

*CURRICULUM VITAE*

## **A. CRISTAL SHEPPARD, PH.D., J.D.**

**Executive Leader, Professor and Distinguished Expert in Intellectual Property Law and Policy; Expertise in Patent Litigation and Prosecution; Extensive Experience with Legislative, Administration, and Congressional Relations**

### **Education:**

- **Cornell Law School** *J.D., May 2001*  
Ithaca, NY 14853  
President Cornell University Science and Law Student Association  
Editor Legal Information Institute (LII) Journal  
Visitor's status at **Georgetown University Law Center**, Spring 2001
- **University of Michigan** *M.S., Ph.D., August 1998*  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109  
Cellular and Molecular Biology
- **Federal Executive Institute: Leadership for a Democratic Society** *April-May 2017*  
Charlottesville, VA 22903  
Certificate of Completion
- **George Mason University** *July 2014*  
Law & Economics Center  
Henry G. Manne Program in Law and Economic Studies  
Economic Institute for Law Professors
- **Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government** *August 2005*  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
Executive Education - Senior Managers in Government Program  
Certificate of Completion
- **University of Delaware** *B.A. Biological Sciences, December 1990*  
Newark, DE 19716  
1990 Semester of study in Spain

### **Professional Activities: Policy, Legal, Management and Academia**

- **Nebraska Governance and Technology Center, Lincoln NE** Jan. 2020 to date  
*Distinguished Fellow*  
NGTC is an interdisciplinary center focusing on the ever changing, and always challenging, relationship between law and advances in science and technology.
- **University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska** Feb. 2015 to date  
*Adjunct Faculty*  
Cofounded program of Concentrated Study in Intellectual Property Law  
Teaches Courses in Patent Law and International Intellectual Property Law

# A. Christal Sheppard, Ph.D., J.D.

## **Professional Activities: Policy, Legal, Management and Academia (cont.)**

- **IPwe** HQ in Paris, France; local Office in Detroit Michigan July 2018 – September 2019  
**Executive Vice President for Strategy and Business Development, Consultant, Board Member**  
IPwe is a 2017 startup company applying blockchain technology and artificial intelligence analysis to patents globally creating a marketplace for patent assessment, due diligence, licensing, sale and portfolio management.
- **United States Patent and Trademark Office**, Detroit, Michigan Feb. 2015 – Nov. 2017  
**Director** of the United States Patent and Trademark Office Midwest Regional Office.  
Office houses over 100 patent examiners, 20 Administrative Patent Judges, patent search terminals, outreach, interview and hoteling space. Dr. Sheppard was the first Director of the first USPTO office located outside of the nation’s capital in its 227 years history.
- **United States Patent and Trademark Office**, Washington, D.C. Nov. 2012 – Nov. 2015  
**Patent Public Advisory Committee Member**  
One of nine citizens chosen for a three year term by the Secretary of Commerce to review the policies, goals, performance, budget, and user fees of the patent office and advise the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the USPTO on these matters.
- **United States House of Representatives, Committee on the Judiciary** Wash., DC March 2013  
Congressionally Invited Witness to Submit Testimony for the Record at the Hearing: “Abusive Patent Litigation: The Impact on American Innovation & Jobs, and Potential Solutions.”
- **University of Nebraska, College of Law** Lincoln, Nebraska May 2011 – Feb. 2015  
**Assistant Professor**. Tenure Track Faculty.  
Cofounded program of Concentrated Study in Intellectual Property Law  
Taught courses in Patent Law, International Intellectual Property Law, Legislation and the Political Process, and Science and the Law.
- **United States House of Representatives, Committee on the Judiciary** Wash., DC May 2012  
Congressionally Invited Witness to Discuss International Intellectual Property Issues at the Hearing: “International Patent Issues: Promoting a Level Playing Field for American Industry Abroad.”
- **Loyola Law School Summer International IP Institute**, London, UK May 2010- June 2010  
**Faculty**. Taught Course in International Patent Law
- **U.S. House of Representatives Judiciary Committee**, Wash., D.C. Sept. 2007- May 2011  
**Chief Counsel** for Patent and Trademarks during generation of the America Invents Act  
**Chief Counsel** for the Subcommittee on Courts and Competition Policy  
Recognized Expert in Intellectual Property Policy particularly Patent Policy
- **U.S. International Trade Commission**, Washington, D.C. Aug. 2006 – Sept. 2007  
**Intellectual Property Attorney/Advisor. General Counsel’s Office**  
Prepared Briefs and Argued before the *U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit* Reviewed Briefs of the Parties and Decisions of the Administrative Law Judges
- **U.S. House of Representatives Science Committee**, Wash., D.C. Aug. 2003 – Aug. 2003  
**Professional Democratic Staff**. Science Policy Analyst.
- **Congressman Melvin L. Watt, (D-NC 12)**, Washington, D.C. March 2003 – Aug. 2003  
Financial Services **Legislative Assistant**
- **LawCorp**, Washington, D.C. Nov. 2002 - March 2003  
**Intellectual Property Attorney**  
Document Review for Intellectual Property Litigation

# A. Christal Sheppard, Ph.D., J.D.

## Professional Activities: Policy, Legal, Management and Academia (cont.)

- **Foley & Lardner**, Washington, D.C. Sept. 2001 - Nov. 2002  
*Intellectual Property Attorney*  
Patent Prosecution, Patent Landscape Analysis, Litigation Research and Client IP Counseling
- **Naval Medical Research Institute**, Bethesda, Maryland 1991 - 1992  
*Research Assistant*
- **University of Delaware**, Newark, Delaware 1989 - 1990  
*Lab Technician*
- **Medical Center of Delaware**, Christiana, Delaware 1988 - 1989  
*Cytogenetic Lab Technician*
- **Bar Memberships:**  
*California Bar*. Member number: 219,205  
*Patent Bar*. Registration number: 52,219

## Additional Activities

- **American Intellectual Property Law Association**, Washington, DC 2020 to date  
*Legislative Committee Member (Invitation only membership)*
- **Public Citizen Advisory Committee Member LNK airport**, Lincoln Nebraska 2018 to date
- **NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) Research Review Board Member**  
*Institutional Review Board (IRB) review of research involving student athletes,*  
Indianapolis, Indiana 2017 to date
- **Naples Roundtable, Exploring ways to strengthen and improve the patent system**  
*Amicus Committee Member (Invitation only membership)* Naples, Florida 2020 to date
- **Invited Testimonies before the United States Congress**
- **Quoted by the Wall Street Journal, Dow Jones News Wire, Fox Business News, the Chicago Sun Times, Politico, Bloomberg Law and many others on a variety of intellectual property and business interests.**
- **Regularly presents on intellectual property and policy matters, from basic to advanced, to audiences including solo inventors, incubators, small and large companies, students, professors, attorneys, regulators, judges, administrators, regulators and others throughout the innovation ecosystem.**

# **A. Christal Sheppard, Ph.D., J.D.**

## ***Biography***

---

Dr. Christal Sheppard was the first Director of the first United States Patent and Trademark Office located outside of the nation's capital in 227 years. Prior to joining the Agency, she was assistant professor of law at the University of Nebraska where she co-founded a program of Concentrated Study in Intellectual Property law. In 2018, she joined IPwe, a patent based, startup company headquartered in Paris, France, as Executive Vice President for Strategy and Business Development. IPwe applies blockchain and artificial intelligence to the patent ecosystem to create a global marketplace for patent assessment, due diligence, licensing, sale and portfolio management.

Dr. Sheppard educational background includes an M.S. and Ph.D. in Cellular and Molecular Biology from the University of Michigan, a J.D. from Cornell University Law School, completion of Harvard's Executive Education – Senior Managers in Government, the Federal Executive Institute's - Leadership for a Democratic Society and George Mason University Law and Economic Center's Economic Institute for Law Professors programs. She is currently enrolled in the University of Michigan Ross School of Business Executive Master of Business Administration (MBA) Program.

She has over two decades of Science and Intellectual Property Law and Policy work experience including as practicing attorney at Foley & Lardner, the United States International Trade Commission, the United States Patent and Trademark Office and internships with Judge Rader at the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit and the Executive Office of the President's Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Her successful career in intellectual property law and policy also includes her tenure as Chief Counsel on Patents and Trademarks for the United States House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary where she was integral in many endeavors including the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act, the most comprehensive change to this nation's intellectual property laws in over 60 years.

Dr. Sheppard's commitment to education is so strong that she continues to teach two courses a year, Patent Law and International Intellectual Property, at the University of Nebraska law college, in her free time.

Dr. Sheppard has testified before the United States Congress and been quoted by the Wall Street Journal, Dow Jones News Wire, Fox Business News, the Chicago Sun Times, Politico and others on a variety of intellectual property and business issues. She regularly presents on intellectual property matters, from basics to advanced, to solo inventors, incubators, small and large companies, students, professors, attorneys, regulators, judges, administrators, regulators and others throughout the innovation ecosystem.