

PIUG 2012 Annual Conference Workshop

Patent Law Basics for Patent Searchers

Time and location

Saturday, April 28: 8:00am – noon; Nat Hill Room

Abstract

This workshop will summarize the fundamentals of patent law, the underlying framework that usually "goes without saying" when patent searchers are trained. Topics will include the definition of "patent," the conditions for patentability, ownership and assignment of patent rights, priority and the Paris Convention, patenting procedures, variability in the patent laws of the United States and other patenting authorities, and patent families. Changes in United States patent law due to the 2011 American Invents Act will be discussed.

Presenter

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Edlyn S. Simmons retired in 2009 from her position as Principal Information Scientist in the Global Business Services Infolytics group at The Procter & Gamble Company in Cincinnati, Ohio, and founded Simmons Patent Information Service, LLC. Previously she was for many years the Manager of the Patent Information Group in the Patent Department of Hoechst Marion Roussel, Inc.

She has been a registered U.S. patent agent since 1977, and has written and prosecuted patent applications filed in the United States and internationally. She received B.S. and M.S. degrees in chemistry from the University of Cincinnati, and did graduate work in organic chemistry at Arizona State University.

Edlyn is past chair and past director-at-large of the Patent Information Users Group, and is now the Chair of the PIUG Training Committee and course director of PIUG's Patent Information Fundamentals course. She has lectured and published extensively in the field of chemical and patent information and was the recipient of the International Patent Information Award in 2005.

She is a member of the American Chemical Society Divisions of Chemical Information and Chemistry and the Law, and has served as a member of the ACS Joint Board-Council Committees on Chemical Abstracts Service and Patents and Related Matters. She is also a member of the Association of Independent Information Professionals (AIIP) and is on the editorial advisory board of World Patent Information, The International Journal for Industrial Property Documentation, Information, Classification and Statistics.