



Intellectual Property Law & Technology Program

Events

Tuesday, February 3

[Canadian Chamber of Commerce Business Forum on Illicit Trade: "Global Threat - Local Consequences"](#)

Rex Shoyama will be participating in a panel on "Innovation and Commercializing Intellectual Property".

Friday, January 30

[Centre for Innovation Law and Policy: Copyright Symposium](#)

Carys Craig will be participating in a panel discussion on "Technological Protection Measures and Fair Dealing". The panel will be moderated by **Andrea Slane** (CILP executive director and IP Osgoode Research Affiliate).

Please see our [events calendar](#) for information on other upcoming events.

IP in the News

[Big win for little distillery caught in name dispute](#)

Glenora (a distillery in Nova Scotia) has won the right to keep the word "Glen" in the name of its single-malt whisky.

[Soft Power and the Death of Free Culture](#)

An article on copyright and "soft power" on the *Music - Technology - Policy Blog*.

[Internet breaking down borders with more than one billion users](#)

The Internet now has reached a landmark one-billion users worldwide and that number is expected to grow with the increasing use of wireless devices.

The IPIGRAM (26 January 2009)

Feature Posts

Unbundling Fair Uses

University of California at Berkeley Professor **Pamela Samuelson** (who is a member of IP Osgoode's International Advisory Council), has a new paper available on SSRN, "[Unbundling Fair Uses](#)".

In her paper she discusses the need to recognize that fair use cases tend to fall into common patterns and how such "policy-relevant clusters" provide another dimension to fair use analysis.



Digital Games, UGC, and the Mainstreaming of Virtual IP Conflicts

January 26, 2009 by Sara Grimes

Sara Grimes is a PhD Candidate with the School of Communication at Simon Fraser University.

Digital games have evolved considerably in recent years, but from an IP perspective, one of the most interesting and significant shifts has been the introduction of user-generated content (UGC) into corporately-owned digital games and virtual worlds. Early evidence of the legal implications of UGC (also referred to as "user created" and "user contributed" content) first emerged in the form of a debate about ongoing (and as yet unresolved) conflicts between game operators and game players over who could legally (and ethically) claim ownership over virtual items and characters (avatars) produced by players within massively multiplayer online games (MMOGs).

[Read more](#)

[1st stem cell study for spinal injury approved](#)

A U.S. biotech company says it plans to start the world's first study of a treatment based on human embryonic stem cells.

[Apple issues threat, Palm investors fret](#)

Some investors are worried that Palm's new smart phone may face a legal challenge from Apple Inc. over touch-screen technology.

[Kentucky court blocks move to seize gambling domains](#)

Kentucky may not seize 141 online casinos' Internet domain names in an attempt to block them from operating within the state's borders, a three-judge appeals panel ruled.

[US Supreme Court shuts door on Child Online Protection Act](#)

The US Supreme Court upheld a lower court ruling that COPA violated the constitutional right to free speech.

[Firm Reports Massive Data Breach From Credit, Debit Transactions](#)

A security breach at Heartland Payment Systems last year may have compromised data from tens of millions of credit and debit card transactions

[Italy taking French lessons in copyright law](#)

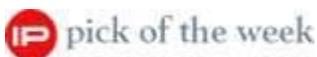
Ministry of Culture inks deal on anti-piracy efforts

IP Poll of the Week

Ty (the toy maker) is selling dolls which appear to be based on Barack Obama's daughters. Do you think the Obamas should be able to stop this?

Visit <http://www.iposgoode.ca/> to vote.

In last week's poll, we asked what you thought was the optimal IP ownership model between universities and its researchers. **56% of voters thought that IP should be owned by the researchers.**



Recent Posts

Is there a right to clone Macs?

January 26, 2009 by Brandon Evenson (IPilogue Editor)

In 2005, Apple publicly announced their transition from the IBM/Motorola PowerPC chipset to the Intel x86 chipset. In addition to the speed improvements, and efficiency gains (higher performance per watt) with the Intel processors, the transition also gave Mac users greater flexibility in the operating systems and programs that could be run without an x86 emulator. Apple openly endorsed this flexibility releasing Mac OS X Leopard with Boot Camp - a utility to facilitate installing and booting from multiple operating systems on Apple computers. Unfortunately, the switch also made it easier to install Mac OS X on non-Apple computers, something explicitly prohibited in Apple's Mac OS X End User License Agreement (EULA).

[Read more](#)

Privacy watchdog proposes code of practice for privacy notices

January 23, 2009 by Adrienne Ng (IPilogue Editor)

Do you remember the last time you made an online purchase from Amazon or the Apple Store? When you entered in all your personal information, do you remember reading Amazon or Apple's privacy notices? If you clicked on it, did you read through the entire thing? It is quite likely that your answer would be no.

[Read more](#)

Landmark Case Favours Public Right to Electronic Records

January 22, 2009 by Reshika Dhir (IPilogue Editor)

A six year quest of the Toronto Star has been finally put to rest by an Ontario Court of Appeal decision favouring a "freedom of information" request filed by the Star. The landmark decision held that municipal government institutions, such as the Toronto Police Services Board (the "Board"), are required to produce electronically stored information that the public has a right to see.

[Read more](#)

Photos of Released Murderer Banned From Publication

January 21, 2009 by Ryan Prescott (IPilogue Editor)

Professor Denis Borges Barbosa is a member of IP Osgoode's International Advisory Council.

His [website](#) includes a blog and information on intellectual property in Brazil.

A Northern Ireland court has barred a Belfast newspaper, Sunday Life, from publishing unpixelated photos of the perpetrator of a sex related murder who is now being released after serving out his sentence. It had been the paper's intent to publish pictures to enable the public to identify the man should he end up in their community.

[Read more](#)

Patentees: Destroy Evidence at Your Own Peril

January 20, 2009 by Jonathan Girdali (IPilogue Editor)

In a recent U.S. patent dispute between two information technology players, a court has ruled that a patentee's destruction of potentially relevant evidence may be sanctioned by a declaration of patent unenforceability.

[Read more](#)

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