

# **Careers Supporting Scientific Innovation**

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## A number of career paths...

- Intellectual Property Law
  - Patent Attorney
  - Solicitor/Lawyer
- Technology Transfer Professional
  - Higher Education
  - Commercial Sector
- Open Innovation/Technology Scout
  - Large companies



## My Background

- BSc in Genetics
- MSc in Oncology



- Worked for:
  - Alexis Biochemicals (now Enzo Life Sciences)
  - GlaxoSmithKline



- Trained with another firm of patent attorneys (7 years)
- Moved in-house to Kraft Foods (5 years)
- Moved back to private practice (2 years)



**Intellectual Property Law** 



Thursday, November 21, 2013, 12:39 pm PT (03:39 pm ET)

## Jury awards Apple \$290 million in patent infringement case with Samsung

Breaking By AppleInsider Staff

A jury of eight granted Apple \$290 million in damages from rival Samsung on Thursday, in exchange for the South Korean electronics maker copying the patented software and hardware designs of the iPhone and iPad.



## Patent Attorney – Background

- Protect innovations by filing patent applications covering inventions
- Enforce patents against infringers
- Invalidate patents
- Get involved with (and advises):
  - Academics
  - CEOs / CSOs of SMEs
  - R&D departments of large companies
  - Venture Capitalists
  - Other patent attorneys from around the world
  - Lawyers and Barristers



#### **Patent Attorney – Required Skills**

- Good scientific degree (2.1 above)
- Preference for MSc or PhD
- Excellent command of the English language (both written and verbal)
- Good eye for detail
- Good analytical skills
- Ability to formulate coherent arguments
- Tenacity to continue to learn and take exams (it takes about 4–7 years and lost of exams to qualify!)



## **Patent Attorney – Training**

'On the job' training

Year 1: 5 foundation UK exams / a 1 year course

Year 2-3: 4 advanced UK exams & 1 pre-European exam

Year 3-4: 4 European exams

Year 4-7: Qualify

PATENT SALARIES BY SENIORITY	
Responsibility level	Average basic salary
Recent graduates	£26-29,000
Technical Assistant (QMW/Foundation level)	£32-38,000
Finals standard	£40-55,000
Newly-qualified Patent Attorney	£60,000+
Post qualification experience (3 years)	£75,000+
Post qualification experience (5 years)	£85,000+
Head of IP Department (industry)	£100-250,000
Partner in private practice	£100-400,000



#### Patent Attorney – Best Part of the Job

- Exposure to:
  - cutting edge science
  - a range of bio technologies
- Varied and stimulating career
- Use your bio degree in a commercial setting
- Travel
- Relatively well paid

www.cipa.org.uk www.insidecareers.co.uk



## Lawyer/Solicitor - Background

- Similar background and requirements as patent attorney
- Advises on:
  - Contracts
  - Licensing
  - Litigation
- Also gets involved with (and advises):
  - Universities
  - CEOs of SMEs
  - Legal departments of large companies
  - Other lawyers from around the world
  - Barristers



## **Lawyer – Training**

- Common Professional Examination or Graduate Diploma in Law (CPE/GDL)
  - If you already have a non-law degree
  - Usually 1 year
- LPC (Legal Practice Course)
  - Usually 9 months
- Training Contract
  - Usually 2 years as trainee solicitor
  - Different 'seats'

www.lawsociety.org.uk



**Technology Transfer Professional** 



## **Technology Transfer Professional – Higher Education**

- Crucial link between universities/institutes and the commercial world
- Helping to find a home for technology
- Negotiating deals
- Helping to spin-out companies
- Running multiple projects at the same time
- Dealing with a range of business advisors (legal, financial, regulatory)
- Reporting internally



## **Technology Transfer Professional – Commercial**

- Generating revenue from unused or under exploited technology, or
- Generating revenue from someone else's technology which you have acquired or licensed
- Licensing and sub-licensing opportunities
- Negotiating deals

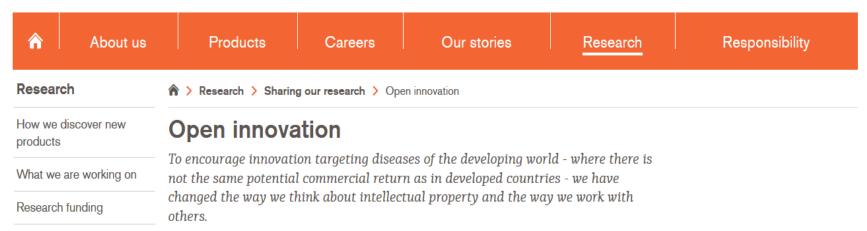


**Open Innovation/Technology Scout** 





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## **Open Innovation**

- "Bringing the outside in"
- Many large companies realise that useful technology exists or can be developed on the outside
- Reduces risk and financial outlay for exploring new areas of research
- Programmes need to be managed by scientists who understand the technology
- Putting in place licensing opportunities
- Negotiating deals
- Help to get better products to the market quicker



## **Technology Scout**

- Investigate companies/technologies which:
  - Fit with the research objectives of the company
  - Address/answer technical problems
  - Could be acquired
- Attend trade conferences
- Engage with higher education establishments
- Help with Open Innovation team
- Travel



**Questions?**