University of Houston Law Center
Institute for Intellectual Property & Information Law
is pleased to announce the
Second annual Baker Botts Lecture
Theory & Practice in Commercializing Innovation
Featuring F. Scott Kieff
Washington University in St. Louis—School of Law
Response by John D. Norris
Howrey Simon Arnold & White, LLP
on behalf of the Houston Intellectual Property Bar
Thursday, February 17, 2005
5:30 P.M. Reception
6:15 P.M. Lecture
Coronado Club
910 Travis Street, Houston
One hour of participatory CLE credit
Kindly RSVP to IPIL@UH.EDU
or 713.743.2180.
ALL TOO OFTEN, INNOVATIONS GENERATED within organizations and communities are not put to use as broadly or as rapidly as they could be. The chief targets of blame include transaction costs, agency costs, and lack of coordination. These problems have spawned a rich literature associated with modern theories of new institutional economics, public choice, the firm, social cost, and property rights, which collectively show how such problems can be mitigated or even put to good use depending on context.

This year’s Baker Botts Lecture looks at particular arrangements of formal law and informal practice that may help reach across the “valley of death” between early stage technologies and their downstream commercial deployment. Professor Kieff explores which practices and which aspects of the legal regimes of intellectual property, antitrust, business associations, property, and contract may prove most helpful, and under what circumstances.

F. SCOTT KIEFF is Associate Professor in technology law and business at Washington University in St. Louis and 2003-05 National Fellow at Stanford University’s Hoover Institution. He has been a visiting assistant professor on the Northwestern and University of Chicago faculties as well as a faculty fellow at Harvard, and is a member of the founding faculties of the Munich Intellectual Property Law Center and the Canadian Centre for Intellectual Property Policy at McGill University.

Professor Kieff holds a B.S. in molecular biology and applied microeconomics from MIT and a J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. He served as Law Clerk to the Honorable Giles S. Rich on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

He co-authored with Donald S. Chisum and others the popular treatise/casebook PRINCIPLES OF PATENT LAW and edited PERSPECTIVES ON THE PROPERTIES OF THE HUMAN GENOME PROJECT. His research interests involve the interface among law, economics, ethics, and creative endeavors such as science, engineering, medicine, and art, with a focus on technology law and business, intellectual property, contracts, unfair competition, antitrust, complex litigation, and the allocation of decision-making ability and authority in disputes involving technological facts.

JOHN D. NORRIS, who will respond for Houston’s Intellectual Property Bar, practices in the areas of patent, trademark, trade secret, and unfair competition matters, and concentrates on patent litigation involving a wide range of technologies.


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