

AIPPI UNITED KINGDOM

Annual Review - 2018



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Letter from the President

This year, AIPPI Congress returns to London for the first time in over 3 decades. That will be the biggest, but certainly not the only, highlight for 2019. I hope many of you have already renewed your membership for 2019 and, if not, you are about to do so!

It has been another extraordinary year for AIPPI UK. We have held a series of engaging and informative events, had a major part to play in developing IP law and policy, and encouraged younger members to get more involved in the IP world. We have just passed 500 members for the first time, vividly demonstrating that the UK intellectual property profession is truly engaging, welcoming, and outward-looking on national and international levels. I hope you enjoy these highlights of the past and coming year.



2018 EVENTS DIARY

Winter: We kicked off the annual study questions with studies in **January** on conflicting patent applications, protection of 3D trademarks, partial designs and joint liability for IP infringement: Around 60 members were involved, with 38 contributing to the final reports. Many thanks to Bird & Bird for hosting the event. The UK reports formed part of comparative law study in over 40 countries and fed into [AIPPI's resolutions](#) at the Cancun Congress, and we have since presented them to the UK IPO. In **February**, Professor Lionel Bently spoke at an event kindly hosted by Bristows on Registration, Notice and Property Definition in IP Law. As always, Lionel's talk was inspirational, creative and exceptionally insightful.

Spring: In **March**, Roger Wyand QC was again the speaker at our annual review of soft IP developments in an engaging presentation kindly hosted by Hogan Lovells. AIPPI UK made submissions in the Spring to the UK Government on the impact of Brexit on IP, on the Trade Secrets Directive Regulations, and on proposals for the Hague Choice of Court Convention (HCCH), met with IPO in preparation for the London Congress in 2019, input to further proposed AIPPI resolutions on inventor remuneration and on the HCCH project, and started participation in the Department of International Trade's IP interest group.

Summer: Our summer season was very busy, with **three events in June**. Anthony Tridico's talk on the Hatch-Waxman legislation in the US, kindly hosted by Kilburn & Strobe, was a great hit. Talks from in-house counsel always provide valuable insight and that was certainly true of the presentation by former General Counsel of ARM Phil David who spoke to us at Bird & Bird's lovely offices, chaired by retired Patent Office guru Sean Dennehey CBE. We made a substantial submission to the Government consultation on the implementation of the Trade Mark Directive, and finished June with our ever-popular summer party hosted at Norton Rose Fulbright's spectacular roof garden. In **July** we were honoured to hold an event at the world-leading Francis Crick Institute, where Professor Adrian Hayday spoke to a packed and enthralled audience on immunosurveillance in cancer treatment.

Autumn: Our Autumn season started with two rapid responses, in rapid succession. In **November**, Richard Vary and Professor Sir Robin Jacob looked in detail at the Court of Appeal judgment in *Unwired Planet*. We have had a talk from the same multi-disciplinary panel—patent attorney, solicitor and barrister—on each instance of *Lyrica* and in **December** we heard from Claire Baldock, Brian Cordery, and Stuart Baran on the Supreme Court decision. Christmas was not far away when we reach the now-traditional review of the patents year, and we were delighted to welcome back Andrew Lykiardopoulos QC for a veritable feast of intellectual goodies, accompanied by Hogan Lovell's splendid mince pies and mulled wine.

London 2019 AIPPI UK, and its Congress Coordinating Committee, chaired by Calum Smyth of Barclays, have been working hard towards making this the best Congress ever. This will be a major event in the international IP calendar and should be an important opportunity to showcase the UK as a world centre for IP.



POLICY DEVELOPMENT

AIPPI UK has been actively involved in policy development over the past year including making major submissions to the UK government / IPO on Brexit and IP, the revision of the Hague Convention on Recognition of Judgments, the UK Trade Secrets Regulations, and UK implementation of the EU Trade Mark Directive. We participated in the Department of International Trade's ongoing engagement with IP interests, and input informally into many other studies and consultations.



CANCUN CONGRESS 2018

The UK Group's 2018 events calendar alone made for a very active year, but that's not the full picture. Many UK members also attended the annual AIPPI Congress in Cancun, which proved a great opportunity to network and learn. The UK group is among the most active at Congress. This year, there were 11 UK speakers including on the particularly popular artificial intelligence, Brexit and equivalence panels and throughout the pharma day. And as usual, the resolutions passed at Congress were greatly shaped by the UK group, before and at Congress.

CALENDAR FOR 2019

AIPPI UK will be running a full calendar of events for 2019 before and after the London Congress. [Registration is already open](#) for this year's kick-off meeting for the study questions—and as there will be up to three prizes this year for the best contribution from a younger member, we particularly encourage younger members to participate. We have a book of ideas for further events including some advance planning on “rapid reactions”. It promises to be another packed and interesting year!

500 members and growing. AIPPI UK is a vibrant and growing organisation, but we are not complacent about our position. None of our activities would be possible without the substantial amount of time and interest that members put into them. Our membership reflects the full range of IP interests and that is reflected in our reputation for generating authoritative, cross-profession, and impartial views.

We are always looking for people to be more involved in AIPPI UK. Please do come to our events next year. Please do consider taking part in the study questions, or encouraging others to do so. We also look for people to help organize events, through the events committee chaired by **Dom Adair** (Bristows). We always need ideas for events and if you have any of those please let him know.

We rely on volunteers to run the website and to help with webcasting events. Anyone who'd be willing to do more on that, please say so.

We are always looking for venues and we rely heavily on the generosity of our host firms to make our events possible. Please do tell me or Dom Adair if your firm can host events.

AIPPI STANDING COMMITTEES

AIPPI UK was also active in the committee work of AIPPI. We are entitled to put forward 2 members to all AIPPI committees (3, if one of them is in-house). Members can also become observers on any committee. We are well represented on most committees ([list here](#)). Committee members find the work informative, rewarding and valuable – quite aside from the contribution to the profession, it can generate useful intelligence, raises profile, and helps develop personal and organizational international networks. This committee work included work on three further areas of comparative study, on the use of post-filing data in support of inventive step/non-obviousness, the HCCH project, and inventor remuneration (the first two of which led to AIPPI resolutions in Cancun). We are always looking for new members interested in joining committees. If you would like to be more involved, please let me know.

