

IUPUI GAC Reviewer Form

Documents Reviewed:

- Copy of IP Project - excel
- Request for IP Law Certificate– Word doc

Summary of Proposal:

1. Are the goals clear and achievable?

Yes.

2. Is the program academically sound?

Yes.

3. Are faculty resources available to offer this certificate without undercutting other key missions of the unit?

Yes.

4. Is there overlap, either real or potential, with any other unit that could harm the program or be exploited to help the program?

No overlap is apparent from the proposal.

5. My recommendation, comments/concerns regarding this proposal.

Detailed review:

This is a very well-written proposal. The McKinney School of Law has had a special emphasis on intellectual property law for many years, strengthened recently by the development of its Center and the hiring of a new Executive Director and several fine new full-time faculty members, investments which are complemented by high-quality practitioners such as Clifford Browning and T.J. Cole. According to its website, McKinney School of Law already offers two graduate certificates in other areas of the law where it has significant expertise.

Intellectual property law is one of the hottest current and future areas for employment, yet this is also a complex area of the law, made even more complicated by new technology. Moreover, there were substantial revisions to patent law in the U.S. under the American Invents Act and I expect the same careful study of and revisions to copyright law in the future.

Thus, a graduate certificate that provides students and returning practitioners with the opportunity for additional specialty coursework reflecting these changes

in the law as well as some of the innovative features of the program described in Part VII is timely and I predict will be very popular.

As the proposal notes, the McKinney School of Law is uniquely positioned to offer this graduate certificate given that Indianapolis is the home of so many for-profit companies (Lilly, CMG) and non-profit organizations that can partner with the law school and that will provide satisfying positions for intellectual property lawyers in the future. Also, as shown from the chart, very few other law schools in the vicinity offer this type of graduate certificate or concentration.