

“Reimagining Copyright Law”

Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the 1976 U.S. Copyright Act

Moderator



Madhavi Sunder
Frank Sherry Professor of Intellectual
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Shira Perlmutter
Register of Copyrights and Director, U.S.
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William (Terry) Fisher
WilmerHale Professor of Intellectual Property
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Appointed as Register of Copyrights in October 2020, Shira Perlmutter advises Congress and executive branch agencies on copyright policy, and directs the administration of important provisions of the U.S. Copyright Act, leading a workforce of nearly 500 employees. Prior to her appointment, Perlmutter had served since 2012 as Chief Policy Officer and Director for International Affairs at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). She previously held senior positions at the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry in London, and at Time Warner in New York. Perlmutter also worked at the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in Geneva as a consultant on copyright and electronic commerce. While on the faculty at the Columbus School of Law at The Catholic University of America from 1990-1995, she was the copyright consultant to the Clinton Administration’s Advisory Council on the National Information Infrastructure. Earlier in her career, she practiced law in New York City, specializing in copyright and trademark counseling and litigation. She is a co-author of a leading casebook on international intellectual property law and policy and has published numerous articles on copyright issues. She is also a research fellow at the Oxford Intellectual Property Research Centre at Oxford University. Perlmutter received an AB from Harvard University and a JD from the University of Pennsylvania.

William (Terry) Fisher received his undergraduate degree (in American Studies) from Amherst College and his graduate degrees (J.D. and Ph.D. in the History of American Civilization) from Harvard University. Between 1982 and 1984, he served as a law clerk, first to Judge Harry T. Edwards of the US Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit and then to Justice Thurgood Marshall of the US Supreme Court. Since 1984, he has taught at Harvard Law School, where he is now the Wilmer Hale Professor of Intellectual Property Law. In 2013, he created the [CopyrightX online course](#), which is now offered annually to approximately 1000 students worldwide. In 2021 he and Professor Ruth Okediji created a similar course on [Patent Law and Global Public Health](#), which is now offered semiannually in collaboration with the World Intellectual Property Organization. He is currently the director of [Global Access in Action](#), a non-profit organization, based at Harvard Law School, whose primary mission is improving public health in low and middle-income countries.



September 28th



3:30-5:30 p.m.



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