

Patents and Intellectual Property in the Era of Hyperscalers and Large Language Models

Tuesday, October 20, 2026
2:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Olin 125

Reception to follow
3:00 PM – 3:30 PM
Olin 204



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ABSTRACT: This presentation will provide an introduction to intellectual property, with an emphasis upon patents, including discussion regarding various types of intellectual property and patents and the patent system, as exist in the United States and internationally. Also, the presentation will elaborate on the purposes and value of, and risks associated with, intellectual property and especially patents. Additionally, the presentation will delve into some of the changes to the patent system that have been occurring in recent years and the challenges that are being faced, particularly as new technologies involving or employing computer software continue to evolve at a rapid pace.

BIOGRAPHY: John T. Pienkos is a partner at Amundsen Davis and a member of the firm's Intellectual Property Service Group. For more than 25 years, he has advised clients on patent law, intellectual property strategy, and transactions involving the acquisition, licensing, sale, and protection of intellectual property assets. He has prepared and prosecuted hundreds of U.S. and international patent applications in technologies including software, artificial intelligence, machine learning, wireless communications, semiconductors, industrial controls, and FinTech. John also counsels clients on patent portfolio management, patent opinions, post-grant proceedings, trademarks, and intellectual property agreements. He holds engineering degrees from Marquette University and UW-Madison and a J.D. from Harvard Law School.