

## **Dr. Natalya Bailey**



Natalya is an experienced leader and investor in deep tech companies. She founded Accion Systems, an ion engine company, leading it for ten years before it was acquired. Most recently, she ran strategy at Bloom Energy, a company making fuel cells and electrolyzers. Natalya is currently serving as a fractional COO/founder, lending her technical expertise in space propulsion, electrochemistry, and semiconductors to stand up early finance and go to market strategy for companies including Curated Innovation, a patent and technology strategy firm. She's passionate about the people side of deep tech companies and building organizations that will be successful and good places to work for the long term. For the past four years she has also held an investment partner role at XFactor Ventures, where she has focused on deep tech and hardware companies founded by women, and she helps a few other funds with technical diligence in new areas like additive manufacturing, space, and quantum computing.

## Jasmine De Cock



Jasmine De Cock is an associate in the Life Sciences patent prosecution group at Fish & Richardson and works in their Munich, Germany office. Her practice focuses on patent prosecution and counseling in cancer biology, molecular biology, immunology, biochemistry and molecular genetics. Jasmine holds a Bsc in Biochemistry from King's College of London, a PhD in Biology from MIT, and a JD from Columbia Law School. Jasmine is currently training to become a European patent attorney. Before and during law school, Jasmine worked as a technology specialist and patent agent at Fish & Richardson in their Boston and New York offices. Jasmine is a co-chair of the NYIPLA's Young Lawyers Committee and a NYIPLA delegate to the US Bar- EPO Liaison Council. Jasmine is regularly invited to speak on diversity and cross-cultural issues in STEM and IP.

## **Karin Ferriter**



As the Global Diversity and Inclusion Advisor, Ms. Ferriter advises the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioners on the development of current and future patent initiatives to advance diversity and inclusion efforts in the global IP ecosystem.

Previously, Ms. Ferriter served as the Deputy Chief Policy Officer of the Office of Policy and International Affairs (OIPA), supervising the China, Copyright, Trademark, and Enforcement teams, as well as the Patent Team for the first few years. In this role, she led the USPTO's World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Director General election campaign work, which earned Ms. Ferriter and her team a Director's award, led a USPTO Pharmaceutical Pricing and Innovation Working Group, and led a successful effort to improve financial transparency at WIPO.

Ms. Ferriter began her career as a patent examiner in 1985, and became a Primary Patent Examiner. Ms. Ferriter then served as a Senior Legal Advisor in the Office of Patent Legal Administration, handling applications for patent term extension under the Hatch-Waxman Act and performing other functions, such as contributing to rulemaking to implement the American Inventors Protection Act. A significant achievement during this time was participating in the Diplomatic Conference of the Geneva Act of the Hague Agreement for the International Registration of Industrial Designs. This led her to the patent team of OPIA, where she used her experience in patent examination, plant patents, and patent term extension to participate in negotiating the U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement and represent the United States in WIPO, World Health Organization (WHO), Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) meetings. Later, she was detailed to the Office of the United States Trade Representative, U.S. Mission to the World Trade Organization (WTO), in Geneva, Switzerland. In Geneva, Ms. Ferriter represented the United States in many meetings of the WTO TRIPS Council, WHO, WIPO, and the UPOV. A significant achievement during this time was helping to negotiate the Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System.

Ms. Ferriter has a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Massachusetts Lowell and Juris Doctor (JD) from the Antonin Scalia Law School at George Mason.

## Alexis Hatzis



Alexis Hatzis Liakas is an Intellectual Property Attorney at IBM, based in New York. Alexis focuses primarily on patent preparation and prosecution. More broadly, she is active in matters relating to IBM's patent strategy, in mentoring programs, in negotiations of non-disclosure agreements, and as an inventor. Alexis is a member of the team responsible for maintaining IBM's U.S. Patent Procedures, which are followed by both IBM's in-house and outside patent counsel. She received her B.A. in Computer Science from Barnard College, Columbia University, and her J.D. from Touro Law Center. She is registered to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and is a member of the New York State Bar.

## Yann Ménière



Yann Ménière joined the EPO as Chief Economist in 2016. He has many years of extensive experience of providing economic insights into issues relating to patents, innovation and economic growth and contributes high-level expertise and analysis to public and expert forums on a regular basis. Yann led the chair on IP and Markets for Technology at MINES ParisTech where he was previously a professor of economics. He also lectured on the economics of IP at Imperial College London, the Université catholique de Louvain (Belgium) and CEIPI. His research and expertise relate to the economics of innovation, competition and intellectual property.

## Taunya Phillips



Taunya is the director of the Office of Technology Commercialization at the University of Kentucky where she oversees a team of 16 staff managing the University's intellectual property, licensing and startup portfolios. Previously, she was the senior associate director of New Ventures & Alliances, where she was focused on overseeing key alliances for OTC and managing support and services for UK and Lexington entrepreneurs and startups. She has worked at UK since 1999, where her previous positions have been assistant vice president for Commercialization & Economic Development, chief financial officer for Kentucky Technology, Incorporated, College of Engineering lecturer, and Minority Engineering program director.

Before UK, Taunya worked at Milliken & Company, a chemical and textile manufacturer. Positions there included production manager, process engineer, technical salesperson, and marketing analyst & planner. Taunya is a National Academy of Inventors (NAI) honorary member, a member of the College of Engineering Dean's Advisory Council, a Midwest University Research Network (MRUN) board member, and past president of the UK Alumni Association board of directors. She was the 2014-2015 board chair for Opportunity for Work and Learning Incorporated and is a past president of the UK College of Engineering Alumni Association Board. Taunya has a Bachelor of Science in chemical engineering and a Master of Business Administration, both from the University of Kentucky.

## **Roberta Romano- Götsch**



Roberta Romano-Götsch is Chief Sustainability Officer at the EPO since January 2022 and is passionate about UN SDGs and ESG. Prior to that she has served as Chief Operating Officer of the sector Healthcare, Biotechnology and Chemistry, and earlier of the sector Mobility and Mechatronics, where she was responsible for leading more than 1600 patent examiners, managers, formalities in Munich, Berlin and The Hague. Roberta has graduated in chemistry at Università La Sapienza (Rome) and holds a PhD in organic chemistry from the Technical University of Munich (TUM). She worked in the private sector as R&D product manager at Procter & Gamble before joining the EPO in 1997.