TENTATIVE PROGRAM (SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

8:00 am  Continental Breakfast

9:00 am  Opening Remarks
Lisa A. Kloppenberg, Dean, Santa Clara Law


9:10 am  The USPTO’s Enhanced Patent Quality Initiative
Valencia Martin Wallace, Deputy Commissioner of Patent Quality, USPTO

9:45 am  Achieving Clarity of Record; Best Practices for Drafting Quality Patent Applications
Panel Moderator: Janet Gongola, USPTO
Panelists:
Cassandra (Sandie) Spyrou, Senior Quality Assurance Specialist in the Office of Patent Quality Management
Bob Bahr, Senior Patent Counsel in the Office of the Deputy Commissioner for Patent Examination Policy
Tom Irving, Finnegan Henderson Farabow Garrett & Dunner, LLP, Washington DC
Courtenay Brinckerhoff, Foley & Lardner, LLP, Washington DC

10:45 am  Break

11:00 am  Improving Patent Quality Through Remote Examiner Interviews
Tim Callahan, Director of Technology Center 2400, USPTO
Tom Irving, Finnegan Henderson Farabow Garrett & Dunner, LLP, Washington DC

11:30 am  The PTO’s New Quality Metrics
Tony Caputto, USPTO
Marty Rater, Chief Statistician in the Office of Patent Quality Assurance

12:15 pm  Lunch and Keynote Speaker: Russ Slifer, Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce and Deputy Director, USPTO

Part II. Trials at the Patent Trial and Appeal Board: New Rules, Hot Issues and a Live Hearing
Afternoon Moderator: Paul Kitch

1:30 pm  State of the Board
Scott Boalick, Vice-Chief Judge, Patent Trial and Appeal Board

1:50 pm  Proposed Rule Changes at the Patent Trial and Appeal Board
Panel Moderator: Sharon Israel

Overview of proposed rule changes
Lead Judge Susan Mitchell, USPTO

2:20 pm  The Bar’s Response to Proposed Rule Changes; Audience questions and Feedback
Brad Pedersen, Patterson Thuente Pedersen, P.A., Minneapolis, MN
Erika Harmon Arner, Finnegan Henderson Farabow Garrett & Dunner, LLP, Reston, VA
Judge Susan Mitchell, USPTO
Judge Peter Chen, USPTO
Hot Issues in PTAB Trials: coordination of district court and PTAB; appeals to the federal circuit; any changes imposed by patent reform; other issues
Moderator: Sharon Israel, Mayer Brown, Houston TX
Panelists: Judge Tina Hulse and Lead Judge Matt Clements, USPTO
David McCombs, Haynes and Boone, LLP, Richardson TX
Todd Baker, Oblon McClelland, Maier and Neustadt, LLP, Alexandria VA

3:30 pm
Break/ Set up for Trial

3:50 pm
Introduction to Live Hearing

4:00 pm
Live PTAB Hearing
Ariosa v. Illumina (IPR 2014-01093) (not yet approved)
Lead Judge Lora Green, Judge Tina Hulse, Judge Zhenyu Yang

5:00 pm
Closing Remarks

5:05PM
Adjourn