The University of Akron School of Law
Faculty Position Opening, August 2019

David L. Brennan Endowed Chair of Law and
Associate Director of the Center for Intellectual Property Law &
Technology

The University of Akron School of Law invites applications and nominations for the position of David L. Brennan Endowed Chair of Law (“Brennan Chair”). The holder of the Brennan Chair also will serve as Associate Director of the Center for Intellectual Property Law & Technology (“Center”), an administrative position renewable by the Dean. The anticipated start date is August 2020. Candidates must have expertise in intellectual property law, with patent law expertise strongly preferred.

The Center is renowned for its extensive IP curriculum, an LLM in IP, a joint JD/LLM degree program, non-JD and post-JD certificates, rich IP programming, and strong relationships with the national and international IP communities. Mark Schultz, currently a Professor at Southern Illinois University, recently was named Director of the Center and Goodyear Chair in IP Law and will begin in December 2019.

The Brennan Chair was established in 1983 with a generous gift from the Brennan family. Over the years, several distinguished scholars have held the Chair. The leadership and resources provided by the Brennan Chair have created one of the strongest IP law programs in the United States.

Our newest Brennan Chair will continue this tradition. We seek a tenured or tenure-track faculty member with appropriate qualifications, including a commitment to excellence in teaching and scholarly distinction or great promise. The Brennan Chair will join the program’s leadership team as Associate Director, with particular responsibility for mentoring IP students and overseeing our IP degrees and certificates and the Trademark Clinic.

The University of Akron School of Law is a public, mid-sized law school of approximately 450 students boasting new facilities, significant recent improvements in student credentials, strong connections to the legal community, and an energized faculty. The University is a public research institution of nearly 20,000 students with national reputations in areas such as polymer science, engineering, and business as well as law. The Cleveland/Akron/Canton metropolitan area, with a population of 3.6 million, is home to 20 Fortune 500 headquarters, four of the nation’s 200 largest law firms, and significant IP-generating activity.

Akron Law is strongly committed to achieving a diverse faculty by including individuals from varied backgrounds and characteristics, including age, gender, religion, ethnicity, disability, national origin, sexual orientation and identity, and socioeconomic background. We offer competitive salary and benefits packages to qualified candidates.
Required qualifications: JD or equivalent law degree; expertise in intellectual property law; potential for administrative IP leadership; potential for successful scholarship and teaching; citizenship or immigration status allowing long-term full-time academic work in the United States.

Preferred qualifications: Expertise in patent law (strongly preferred).

For complete details and to apply for this position, visit: https://www.uakron.edu/jobs. Job ID# 11924.

Please direct inquiries to Professor Carolyn Dessin at cld3@uakron.edu. For technical assistance with your application or attachments, please call UA Human Resources at 330-972-8431.

For more information on the Akron Law IP Center, see www.uakron.edu/ip and the following page of 2019 IP Center accolades.
Holders of the Brennan Chair

When the Brennan Chair was established in 1983 it was a rotating chair that brought distinguished scholars to the law school for a term each year. In 1998 the Chair became associated with the IP program when Jeffrey M. Samuels was named the Brennan Chair in IP Law and Director of Center for Intellectual Property Law and Technology. Here are the past holders of the Chair.

The Honorable Arthur J. Goldberg (ret. Associate Justice, U.S. Supreme Court), Fall 1984

Professor Jacques Beguin, Fall 1985

The Honorable Howard A. Dawson Jr. (ret. Judge, U.S. Tax Court), Spring 1986

Prof. Jacob W.F. Sundberg, Fall 1986

The Honorable John F. Seiberling (re. U.S. House of Representatives), Spring and Fall 1987; Spring and Fall 1990

The Honorable Rosolu J.B. Thompson (Justice, Sierra Leone Supreme Court), Spring 1988

Dr. George D. Wood, Fall 1988 and Spring 1989

Dr. Vladlen S. Vereshchelin, Fall 1991

Dr. Boris Topornin, Fall 1992 and Fall 1995

Dr. Arthur M. Dula, Fall 1992

Dr. Elena Kamenetskaya, Spring 1993

Dr. Avgoust A. Roubanov, Fall 1993

Prof. Jeffrey M. Samuels, Fall 1998 - Spring 2014

Prof. Jaqueline Lipton, Summer 2014 - Summer 2015

Prof. Ryan Vacca, Fall 2016 - Spring 2017

The Honorable Ryan T. Holte (Judge, U.S. Court of Federal Claims as of 2019), Fall 2017 - Summer 2019
"You have one of the top IP programs in the nation.... The program you have here is amazing."
- USPTO Director Andrei Iancu, speaking at the 21st Annual Akron Law IP Symposium, March 4, 2019

Among the TOP 50 IP PROGRAMS in the country

The only top 50 IP program with tuition less than $25,000 a year for both in-state and out-of-state students

4 Degrees
L.L.M., Joint J.D.-L.L.M., IP Certificate for J.D. students, IP Certificates for non-J.D. students

$25,000
The only top 50 IP program with tuition less than $25,000 a year for both in-state and out-of-state students

100%
The job placement rate of our IP Certificate and J.D./LL.M. graduates is consistently at or near 100%

$100,500
The average starting salary of our Patent Bar Eligible graduates, 2016-18

2 IP-related clinics: Trademark Clinic and Small Entrepreneur and Economic Development (SEED) Clinic
5 Full-time IP Law faculty
30 IP-related courses

For more information, visit www.uakron.edu/IP

"A" RATING IN IP LAW
From preLaw magazine, placing Akron Law among the top 40 programs in the county

Tied for the TOP-RANKED IP PROGRAM IN OHIO (U.S. News & World Report)

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