



**WEBINAR PRESENTATION**  
**IPSANZ and Macquarie Law School**  
jointly present  
*AI, Dabus and the Future of IP Law*  
*Thursday, 11 March 2021*

**Date:** Thursday, 11 March 2021

**Time:** 1.00 pm AEDT (ACT, NSW, TAS and VIC)  
12.00 pm Queensland  
3.00 pm New Zealand  
12.30 pm South Australia  
10.00 am Western Australia  
  
2.30 pm Concludes

**Webinar:** Hosted by Zoom™

**Topic:** AI, Dabus and the Future of IP Law

**Brief:** With the increasing adoption of AI technologies, legal practitioners, academics and policy makers in Australia and overseas have been discussing whether AI-generated outputs should be protected by IP laws and, if so, who should own them. The question is now being tested in patent offices around the world and have already reached national courts. The US Patent and Trademark Office, UK IP Office, European Patent Office and, most recently, IP Australia have rejected patent applications where an AI system DABUS was listed as an inventor. The High Court of England and Wales confirmed the decision by UK IP Office but left the door open for patent applications claiming AI-generated inventions. What impact these most recent decisions are likely to have on the development of patent law in Australia and overseas? How it is going to influence other areas of IP law, such as copyright, which faces similar discussions related to AI-generated content?

**Time will be made for Q & A.**

**Panel Speakers:**

**Professor Ryan Abbott, MD, JD, MTOM, PhD**

Ryan is a mediator and arbitrator with JAMS, Professor of Law and Health Sciences at the University of Surrey School of Law, and Adjunct Assistant Professor of Medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. He is the author of "The Reasonable Robot: Artificial Intelligence and the Law" published in 2020 by Cambridge University Press. He has also published widely on issues associated with life sciences and intellectual property in leading legal, medical, and scientific books and journals, and his research has been featured prominently in the media including in the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, and



W  
E  
B  
I  
N  
A  
R

Financial Times. Professor Abbott has worked as an expert for, among others, the United Kingdom Parliament, the European Commission, the World Health Organization, and the World Intellectual Property Organization. He is a licensed physician and patent attorney in the United States, and a solicitor advocate in England and Wales. Managing Intellectual Property magazine named him as one of the fifty most influential people in intellectual property in 2019. [www.ryanabbott.com](http://www.ryanabbott.com).

Ryan will discuss recent developments in the law and policy related to AI-generated inventions, including The Artificial Inventor Project—ongoing legal test cases seeking protection for patentable output generated by an AI (DABUS). Ryan argues that the patent system will function optimally if it applies a principle of AI legal neutrality, by which the law should tend not to discriminate between human and AI behavior.

**Paul Nolan, LL.M. (Syd.)**

Paul has been a practising solicitor and barrister since 1997. He holds undergraduate and post-graduate qualifications in law and prior to commencing in law, he was a practising radiographer and ultrasonographer in several public and private hospitals. He was employed at a mid-tier national law firm from 1997 before commencing at the NSW Bar in 2001. He has appeared in High Court cases (most notably *Fox v Percy* dealing with appellate review) and numerous Court of Appeal cases in NSW and the ACT. Paul is the author of the recent article: 'Artificial Intelligence: Inventorship and Patent Ownership – Are the Planets Lining Up?' published in *IP Forum* Vol.121 in September 2020.



Paul will review four decided DABUS cases (UKIPO, EPO, USPTO, and IP Australia) along with the UK High Court judgment in *Thaler v Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks* and look at where things may progress to in light of those decisions.

**Chairperson:**

**Dr Rita Matulionyte, LL.M.**

Dr Matulionyte is a senior lecturer in law at Macquarie University and an international expert in intellectual property and information technology law. After acquiring her PhD degree from Albert Ludwig University of Freiburg/Max Planck Institute for Intellectual Property and Competition Law (Germany), she researched and lectured in universities in Japan, Germany, Lithuania and Australia. To date, she published 1 monograph and around 40 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters. Rita was invited to present her research in conferences in Europe, Asia, the United States and South America and prepared commissioned reports for the European Commission, the European Patent Office, and governments of South Korea and Lithuania.



Rita will discuss the possible implications of DABUS case outside patent law. Copyright law is another field where arguments developed in DABUS could potentially be applied.

**CPD:** 1 CPD point – Substantive Law

**Cost:** FREE to IPSANZ Members and Macquarie University Law School staff and students  
A\$50 for Australian Non-Members (incl. A\$4.55 GST)  
A\$46.50 for NZ and International Non-Members (Excludes GST)

**RSVP:** Friday, 5 March 2021 (register on-line)  
Cancellations after the RSVP date are non-refundable however are transferable

TAX INVOICE

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Member: Yes / No

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Member: Yes / No

Please send your cheque or money order made payable to IPSANZ: “The Intellectual Property Society of Australia and New Zealand Inc.” OR via online secure gateway payment:

<https://www.ipsanz.com.au/news-events/events-by-location/online-webinar/>

or contact IPSANZ for direct deposit details.