

# INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND INFORMATION POLICY CLINIC

Faculty	Professor Amanda Levendowski
What do students do	Students represent individuals, non-profit organizations, and other groups engaged with intellectual property and information policy matters from a public interest perspective in counseling matters.
Semester or year-long	One semester, Fall or Spring
Open to	2Ls and 3Ls (at least 30 credits)
Prerequisite(s)	All first-year courses. Pre- or co-requisites in intellectual property (copyright, patent, trademark, trade secret) and/or information policy (cyberlaw, free speech, privacy) will be useful.
Credits	9
Requires Student Bar Certification	Depends on the matter. Please see clinic director for details.
How many students	8 students/semester
Conflicts	Handled on a case-by-case basis. Possible conflicts for students with part-time or full-time jobs.
Average time commitment	32 hours/week
Seminar hours	Tuesday/Thursday 3:30–5:30 PM
Orientation	First day of Clinic
Information session(s)	March 31, 5-6 PM (Zoom)

## Overview

The Intellectual Property and Information Policy (iPIP) Clinic is Georgetown’s newest clinic. The Clinic focuses on counseling work—such as strategic advising, policymaking, and impact advocacy—for individuals, non-profit organizations, and other groups engaged with intellectual property and information policy matters from a public interest perspective. The Clinic does not engage in litigation, but there may be opportunities to work on amicus briefs. Matters vary, but each presents a cutting-edge or novel question while also operating as an effective teaching vehicle. The Clinic emphasizes creative, collaborative thinking and reflective lawyering and seeks to foster a working environment rooted in hard work, trust, humility, respect, and joy. Students do not need any technical background to participate in the Clinic.

Through the companion seminar, students can learn how substantive intellectual property law (copyright, patent, trademark, and trade secret) and information policy (such as the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act, Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act, the Freedom of Information Act, privacy, and right of publicity) interact with social justice movements, both historically and currently.

## **iPIP Casework**

Students in the iPIP Clinic develop their lawyering skills by working directly with clients on intellectual property or information policy matters. (Applicants can learn more about past casework from [the iPIP Clinic website](#).) Students work in teams of two or three students and are responsible for moving their project forward, from setting agendas and arranging meetings to researching legal issues, drafting work products, and presenting to clients. Students can expect to gain experience with client interviewing, fact investigation, legal research, writing, giving and receiving constructive feedback, professional judgment, collaborative thinking, and creative problem solving. Students generally work with a single client throughout the semester.

To support their casework, students work closely with their supervisor or supervisors to coordinate weekly supervisory meetings. These meetings are an opportunity to report on the team's progress, plan the next steps, and reflect on past experience. Students also arrange a weekly meeting with their teammates to check-in with one another.

## **iPIP Seminar**

Students also participate in a twice-weekly seminar composed of discussions, presentations, workshops, and case rounds that complement students' casework. The seminar teaches students how to plan and problem-solve, as well as offers opportunities for students to practice analyzing and developing creative approaches to tackling legal problems. Discussion sessions use case studies to examine how substantive areas of intellectual property (copyright, patent, trademark, trade secret) and information policy (such as the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act, Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act, the Freedom of Information Act, privacy, and right of publicity) intersect with social justice movements, historically and currently. "Deep Dive" sessions are a unique component of the seminar focused on current topics in intellectual property or information policy. Students take the leading role in developing Deep Dive sessions by working in small groups to curate readings, prepare discussion topics, and facilitate seminar discussions.

Workshop and case rounds sessions provide teams with the opportunity to share experiences, seek constructive feedback, offer their own suggestions to colleagues, and reflect on their own practices. These sessions are an important opportunity for teams to share challenges and think collectively about creative solutions, as well as continue the themes and discussions from the seminar. Students should expect extensive feedback on their work and performance from supervisors, teammates, and other Clinic colleagues and are expected to provide the same.

## **Clinic Instructors and Staff**

**Amanda Levendowski** is an Associate Professor of Law and the founding Director of the Intellectual Property and Information Policy Clinic. Her scholarship examines how intellectual property law can be used to creatively address challenging social issues that crosscut privacy and technology, such as combatting nonconsensual pornography, correcting biased artificial intelligence, uncovering secret surveillance technology, and challenging invasive face surveillance. Prior to joining Georgetown, Levendowski co-taught the Technology Law and Policy

Clinic at NYU Law, where she was also a research fellow at the Information Law Institute. She previously practiced with Kirkland & Ellis, and Cooley. She received her JD from NYU Law, where she received the Walter J. Derenberg Prize for copyright law, and her BA from NYU, where she developed a concentration in Publishing, Copyright & Technology.

**Nina Srejovic** is a clinical teaching fellow. Nina recently completed an OnRamp Fellowship at the law firm of Fenwick & West where she focused her practice on intellectual property litigation and patent counseling for clients in the life sciences and technology industries. Nina's experience includes working as an IP litigation associate at McCutchen, Doyle, Brown and Enersen where she represented biotech pioneer Cetus in the trial upholding the validity of Cetus' patents for Kari Mullis' Nobel Prize-winning polymerase chain reaction (PCR) technology. She also served as the coordinator for the District Court for the Northern District of California's Case Management Pilot Program to reduce cost and delay in civil litigation. Nina is a member of the Patent Bar and is licensed to practice in California. She holds a J.D., cum laude, from the University of Michigan Law School and a B.A., with distinction, in economics from Stanford University.

**Taneisha Ballard** is the clinic office manager for iPIP. Prior to working at Georgetown, Taneisha worked with the Department of Justice as a clerk helping a large staff of paralegals with a diverse set of administrative tasks, operations, and procedures. While in school, Taneisha will be pursuing her degree as a double major in Business Administration and Marketing. Taneisha also acts as the office manager of the Criminal Justice Clinic and Georgetown's DC Street Law Program.

### **Application Process**

The iPIP Clinic has slots for up to 8 students for both Fall 2021 and Spring 2022. **In addition to the general clinic application due online, you must email a letter of interest, no more than two pages, that includes a tweet-length reflection on a current intellectual property or information policy issue to Professors Levendowski and Srejovic at [amanda.levendowski@law.georgetown.edu](mailto:amanda.levendowski@law.georgetown.edu) and [nina.srejovic@georgetown.edu](mailto:nina.srejovic@georgetown.edu) on or before the general application deadline.**

### **More Information**

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Professor Levendowski at [amanda.levendowski@law.georgetown.edu](mailto:amanda.levendowski@law.georgetown.edu). She will be happy to discuss the Clinic with you.