Biotechnology Law

Laura Reed, J.D. ‘10
B.S. in Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics
from the University of Maryland

“Santa Clara Law’s location and reputation in Silicon Valley make it a strong contender among the most elite IP-focused law schools. In addition, its burgeoning student involvement in biotechnology law makes it an appealing choice for anyone with a background or interest in biotech.

Some of my favorite courses at SCU are not offered at many law schools: Biotechnology Law, Assisted Reproduction and Genetic Engineering, Bioethics, and Patent Litigation. These classes, among others, combine to teach all facets of biotech law, from technology to ethics and public interest.”
At Santa Clara Law, you will learn from full-time faculty members with expertise in biotechnology law and the life sciences, as well as additional instructors who practice on the front lines of biotech law. Full-time faculty members including the following:

**Colleen Chien**

Professor Chien focuses on patent law and international intellectual property law, including compulsory pharmaceutical licensing and access to medicine in developing countries. Before becoming a full-time professor, she was a Silicon Valley patent lawyer and a Fellow at the Center for Law and the Biosciences at Stanford Law School. She also served as an adviser to the School of Social Medicine at Harvard Medical School.

**Brian Love**

Professor Love specializes in patent law. Recent scholarship of his includes an empirical study highlighting differences in the way pharmaceutical and high tech companies enforce their patent rights, and research on universities’ efforts to obtain and license patent covering the results of fundamental biotech and medical research.

**Kerry Macintosh**


**Michelle Oberman**

Professor Oberman specializes in health policy and the law, particularly the intersection of women’s health, poverty, criminal law, and public health issues. Her research focuses on legal and ethical issues relating to adolescence, sexuality, pregnancy, and motherhood.

Explore our rich curriculum, including numerous courses on biotechnology and life science legal matters. Recent offerings include:

- Assisted Reproduction, Cloning, and Genetic Engineering
- Bioethics
- Biotechnology Law
- Family Law
- Food and Drug Law
- Health Law Seminar

You can also choose additional complementary courses from Santa Clara Law’s extensive and highly regarded high tech law program, which includes more than 40 courses such as:

- Administrative Law
- Antitrust
- Legal Issues of Start-Up Businesses
- Patents
- Patent Litigation/IP Litigation
- Patent Prosecution
- Securities Regulation
- Technology Licensing
- Venture Capital

Course offerings are subject to change.

## Student Opportunities

Enhance your experience, your network, and your career with our many biotech activities for students, including:

**Biotechnology Law Group**

The Biotechnology Law Group (BLG) is a student-organized group focusing on biotech and life sciences matters. Among other activities, the group creates opportunities for students to network with practicing biotech attorneys.

**Student Intellectual Property Law Association (SIPLA)**

Founded in 1989, SIPLA is a student-operated organization focusing on IP and technology law. This group offers, among other activities, a weekly lunch-time program on high tech topics.

**Computer and High Tech Law Journal**

The student-run journal, founded in 1984, covers all aspects of IP and high tech law. As well as hosting an annual symposium, the journal publishes four issues per year, which routinely include biotech-related articles.

**Civil and High Tech Externship Program**

Through this semester-long program, students gain supervised practice experience for academic credit at a governmental agency, non-profit organization, law firms, or high tech company. Past biotech externship placements include Affymetrix, Intuitive Surgical, Google, and Genentech.

## Additional Opportunities

Santa Clara University offers two high profile centers that conduct research and offer activities in the biotech area.

### Center for Science, Technology and Society

The Center for Science, Technology and Society at Santa Clara University researches and promotes the use and understanding of science and technology for the common good, including, in particular, examining and building awareness of biotechnology advances. For more information, visit [www.scu.edu/sts](http://www.scu.edu/sts).

### Markkula Center for Applied Ethics

The Markkula Center for Applied Ethics promotes research and dialogue on ethical issues touching American life. Among other activities, the Center analyzes real-world ethical issues in medicine and biotechnology and develops tools and programs to address them. For more information, visit [www.scu.edu/ethics](http://www.scu.edu/ethics).

Visit us online for more profiles of our alumni working in biotech.

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**Narinder Banait J.D. ’97**

**International High Tech Law Certificate**

Narinder Banait brought to his law school class five years of experience working full-time as a research scientist in the pharmaceutical industry (at Syntex and Roche in Palo Alto), as well as a B.S. in chemistry and biochemistry, an M.S. in synthetic chemistry, and a Ph.D. in organic chemistry. Before law school he focused on S-HT3 antagonists for the treatment of emesis and anxiety disorders. Dr. Banait says he chose SCU Law because it had “not only the best part-time program in the area, but also one of the top IP programs in the country.” Moreover, the attorney who drafted patent applications on Dr. Banait’s own inventions—an alumnus of SCU Law—recommended it. Previously a partner at Fenwick & West, Dr. Banait represented clients in many life sciences areas including pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, nanotechnology, and genomics. He is currently Vice-President of Intellectual Property at Signature Therapeutics, a privately held biopharmaceutical company.

Visit us online for more profiles of our alumni working in biotech.