Copenhagen Summer University

IP IN LIFE SCIENCE: AN UPDATE

We are currently witnessing a huge and constant stream of new applications to patent biotechnological inventions, often involving a wide variety of often complex legislative patent issues. This course brings you up to speed with the latest developments in the legislation relating to patenting pharmaceutical and biotechnological inventions. On the course, we will cover a number of topics including gene-related patents, the rather sensitive issue of patenting antibodies, the patentability of diagnostic assays, patenting second medical uses, issues relating to biobetters, the expanding concept of plausibility in patent law, and competition law and patents.
Legislation relating to IP in the area of pharmaceutical development is assuming more and more importance, not only because the legal framework is in a seemingly constant state of flux, but also because IP law has traditionally always been one of the crucial elements in the toolbox of pharmaceutical and biotechnological companies when launching new products and drugs onto the market. Patent protection is considered to be the “conditio sine qua non” for successful product development and launch. Without patent protection, pharmaceutical companies would struggle to continue with their R&D.

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

After the course, you will:

– Have learned about the most recent developments in the area of patent law relating to biotechnological and pharmaceutical inventions
– Be up to speed with SPC case law
– Be acquainted with the most recent developments in competition law relating to life science patents
– Have increased your awareness of the increasing influence of AI in life science patents
– Have acquired in-depth knowledge and insight into second medical use patents and their enforcement
– Be able to apply the knowledge acquired to your day-to-day work

COURSE CONTENT

Besides debating issues relating to gene patents, patenting antibodies, and the patentability of diagnostic assays, we will also look at second medical use patents, which are of growing importance in an era of personalized medicine. We will examine both their patentability and their enforcement. We will give you an update on the constantly evolving case law relating to SPC’s, and we will look at how the recent developments in Artificial Intelligence (AI) influence the patent law landscape and what potential opportunities and threats inventions in this area present for the patent system and the way it operates.

We will touch upon competition law issues relating to IP and life sciences, which are growing in importance in the context of licensing and settlement agreements. For participants working in green biotech sector, we will look at how IP affects plants and particularly the biological processes involved in the production of plants. We will also give an update on the Unified Patent Court (UPC). At the time of writing this description, the legal situation appears to be somewhat chaotic, and it remains unclear as to whether the UPC will actually materialize or not. Assuming that the UPC will come into force at some point, we will discuss its consequences, focusing especially on the purpose and function of the UPC.

To summarize, the following topics will be covered on the course:

– Biotech patenting
– Second medical use patents, medical treatment methods and diagnostic and surgical methods
– SPC’s
– Competition law and patents
– Partial priority
– Disclaimers
– AI patenting in life sciences
– IP for plants: an update
– Brexit and consequences for life sciences patent portfolios
– The UPC

The course will be rounded off with an introduction to and update of regulatory issues in pharmaceutical development for IP lawyers in the area of pharmaceutical and biotechnological inventions. These two legislative areas are likely to become increasingly intertwined, so it is essential that today’s IP lawyers are well up to date with the various regulatory legal issues (such as market and data exclusivity, orphan drug designation, etc.).

The course will be taught by experts from both the University of Copenhagen and by independent practitioners and in-house lawyers from Denmark and abroad.
PARTICIPANTS

The course is targeted at in-house legal counsel working in pharmaceutical and biotech companies, lawyers in private practice (law firms), patent attorneys (both in-house and in private practice), regulatory lawyers with pre-knowledge of IP law, judges, employees from Patent Offices and from the EPO, people with pre-knowledge of patent law from any national Competition Authority, academics who want to bring themselves up to date with recent and topical issues in patent law, and any other civil servants at ministries who are interested in taking the course.

The course is relevant for people from any country within the EU, as well as for people living outside the EU, but who would like to gain a detailed and up-to-date insight into the world of IP issues in life sciences in Europe.

The course fulfills the formal requirements for compulsory training for lawyers and associates in Denmark. When registering, you can request to receive course certificates on completing the course. Please note, however, that the Danish Bar Association does not issue approvals of continuing education courses - either to providers, lawyers or attorneys. Therefore, the Faculty of Law cannot guarantee that such approval will be given in the event of a random sample inspection.

COURSE DIRECTOR

Sven Bostyn, Associate Professor, JUR Centre for Advanced studies in Bio-medical Innovation Law, University of Copenhagen

COURSE FEE

EUR 2,680/DKK 19,900 excl. Danish VAT. Fee includes teaching, course materials and all meals during the course.

For more information and registration

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