



## 1<sup>ST</sup> FRANKLIN PIERCE LAW CENTRE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW ESSAY COMPETITION, 2010

### INFORMATION BROCHURE

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The Franklin Pierce Law Centre, New Hampshire USA is organising the 1<sup>st</sup> Franklin Pierce Law Centre Intellectual Property Law Essay Competition, 2010 in association with the National Law University, Jodhpur, India. The objective of the Essay Competition is to encourage research in emerging areas in the field of intellectual property law, and, accordingly, we have selected cutting edge and forward looking topics for the Competition.

Franklin Pierce Law Center, is a community of scholars dedicated to teaching the practice of law and empowering others to contribute productively to a global legal system. Our students come to the United States, from around the world to engage in active, practice-based learning in a small cooperative interactive learning environment. Franklin Pierce Law Center remains, by choice, one of the smallest independent law schools in the United States. We offer a close-knit and innovative learning experience. Our curriculum offers an intensive, practice-based learning approach, providing many opportunities for hands-on learning. Diversity is the foundation to effective, cooperative dialogue. Our alumni live and work in 85 nations, many who are now global leaders in their countries.

The National Law University, Jodhpur, India is an institution of national prominence, being one of the premier law Universities in India. The University is established for the advancement of learning, teaching, research and diffusion of knowledge in the field of law. It caters to the needs of the society by developing professional skills of persons intending to make a career in advocacy, judicial service, law officer / managers and legislative drafting as their profession. The Ministry of Human Resource Development has endowed the University with an Intellectual Property Rights Chair under which the University undertakes number of programmes to increase intellectual property awareness amongst the masses.

## ELIGIBILITY

1. Participation is open to all students pursuing graduation in law, science or technology in any University in the Indian subcontinent (i.e. in India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Bhutan)
2. An essay must be authored by a maximum of two authors.

## TOPICS

1. Issues in open source in biotechnology
2. Obviousness in Chemical and Biotechnology Patents: A Post KSR analysis
3. Patenting Software: A Comparative Analysis

## JUDGES FOR THE COMPETITION

1. Prof. Shamnad Basheer
2. Dr. Manisha Shridhar
3. Professor (Dr.) KK Banerji

## ABOUT THE JUDGES

**Professor Shamnad Basheer** is currently at the West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences as the first Ministry of Human Resource Development Chaired Professor in Intellectual Property law. Prior to this, he was the Frank H Marks Visiting Associate Professor of Intellectual Property Law at the George Washington University law school. He is also a research associate at the Oxford Intellectual Property Research Center (OIPRC) and the founder of SpicyIP, a blog dedicated to analyzing IP and innovation policy news and cases from India. The blog has been rated by Lexis Nexis as one of the leading IP blogs in the world. He graduated from India's premier law school, the National law school of India University, Bangalore. He then joined Anand and Anand, a leading intellectual property law firm in New Delhi, and worked on a variety of contentious and non contentious IP matters before being called upon to head the

firm's IT and Telecommunications law division. India. Whilst in practice, the IFLR 1000 guide rated him as a leading technology lawyer. Prof. Basheer went on to do his post-graduate studies at the University of Oxford. He completed the BCL (as a Shell Centenary scholar) and MPhil with distinction; his thesis dealing with biotechnology and patent law in India was awarded the second prize in a writing contest held by the Stanford Technology Law Review. He is currently reading for the DPhil (PhD) as a Wellcome Trust scholar. In the past, he has been an invited research fellow at the Institute of Intellectual Property (IIP), Tokyo, an International Bar Association (IBA) scholar and an Inter Pacific Bar Association (IPBA) scholar. He has been an editor of the Oxford Commonwealth Law Journal (OUCLJ) and a founding member of EDIP (Electronic Database of Intellectual Property). His research interests include intellectual property and developing countries, innovation policy and patents, international trade and the interface between patents and antitrust. He has spoken on these themes at various conferences and also published papers in leading technology journals such as IPQ (Intellectual Property Quarterly), EIPR (European Intellectual Property Law Review) and JILP (Journal of law technology and policy).

**Dr. Manisha Shridhar, (IAS 1984)** is currently on deputation with WHO-SEARO in the Intellectual Property and Trade unit. Prior to this she was posted as Principal Secretary in the State Government of Himachal Pradesh. Earlier in the Ministry of Small Scale Industries Dr. Manisha Shridhar developed and organized Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) training programs for the pharmaceutical and biotech industry and developed case studies and study material with World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO). She has also scripted and assisted in the production of a film on IPRs for WIPO. For United Nations Industrial Development Organisation she has worked on IPRs relating to Geographical Indications registrations. As Head of Training Research and Development Cell in the National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie, she has designed and conducted training programs for senior Civil Servants from India and Sri Lanka on IPR and WTO issues. She has also provided consultancy to entrepreneurs on behalf of industry associations. As a visiting faculty of the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, and Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, she has conducted training programs for senior civil servants and industry groups and chartered accountants on IPR, WTO and has written on these issues. She has a Masters degree in Law (LLM) in Intellectual Property Law, from Franklin Pierce Law Center (FPLC), Concord, USA. where she specialised in Patent and Biotechnology Law and obtained certification as a qualified International Mediator on IPR disputes. She has obtained doctorate from IIT Delhi on "Technology Innovation and Patent

Activity in Indian Industry” that has a special focus on pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries. Besides her mother tongue Hindi, she is fluent in English and French.

**Prof. (Dr.) K.K. Banerji** has 45 years of teaching experience in various Universities. His extensive research work includes publication of more than 250 papers in international journals and 4 review articles. He has guided 43 research scholars their Ph.D. degrees. He has undertaken 12 major research projects sponsored by central agencies. He has done post-doctoral research at University of Oxford, U.K. He is the Executive Director, Intellectual Property Rights Chair at the National Law University, Jodhpur. He chaired a session during the Annual Convention of Chemists held at Jaipur in December 2007. He is recipient of the G.V. Bakore Memorial Award by the Indian Chemical Society in December 2007 for his contribution in the field of Chemical Kinetics. He is also a fellow of International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry and member of many other scientific professional organizations.

#### **SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

1. Maximum length of essay: 5,000 words
2. Font: Times New Roman, size 12
3. Uniform style of citation must be employed (preferably in Harvard Bluebook style, 18<sup>th</sup> edition)
4. References must be cited by means of footnotes
5. The essay must mention the Author’s name and contact details
6. Submissions must be mailed to [nlufplc@gmail.com](mailto:nlufplc@gmail.com)
7. Last date of submission: March 31, 2010

#### **PRIZES**

1. First Prize: Full tuition waiver for the Intellectual Property Summer Institute and Concord, New Hampshire and a cash prize of Rs. 15,000 (INR)
2. Second Prize: Cash Prize of Rs. 10,000 (INR)
3. Third Prize: Cash Prize of Rs. 5,000 (INR)

## **WEB MEDIA PARTNER**

1. Spicy IP India

## **COORDINATOR OF THE COMPETITION**

1. Dr. Manmeeta Saxena

## **QUERIES**

In case of any queries regarding the competition, please mail us at [nlufplc@gmail.com](mailto:nlufplc@gmail.com) or call at any of the following contact numbers:

1. Aditya Gupta: +91 – 9928919564
2. Vinati Gupta: +91 – 9414794734