts speak on legal topics of interest to artists and lawyers.

The Section held its 8th Annual Intellectual Property Institute at the Washington Convention Center in Seattle on March 21, 2003, featuring keynote speaker Rob Glaser, Chairman and CEO of Real Networks, Inc. The Institute attracted an audience of approximately 200 from across the state. On September 10, 2003, the section co-sponsored a seminar entitled "**Look Before You License: Handling Intellectual Property Licensing and Related Rights**" together with the State Bar at the Washington Convention Center in Seattle.

As part of its effort to expand the impact of the section beyond CLE and newsletters, the Section filed an amicus brief in October 2002 with the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit in the remand following the historic deci-

sion of the U.S. Supreme Court in *Festo Corp. v. Shoketsu Kinzoku Kogyo Kubushiki Co.*, 122 S.Ct. 1831 (2002).

A subcommittee formed in 2002 to study whether Washington should adopt the Model Trademark Bill recommended by the International Trademark Association (INTA) completed its work in early 2003 and recommended amendments to Washington's Trademark statute (RCW Ch. 19.77) to more closely align key terms and concepts to those found in the Lanham Act (15 U.S.C 1051, et. seq.). With the assistance of the Legislative Committee's staff attorney, Jinnah Rose-McFadden, the amendments were introduced and adopted by the state legislature, were signed into law by the Governor on April 17, 2003, and became effective July 27, 2003. Members of the Section were also asked to comment on proposed revisions to Washington State's Personality Rights Act during the 2003 legislative session.

Who We Are

As we now embark on a new management year, I'd like to introduce the members of the Section's Executive Committee. After promising himself a well-deserved year of rest, **Immediate Past Chair Jerry Riedinger** (JRiedinger@perkinscoie.com) has already begun the new

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year with another patent-related amicus brief project, about which Section members received email notice a few weeks ago. **Chair-Elect Liz Holohan** (lizzowa@yahoo.com) takes a laboring oar in managing Section activities, much to the delight and gratitude of this year's **Chair**, yours truly (rcumbow@grahamdunn.com). **Secretary-Treasurer Alex Modelski** (alex@BusinessTechnologyLaw.com) has been a mainstay of the Executive Committee for a couple of years now. Both Alex and Liz provide endless energy to managing the Section's work. Rounding out the Executive Committee are our three at-large members: **Grace Han** (GHan@perkinscoie.com) edits this newsletter and is hard at work developing a Web site that will provide Section members with an online resource for valuable information and comment; **Jim Donohue** (JDonohue@HEWM.com) is already at work organizing next year's Intellectual Property Institute, the Section's popular annual CLE; and **Al Richardson** (al.richardson@blacklaw.com) continues to support the Section in the area of legislative activity and, as a longtime Seattle-area IP practitioner, is particularly valued for his institutional memory and sage advice.

We are here to further your interests as IP lawyers. If there is anything we can do for you, if you have ideas for Section activities, or if you are interested in serving the Section as a volunteer (we always need them) or as a future member of the Executive Committee, please feel free to contact any of us.

Another way of communicating with us, and with your fellow Section members, is through the Section's listserv. Join it—and start a discussion on any IP-related issue that you feel merits comment—by accessing <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wsba-ip/>.

Looking Ahead

The Section looks forward to a busy year. In addition to the efforts noted above—this newsletter, the amicus brief project, and our continuing work on the Web site and the 2004 CLE—the Section began this year by promoting and participating in the Pacific Northwest Arts Law Symposium, held October 23 in Vancouver, Washington. We were proud to be involved in this valuable (and non-Seattle-centered) event, which bids fair to become an annual occurrence. We are also talking with managers of the Oregon Bar's IP Section, in hopes of developing at least one jointly-sponsored event during the year.

Stay tuned for more news and activities. In the meantime, enjoy this issue of our Section newsletter, which offers what we hope will prove a useful, educational, and entertaining array of information and content for our members.

Bob Cumbow is a shareholder at Graham & Dunn and is in his fourth year on the IP Section Executive Committee.

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Lanham Act Cannot Reclaim Expired Federal Copyright Protection

By Lisa Sternoff Feldman

I. Introduction

On, June 2, 2003, the Supreme Court unanimously¹ reversed and remanded *Dastar Corporation v. Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation*² back to Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. The Court considered the issues of whether §43(a) of the Lanham Act, 15 USC §1125 prevents the unaccredited copying of a work, and if so, whether a court may double a profit award to deter future infringing conduct. They never reached the second issue, due to their conclusion that "Dastar was the 'origin' of the products it sold as its own; respondents cannot prevail on their Lanham Act claim."³

II. Legal Background

A. Federal Copyright

The United States Constitution gives Congress the power, "To promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries."⁴ This clause enabled the enactment of patent law

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and copyright law. A copyright gives an author exclusive rights to their work for a limited period of time. When the copyright expires, the work falls into the public domain and it may be freely used and copied at that point. Under the 1909 Copyright Act, copyrights had an initial term of twenty-eight years which was renewable for another term of twenty-eight years. If the copyright was not renewed in the last year of its first term, it expired and entered the public domain.

B. Federal Trademark

Unlike copyright and patent laws, trademarks do not create incentives to encourage creation of works, but rather operate to protect consumers from confusion related to the source of goods created by deceptive marketing.⁵ Trademark was enacted under the Commerce Clause and does not have a limited term. One maintains a trademark, so long as it is in use in commerce. Section 43(a) of the Lanham Act addresses the federal remedy for false designation of origin in connection with any goods or services. Passing off describes the situation where a producer attempts to “pass off” or “palm off” his goods by labeling them with another’s trademark.⁶ This is the traditional trademark infringement situation, where one tries to cash in on another’s reputation to sell his own goods. Reverse passing off occurs when a producer marks another’s goods with his own mark.

III. *Dastar v. Twentieth Century Fox*

A. Facts

General Dwight D. Eisenhower wrote his World War II memoirs of the Allied campaign shortly after the war. Doubleday published them as a book titled “Crusade in Europe” in 1948 and registered the work with the Copyright office.⁷ That same year, Twentieth Century Fox (Fox) acquired from Doubleday exclusive television rights to the book.⁸ A television series also titled “Crusade in Europe” was produced by Time Inc. (under Fox’s arrangement) based on the book. Time then assigned their copyright to Fox. Doubleday submitted a renewal in 1975 for the copyright on the book as a work for hire. Fox did not, however, submit one for the television series. As a result, the television series copyright expired in 1977 and entered the public domain.

In 1995 Dastar released a video set titled “Crusade” that featured approximately half an hour of documentary footage of World War II, once owned and aired by Fox as part of the “Crusade in Europe” television series. Dastar removed all references to the television series and Eisenhower’s book and included new title sequences and chapter headings credited to its own employees.

B. Procedural History

Twentieth Century Fox sued Dastar under the theory of reverse passing off under §43(a) of the Lanham Act. The district court and the Ninth Circuit felt the sales of the video constituted infringement for failing to provide proper credit to the original producer, Fox. The Ninth Circuit

agreed and held that Dastar had “copied substantially the entire Crusade in Europe series...labeled the resulting product with a different name and marketed it without attribution to Fox,”⁹ all in violation of the Lanham Act.

C. Court’s Analysis

Fox alleged that “Dastar made a false designation of origin, false or misleading description of fact, or false or misleading representation of fact, which...is likely to cause confusion...as to the origin...of his or her goods.”¹⁰ In actuality, Dastar merely “took a creative work in the public domain...copied it, made modifications...and produced its very own series of videotapes.”¹¹ The Supreme Court focused closely on the wording of §43(a) and its original intent to see if it was properly applied to the facts in this case. Specifically, they focused on the meaning of the term “origin” in the context of false designation of origin. If “origin” means the manufacturer or producer, then Dastar was the origin, if however, it refers to the creator of the work, then Fox was the origin.

The word “origin” is often treated as the “geographic location in which the goods originated.”¹² It has also been extended to origin of source or manufacture.¹³ Additionally, the Trademark Law Revision Act of 1988 clearly states that §43(a) covers origin of production as well as geographic origin. Looking to the dictionary, origin is defined as “the fact or process of coming into being from a source’ and ‘that from which anything primarily proceeds; source.”¹⁴ Goods was defined as “wares; merchandise,”¹⁵ so origin of goods means the source of merchandise. Based on this, the Court concluded that the phrase “origin of goods” in the Lanham Act refers to “The producer of the tangible goods that are offered for sale, and not to the author of any idea, concept, or communication embodied in those goods.”¹⁶ Such a holding would create a perpetual copyright. It also fails to further the goal of trademark law which is consumer protection. It is of no consequence to a consumer who came up with the idea for a product or who designed it.

IV. Discussion

The significance of this case is not found solely in the Court’s analysis, but rather, the legal strategy of Fox’s counsel. Based on the facts, this looks like a simple copyright infringement case. It would be if the copyright in question had not been allowed to expire and enter public domain. It becomes interesting because counsel tries to use federal trademark law to recapture what their client gave up in copyright protection. Although effective with the lower courts, it did not ultimately prevail. Whether there is copyright infringement of the book is an issue alive and ripe for remand.

Most intellectually property law is based on a delicate balance between public good and incentives to encourage inventors and authors to create and share new works. This idea was expressed in *Bonita Boats, Inc. v. Thunder Craft*

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*Boats, Inc.*¹⁷ as part of a “carefully crafted bargain under which, once the patent or copyright monopoly has expired, the public may use the invention or work at will and without attribution.”¹⁸ Since trademark law is beyond this theory, it would be inappropriate to extend potentially infinite protection to works that may be loosely traceable to a source.

V. Conclusion

In its ruling, the Court reaffirmed its unwillingness to extend the Lanham Act into areas traditionally protected by Copyright and Patent Laws. The Court pointed out that only Congress has the ability to create additions to the Copyright Act, and did so with the Visual Artists Right Act of 1990 (VARA).¹⁹ This act provided authors of works of visual art with moral rights over their work during their lifetime. It is a very limited provision with only attribution and integrity as legal causes of action. If the Court were to

recognize a cause of action for misrepresentation of authorship under §43(a) the limitations in the VARA would be rendered superfluous.²⁰ “A statutory interpretation that renders another statute superfluous is of course to be avoided.”²¹

¹ Justice Scalia delivered the opinion of the Court, in which all other Members joined, except Justice Breyer who took no part in the consideration or decision of the case.

² 123 S. Ct. 2041 (2003).

³ *Id.* at 2049.

⁴ US CONST., Art. 1, section 8.

⁵ *Two Pesos, Inc. v. Taco Cabana*, 505 U.S. 763, 784 n. 19 (1992).

⁶ J. Thomas Mccarthy, McCarthy on Trademarks and Unfair Competition §25:1 (4th ed. 2002).

⁷ 123 S. Ct. at 2044.

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ 34 Fed. Appx. 312, 314 (9th Cir. (Cal.)).

¹⁰ See e.g. Brief for Respondents, *Dastar v. Twentieth Century Fox Film Corp.*, No 02-428 at 8, 11.

¹¹ 123 S. Ct. at 2046-47.

¹² *Id.* at 2045, quoting *Two Pesos Inc. v. Two Cabanas, Inc.*, 505 U.S. 763, 777.

¹³ *Id.* at 2046 citing *Federal-Mogul-Bower Bearings, Inc. v. Azoff*, 313 F.2d 405, 408 (1963).

¹⁴ *Id.* at 2047 quoting Webster’s New International Dictionary 1720-1721 (2d ed. 1949).

¹⁵ *Id.* quoting Webster’s 1079.

¹⁶ *Id.* at 2050.

¹⁷ 489 U.S. 141 (1989).

¹⁸ *Id.* at 150-151.

¹⁹ Section 603(a), 104 Stat. 5128.

²⁰ 123 S. Ct. at 2048.

²¹ *Id.* See e.g. *Mackey v. Lanier Collection Agency & Service, Inc.*, 486 U.S. 825, 837 (1988).

Lawyer-to-Lawyer Program

by Allison Durazzi

Attorney Lisa Sternoff Feldman passed the Bar Exam. Then, like many others, she entered into learning a curriculum not taught at law school. “Law school teaches you how to think like a lawyer,” she said, but she needed to learn more about client interaction and dealing with opposing counsel. As an intellectual property lawyer, Lisa especially looked to lawyers experienced in that practice area.

Enter the WSBA Lawyer to Lawyer Program. With an emphasis on fostering professionalism, the Program facilitates informal contact between newer Washington attorneys and their more experienced colleagues. Parties can meet, talk on the phone or exchange emails for a one-year period. Matches are encouraged to develop communications that suit their goals. The only restriction is that the Program is not designed for co-counsel purposes and substantive instruction.

Through the Lawyer-to-Lawyer Program, Lisa was matched with attorney Karl Sandoval of Corr Cronin. “We usually talk on the phone or email every few weeks...” said Lisa of their match. Asked about his interest in becoming a mentor, Karl described his own experience coming out of law school. “I was fortunate to have several mentors during the first years of my career. They were a tremendous resource.... It helped me adjust to practicing law. I wanted to offer the same kind of guidance to a [new] lawyer.”

Perhaps the most significant difference Karl noted in today’s business climate is the need for newer lawyers to acquire networking skills. “Young lawyers really need guidance in this regard,” he said, especially in learning about the resources that “help them get connected to the

legal community.”

Indeed, networking is the most crucial aspect of the Lawyer-to-Lawyer Program. IP Section Chair Bob Cumbow suggested newer attorneys in Intellectual Property practice are better served by other IP attorneys. “Mentoring is most meaningful when the mentor is in the same practice field as the protégé,” he said. Karl agreed, “An experienced IP lawyer can share the kinds of ‘war stories’ that are unique to the IP practice, as well as insight into the players in the IP legal community.”

Lisa described some of the key benefits to the match. “The most rewarding part of the Lawyer-to-Lawyer Program is having someone to ask questions of. As a new attorney, you constantly receive invitations to join new associations, attend CLE events and conferences. I now have a mentor to ask his opinion of these things and if they are worthwhile. Since we don’t work together, he can be completely objective with me and vice-versa. It’s like having an older and wiser friend looking out for you.”

Currently, the WSBA Lawyer-to-Lawyer Program has need for mentors in the Intellectual Property practice area. For more information, please contact Allison Durazzi at (206) 733-5914 or via email at allisond@wsba.org. Lawyer-to-Lawyer Program information and downloadable guidelines are also available online at:

<http://www.wsba.org/lawyers/services/lawyertolawyer.htm>.

Allison Durazzi is the WSBA Law Office Management Assistance Program (LOMAP) Coordinator. Together with LOMAP Advisor Pete Roberts, they oversee the Lawyer-to-Lawyer Program.

Pop-Up Ads: Fair Advertising or Unfair Competition?

By Robert C. Cumbow

Though the Tech Bust of 2001 and the subsequent economic downturn have made the once flourishing field we called "Internet Law" a less-than-hot practice focus in the 21st century, new ways of using Internet technology have continued to create intriguing challenges for the intellectual property lawyer.

One particularly knotty topic is the pop-up ad. Not just any kind of pop-up ad, mind you. Conventional pop-up ads are the result of an advertising agreement between a Web site operator and an advertiser, and appear on a computer user's screen whenever the user accesses the operator's Web site. They may pop-up immediately in a window in front of the main window of the accessed site; or they may appear in a window that remains hidden behind the main site window, and not be revealed until the user closes the main window ("pop-under"); or they may not appear until a certain amount of time *after* the user has exited the site ("delayed pop-up"). Many of these pop-up ads can be annoying, but they don't raise any legal issues to speak of.

However, the kind of pop-up ad I want to discuss in this article has raised legal issues big time. It is triggered not because the user accessed a Web site that has a deal with the advertiser, but because the user has downloaded software that causes pop-ups to appear when the user accesses the site of a *competitor* of the advertiser.

Let me illustrate the difference by examples. You access the Seattle Times Web site, find an article you're looking for, read it, and close the window. Behind it you find a pop-up ad for a company or service that has paid an advertising fee to the Times. That's a conventional pop-up ad. You click on it, or you close it. No harm, no foul.

Now, a different situation: You want to set up a trip to London. You access your favorite online travel service. You enter information—how many people, when you want to go, how long you want to stay, and so on. Suddenly, just as your travel service opens a window displaying your airfare choices, another window opens, displaying airfare choices available from a *different* travel service—one of your service's competitors. Now obviously this competitor has not paid an advertising fee to your travel service in order to pop open an ad for its competing prices. So where did this pop-up come from?

Ads such as these are becoming more common all the time, the result of partnership arrangements between advertisers and purveyors of what is sometimes called "spyware." That competing pop-up opens on your screen because somewhere on your computer you have an application that tracks your Web activities, and whenever you

access certain sites, it triggers pop-up windows of competitors of those sites.

How did that "spyware" get onto your computer? Chances are you put it there yourself, when you downloaded some useful and free software product that came with bundled spyware. Gator, for example, provides a free application that remembers your passwords for you and allows you to fill in online sign-up forms quickly and easily. Comet Cursor gives you a free library of icons you can use to customize your mouse pointer. WhenU offers users free file-sharing software. These free products are perfectly legitimate. They do what they say they will do. They deliver what they promise—and then some. They also load programs that track the user's Web site activities, and trigger competing ads and information windows whenever the user accesses a competitor of one of the software company's business partners.

Understandably, the companies whose Web sites are augmented on users' screens by competitor pop-ups don't much like the practice. But what causes of action does the law offer them? If the pop-up window looks a lot like the Web site on which it pops up, there could be a cause of action for trade dress infringement. And if the pop-up appears to the user to be part of the Web site she was using, and not a message from a different entity, then claims of unfair competition, deceptive advertising, and false designation of origin might be available.

But if the critical element of consumer confusion or deception is not present, it becomes difficult to imagine what other causes of action might avail. Trespass has been suggested—but the pop-ups don't appear "on" the complaining companies' Web sites or servers, but only on the monitors and hard drives of individual users. A copyright infringement cause of action might lie, based on the theory that the display on the user's computer screen—one company's Web page plus a competitor's pop-up—constitutes an unauthorized derivative of the company's Web page as it was intended to appear. But for such a cause of action to make sense, the actual user must be considered an infringer, and the company whose software triggers the pop-ups a contributory infringer. And what company wants to tell its own customers they are infringers?

All of these possible causes of action have been raised by various companies that have sued Gator for causing customers' use of their sites to trigger competitors' ads and information windows. Gator settled its dispute with the Washington Post and other media after the Post won a

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preliminary injunction; but lawsuits brought by L. L. Bean, and Extended Stay America are still pending. However, the future of those lawsuits may well be altered by a recent judicial development.

When U-Haul sued Internet advertising company WhenU for distributing software that caused U-Haul competitors' ads to appear over U-Haul's Web site on users' screens, the company hoped for an injunction like the one that Judge Claude Hilton of the Eastern District of Virginia awarded the Washington Post against Gator a year earlier. But early this past summer Judge Gerald Lee of the same district granted summary judgment in WhenU's favor, disposing of U-Haul's trademark and copyright infringement, contributory infringement, trademark dilution, and unfair competition claims.

Judge Lee's two-page order promised that his reasoning would be explained in an opinion to be released within a few weeks. In that opinion, published September 5, Judge Lee seemed to feel that pop-up ads generally are a bad thing, but bemoaned the fact that, given the facts and the arguments in this case, he could not find them enjoined. The judge was persuaded by WhenU's argument that, because its advertising practices and "partnership" policies are clearly disclosed to those who download software from WhenU, there is no consumer confusion or deception, and thus no basis for U-Haul's complaint.

If these pop-ups appear with the knowledge and permission of the user, it seems hard to regard them as anything but a fair means of comparative advertising, which—as long as it is truthful and nondeceptive—serves social and commercial policy by providing consumers with more information on which to base purchasing decisions. And, indeed, since settling its case with the Washington Post, Gator, too, has begun disclosing more clearly and conspicuously the fact that its free software comes accompanied with applications that trigger competing ads when certain Web sites are accessed.

The last ruling has certainly not yet been heard on this volatile issue. But for the time being it looks as if this new generation of "desktop advertising" may be the wave of the future.

Robert C. Cumbow is the Chair of the Intellectual Property Section of the Washington State Bar Association for 2003-2004. A shareholder with Graham & Dunn, Seattle, he counsels clients in beverage, food, communications, entertainment, retail, travel, e-commerce, and other industries on trademark, copyright, advertising, technology, and media law. He teaches trademark and advertising law at Seattle University Law School, and is a volunteer with Washington Lawyers for the Arts.

CASRIP Summer Institute 2003

By Lisa Sternoff Feldman

The Center for Advanced Study and Research on Intellectual Property (CASRIP) at the University of Washington Law School just completed another successful year of its Summer Institute. The CASRIP Summer Institute offers education and training in the fundamentals of United States and international intellectual property law. It provides engineers, attorneys, agents, patent and licensing department staff or others without experience in intellectual property law with a concise means of acquiring an understanding of this subject area. This year's forty-five participants came from the United States, Japan, Germany, France, Brazil, India, Italy, and Korea, and offered students unique opportunities to network with other international practitioners of intellectual property law.



During Summer Institute, Dr. Toshiko Takenaka, the Director of CASRIP, lectured on the basic concepts of patentability, validity, and infringement under U.S. law and how it compares to the European Patent Convention and Japanese patent laws. Summer Institute faculty also included Sean O'Connor, new Associate Director of CASRIP. Visiting professors: Professor Martin Adelman, the George Washington University Law School, Mario Franzosi, Professor of Law University of Verona, Italy; Heinz Goddar Lecturer University of Bremen, Germany; Jay Kesan, Associate Professor University of Illinois College of Law, Urbana-Champaign; Paul Janicke, Professor University of Houston Law Center. Adjunct faculty: David Carlson and Karl R. Hermanns, both Partners Seed Intellectual Property Law Group; Paul Meiklejohn Partner Dorsey & Whitney. Practicing attorneys: Barry Bretschneider, Partner Morrison and Foerster; Stephen Faciszewski, Counsel and Vice President TYCO Int'l Inc.; David Lubitz, Partner Hogan & Hartson LLP; Tom Moran,

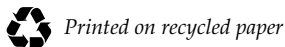
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All opinions and comments in this publication represent the views of the authors and do not necessarily have the endorsement of the Association nor its officers or agents.

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CASRIP SUMMER INSTITUTE 2003 (continued from pg 7)

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Included as part of the Summer Institute was the High Technology Protection Summit Conference, a two-day program that gathers experts from around the world to discuss cutting-edge intellectual property legal issues. This was held Friday, July 25 and Saturday, July 26th. The year's keynote address on the Growth of Hatch-Waxman Act was given by the Honorable Randall Rader of the U.S. Court of Appeals, Federal Circuit. Some local attorneys appearing on panels included: Jerry A. Riedinger of Perkins Coie, Debra Leith of Heller Ehrman, Brad Smith of Microsoft, and Alex Alben of RealNetworks.

At the conclusion of the Institute, twelve participants traveled with me to Washington, D.C., on August 4th. Our visit started at United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. There the Honorable Randall Rader and his staff briefed us on the morning's oral arguments which we later watch. Then we took a private tour of the United States Patent & Trademark Office. Participants got a true behind the scenes look at the mail room, preliminary

examination, prior art search, and the museum. We also enjoyed the hospitality of the D.C. office of Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP, who gave us a tour and warm reception.

The Center for Advanced Research and Study on Intellectual Property (CASRIP) at the University of Washington School of Law is an independent research and policy development institute focusing on problems in patents and other property ownership rights in high technology. CASRIP was developed outside the University of Washington during the 1980s and in 1992, CASRIP became part of the University of Washington School of Law and expanded its research activities by combining the resources and expertise of a nationally known research university. CASRIP aims to improve discussion and exchange of views between professionals of various countries, particularly those countries that have major and mature intellectual property systems, such as Japan, Europe and the United States. CASRIP fosters discussion of differences in the intellectual property regimes of various countries, and studies the impact of those differences on technological innovation and international trade. Another important aim for CASRIP is to offer opportunities for education and training to legal professionals from less developed countries (LDCs), particularly those in Asia.
