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UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Key Initiatives and Resources at the USPTO

Valencia Martin Wallace

Deputy Commissioner for Patents

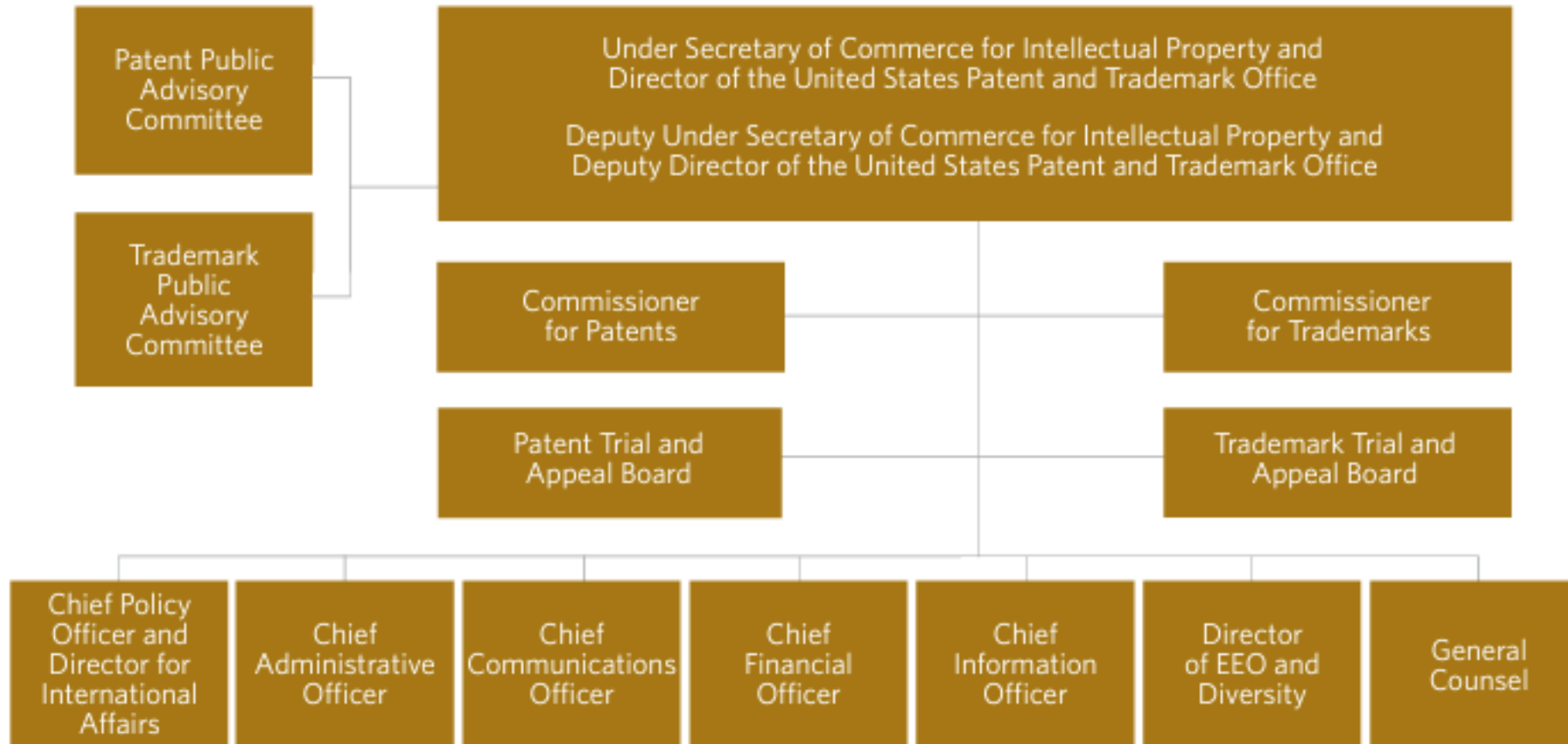
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United States Patent & Trademark Office (USPTO)

USPTO's Organizational Structure

USPTO organizational chart



Patents organizational structure



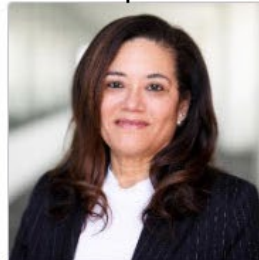
Commissioner for Patents
Vaishali Udupa



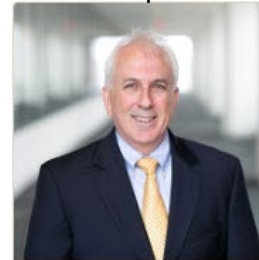
Deputy
Commissioner for
Patents (acting)
Remy Yucel



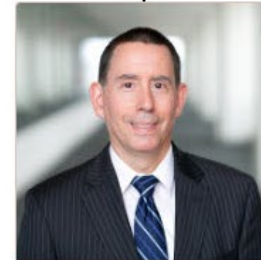
Deputy
Commissioner for
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Robin Evans



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Valencia Martin
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Deputy
Commissioner for
Patents
Rick Seidel



Deputy
Commissioner for
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Robert Bahr



United States Patent & Trademark Office (USPTO)

Key Initiatives for Small/Micro Entities

Key Initiatives

- Opportunities, tools & resources for applicants
- Search
 - Patent Public Search (PPUBS) Tool
- DOCX
- Council for Inclusive Innovation (CI²)



Other Key Initiatives

- Stakeholder Engagement
 - Office of Patents Stakeholder Experience (OPSE)
 - Stakeholder Support Division (SSD)
 - Application Assistant Unit (AAU)
 - Inventors Assistance Center (IAC)
 - Electronic Business Center (EBC)
 - Pro Se Assistance
 - Patents Ombuds

Other Key Initiatives (cont'd)

- Stakeholder Engagement (cont'd)
 - Office of Patents Stakeholder Experience (OPSE)
 - Stakeholder Education and Training Division (SETD)
 - Stakeholder Training on Examination Practice and Procedure (STEPP)
 - Stakeholder Offerings and Resources (SOaR)
 - Stakeholder Application Readiness Training (StART)
 - Customer Experience (CX)

Other Key Initiatives (cont'd)

- Women's Entrepreneurship (WE) Initiative
 - Biden proclamation on National Entrepreneurship Month (November)
 - Builds upon highly successful Women's Entrepreneurship Symposium (WES)
 - Community-based approach



Council for Inclusive Innovation (CI²)



Background Information

SUCCESS Act Report

Background: The Study of Underrepresented Classes Chasing Engineering and Science Success (SUCCESS) Act of 2018 required the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), in consultation with the Small Business Administration (SBA), to identify publicly available data on the number of patents annually applied for and obtained by women, minorities, and veterans. Furthermore, the study examined the benefits of increasing the number of patents applied for and obtained by women, minorities, and veterans and the small businesses they own.

Results: The [SUCCESS Act Report](#) transmitted to Congress in 2019, found that there is a limited amount of publicly available data regarding the participation rates of women, minorities, and veterans in the patent system which found that women and minorities are underrepresented as inventors named on U.S.-granted patents. The report highlighted the following disparities:

- **1976:** Number of women inventors was 3%
- **2016:** Number of women inventor patentees rose to 12.1*%

*** Progress and Potential Report update 2020: The women inventor rate (WIR)—that is, the share of women among all U.S. inventor patentees—grew to 12.8% in 2019. The percentage of new women inventor patentees rose from 16.6% in 2016 to 17.3% by 2019.**



SUCCESS Act Report cont.

Legislative Recommendations: Pursuant to the requirements of the SUCCESS Act, the USPTO submitted the following legislative recommendations for increasing the participation of women, minorities, and veterans as inventor-patentees and entrepreneurs:

- Enhance USPTO authority to gather information
- Enhance authority for federal interagency data sharing and cooperation
- Expand the purposes/scopes of relevant federal grant programs
- Create a commemorative series of quarters and postage stamps to be placed in circulation
- Support exhibits at national museums featuring inventor/entrepreneurs

USPTO Initiatives: The report also identified six (6) initiatives to be implemented by the USPTO Collaborative intellectual property (IP) program

- Award Program
- Creation of a council for innovation inclusiveness
- Expansion of USPTO educational outreach programs for youth and teachers
- Workforce Development
- Increase professional development IP training for educators



Council for Inclusive Innovation (CI²)



Council for Inclusive Innovation (CI²)

Establish a Council**

- Develop a plan of action that will foster the involvement of underrepresented groups as inventors-patentees, entrepreneurs, and innovation leaders.
- Execute a long-term comprehensive strategy for continuing to build America's innovation ecosystem.

Roles and responsibilities for Council members

- Attend annual council meeting
- Promote national awareness of science, technology, engineering, and math fields and opportunities for underrepresented groups in these professions and as inventors-patentees.
- Appoint a representative to participate in a working group that will assist the USPTO in developing the national strategy.
 - Working group will identify areas of focus in relationship to the advancement of underrepresented groups in science, technology, engineering, and math fields and as inventors-patentees that will be addressed in the National Strategy.

****2020:** Established the National Council for Expanding American Innovation

****2021:** Rebranded to the Council for Inclusive Innovation (CI²) with Secretary Raimondo serving as Chair



Council Members by Sector

Industry	Totals
Academia	3
Federal Government	7*
Industry	10
Intellectual Property Associations	2
Independent Inventors	2
Nonprofit Organizations	4
Small Business	1
Venture Capitalist	2
Total	31

For full list of members visit the CI² webpage at
<https://www.uspto.gov/initiatives/equity/ci2/members>





CI² Initiatives

Director's blog



From left: USPTO staff worked with second graders on their science and engineering projects at Cora Kelly School for Math, Science, and Technology in Alexandria, VA on April 26, 2022; Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo and USPTO Director Kathi Vidal met with Urban Alliance interns at the USPTO on July 11, 2022; Legal Experience and Advancement Program proceedings at the USPTO; inventor Lonnie Johnson at a ceremony at the National Inventors Hall of Fame (NIHF) on May 4, 2022. (Photos by the USPTO and courtesy of the National Inventors Hall of Fame)

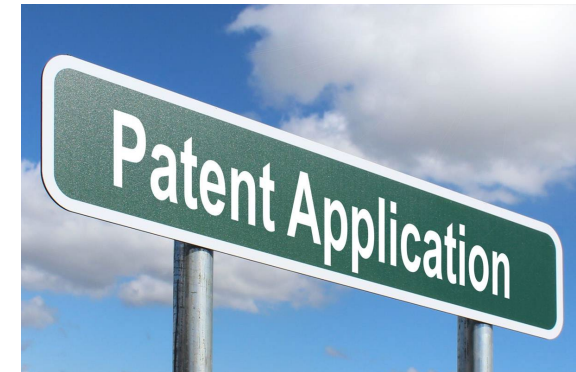
Innovation internship program

- Target the gap and inequalities associated with students from under resourced communities.
- Establish paid internships to provide real world experience to community college and university students.
- Emphasis on underrepresented and under resourced individuals to pursue careers in the IP/Innovation fields.



First-time filer expedited examination petition pilot

- Intended for first-time filers with micro-entity status.
- Noncontinuing, nonprovisional utility applications are eligible for pilot.
- Applicants must complete a patent basic training program.



Expansion of free legal services

- Expanding access to free or pro bono legal services
 - The USPTO's [Law School Clinic Certification Program](#) includes over 60 participating law school clinics.
 - The USPTO also supports 21 pro bono regions across the country as part of the USPTO's [Patent Pro Bono Program](#).



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Community outreach campaign

- USPTO employees delivering community based awareness and educational programs
 - The IP system
 - Importance of IP and innovation



Join the conversation

- Watch for updates on the CI² website
 - www.uspto.gov/ExpandingInnovation
- Follow us on social media
 - #InclusiveInnovation
- Email us CI2@uspto.gov







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