Trevor currently co-manages the global WarnerMedia Content Protection & Analytics group with specific responsibility for the EMEA region. This role encompasses setting content protection policies across the company, enforcement activities at both the company and industry level and data analytics.

He is also responsible for IP Policy in EMEA, ensuring that IP frameworks are in place to allow WarnerMedia to bring its much loved movies, TV series and video games to consumers around the world.

Trevor attained a law degree from the University of Bristol and holds a Post Graduate Diploma in UK, European and US Law of Copyright and Related Rights from King’s College, London.
In conversation with...

Anne Marie Verschuur

Anne Marie Verschuur is the Reporter General of AIPPI. She is an IP litigator from the Netherlands.

How have this year’s Congress preparations been?

They have been smooth, we certainly learned from last year’s experience. That went well too but was very time intensive because it was new. I have been impressed by the quick adaptation by the AIPPI General Secretariat to holding virtual Congresses. It is like they have been doing it for years already. And the same is true for our members; the enthusiasm we are seeing is great! That said, I hope that we can get back to in-person events in the near future.

What are you most looking forward to at the Congress?

The whole AIPPI Resolution process is always a highlight for me, but then again, I am part of the Reporter General Team! I am really looking forward to hearing the discussions at the plenary sessions. And also, I can’t wait to attend the panel sessions and AIPPI Cafés.

On that, there are 36 AIPPI Cafés, each with a different area for participants to discuss. How did you go about choosing so many topics?

We asked our Standing Committees for input and they came back with a lot of ideas, so credit to them for that. We then further worked on the ideas, also adding a few, so you can really say it is a co-effort.

Are any one of this year’s Study Questions particularly relevant do you think?

While Artificial Intelligence is a hot topic in the media, all of the Study Questions are relevant. They have been suggested by our members, and then selected, for a reason. Thus, each one is relevant, I do not think they can or should be ranked.

Being the AIPPI Reporter General in a pandemic is not quite how you envisaged the role, right?

True, it’s not exactly how I imagined it would be, but a large part of our work has always been done remotely. The RGT is a close-knit team which shares the workload, it hasn’t all fallen on me to do everything.

Actually, it has been an interesting time to be the Reporter General as we have faced new situations and adapted some of our work processes. We have also found new opportunities, e.g. staying connected online with our members throughout the year (for example, through webinars), including with those members who may not always have the possibility to attend an in-person event such as young members.

Furthermore, in-person meetings are slowly starting up again as the pandemic measures are relaxed. I am hopeful for a further improvement in the health situation.

What will you do after the Congress? Take a break?

I wish! I will be busy with my regular job – and already starting preparations for next year’s Congress.

It’s like painting the Golden Gate Bridge! How do you keep up your enthusiasm?

I love what I do. I am really interested in IP and the collaborative spirit within the Bureau, our committees and AIPPI in general is inspiring. Enthusiasm is needed in our profession and of course in my AIPPI role too. Luckily, I have a genuine interest in the work we do!

Thank you, Anne Marie, for taking the time for this interview so close to the start of the Congress.

Interview conducted by Diarmuid De Faoite, AIPPI Communications Manager.

The 2021 AIPPI Study Questions

• Registrability of trade marks against public order or morality
• Reasonable awareness in compensation for infringement of IP rights
• Industrial Designs and the Role of Prior Art
• Inventiveness and sufficiency of disclosure in AI inventions

Official Congress Hashtag: #AIPPIWC21
The 5th Young AIPPI Forum (YAF) was held on October 12, with the theme of “The Resilient Professional”. Held prior to the start of the official Congress program, the event welcomed over 60 young practitioners from across the world – a special feature for this year was that each registered delegate was able to invite a young colleague to attend the YAF, and we were pleased to welcome new and returning faces to the YAF! We were also delighted to welcome back the energetic Strevas team (Doron Davidson-Vidavski, Nikki Squire and Stephen Mitchell) to conduct the YAF, with the members of the Young AIPPI Committee as co-facilitators.

The 2-hour session took participants on a journey of questions, lessons, and thoughts on how we look at ourselves, and to better equip ourselves to be a resilient professional. Multiple breakout rooms allowed the opportunity for participants to connect with each other and to share their experiences and opinions. It was wonderful to also have members of the AIPPI Bureau join and share their valuable thoughts and insight stemming from their experience.

Close your eyes, take a deep breath, tell yourself everything will be fine. Start with positivity, and step back and get some perspective. Remember that you are never alone – you have the support of your colleagues and team.

This led to a further discussion on loving your job – it became clear that our young members are loving their life in IP! The resounding themes included “IP never being boring, the joy of working with teams and connecting with people, and helping people achieve their dreams, which in turns helps you grow as a person and drives that ambition to be better!”.

We learnt lessons across a variety of personal and professional growth areas. The Strevas team provided great tools and lessons to develop these areas plus some homework for to work on after the event.

In the professional growth area, we learnt about reframing stress - viewing and acknowledging it as a positive response from the body (rather than a fear), and harnessing and projecting its energy towards a successful outcome. We learnt about setting goals in an achievable manner, and articulating our success in stories that can be used for sharing with others, or for self-motivation.

Across the personal growth area, perhaps the biggest take-home lessons and reminders are that WE ARE ALL WORKS IN PROGRESS, and to BE AS KIND TO YOURSELF AS YOU ARE TO SOMEONE YOU CARE ABOUT. This cannot be more true especially in a time where we are navigating constant change, so it is an apt reminder of the need to pull up the handbrake and look after ourselves. And to not let that internal monologue inside your head tell you that you do not deserve it and are not good enough.

We hope that the YAF participants came away armed with the lessons and tools to enable them to be more resilient and to thrive, becoming a pillar of strength and support for those around them!

Interested to connect with the Young AIPPI Committee?
Email us at vac@aippi.org.
The AIPPI Newsletter is sent to AIPPI members approximately every two months. A public edition is also available on the AIPPI website. The content comes from AIPPI members and a global network of AIPPI National Group Reporters.

We are pleased to republish this article from the October 2021 AIPPI Newsletter for your pleasure.

**Abolishment of Signature & Seal – Affected by COVID-19**

*By KATO Chiaki of Kubota, Tokyo, Japan*

With the aim of preventing the spread of COVID-19, and further improving the convenience of administrative procedures, the JPO has decided to partially abolish signature and seal on a wide variety of deeds and documents.

**Background**

Japan is the only country in the world that uses a seal registration system. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we found that this traditional seal system hampers teleworking in ordinary society. The ironical thing was that workers had to head to the office to press seals! Much the same is true of the IP field. It was mandatory to submit originals of Power of Attorneys, deeds, and other written documents with signature (for foreign nationals) or seal (for Japanese.) Surprisingly, the number of the kinds of procedures before the JPO that required such signatures and seals was 800!

**Exception**

Under the circumstances, the JPO abolished signature and seal for 764 procedures. In order to prevent counterfeiting, however, the following procedures remain subject to the requirement of original documents with a handwritten signature and registered seal. Electronic signatures and/or seals are still not accepted.

1. **Pending Application**
   a) Transfer of Pending Application
   b) Change of Applicant’s Name or Address

2. **Registered Rights**
   a) Transfer of Registration (due to Assignment, Merger, Succession, etc.)
   b) Change of Owner’s Name or Address
   c) Recordal of Pledge, Use Right, Division of Right, etc.

**Future**

We believe this is good news especially for Madrid users, make no mistake. The JPO has indicated their intention to continue discussions on this matter.

If you are an AIPPI member who is interested in contributing to the AIPPI Newsletter, please read the AIPPI Editorial Policy and Guidelines page first. You can find an up-to-date list of AIPPI National Group Reporters by clicking here.

**AIPPI Strategy**

Attendees to the Executive Committee I session today can expect to hear about the recently released strategic goals for 2021 – 2023. There are seven pillars in total, each representing a specific strategy item.

- Extending reach of AIPPI during and after the pandemic
- Broadening the range of discussion
- Harmonisation and improvement of substantive IP laws
- Additional opportunities for a stronger voice
- More engagement with the IP community
- A refresh of AIPPI’s presentation
- New format events

Click on any of the goals for more information, or watch the video made specifically to introduce the strategic plan.

If you would like to comment on any of the goals, please send an email to publications@aippi.org.
Extension of timelines due to Covid-19: Taking cognizance of disruptions caused by the global public health crisis due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Supreme Court of India had previously allowed an indefinite extension of the limitation period and timelines prescribed under all general and special laws in India with effect from March 15, 2020, until further orders so that actions due under those laws could be taken once the pandemic subsides. Now considering the largely improved health situation accord the country, the Supreme Court has decided to withdraw the Suo Motu extension of limitation granted on account of Covid-19 pandemic October 2, 2021, onwards. A buffer period of 90 days is being provided to comply with the timelines.

Discounted Office fee for education institutions: In September 2021, the government has announced an 80 percent reduction in the official fee for patents to all educational institutions. Reduced official fee will apply to all recognized educational institutions whether it is a government (owned), government-aided, or private institution, irrespective of whether these institutions are situated in India or anywhere across the globe.

Abolishment of IPAB and Establishment of IP division in High Court: Earlier this year, the Government of India has abolished the Intellectual Property Appellate Board (IPAB), i.e., the erstwhile appellate authority for appeals related to IPR matters. Therefore, the IPAB has now become non-functional, and the new appeals related to Patents Act, Trademarks Act, Geographical Indications Act are now to be filed before the concerned High Court having the jurisdiction. The Delhi High Court has on July 7, 2021, announced the creation of an IP Division within Delhi High Court for handling all IPR matters including those which are to be transferred from IPAB. Other high courts may also follow the initiative of the Delhi high court and may start IP divisions soon.

Progressive Review of IPR regime: Recently, a Parliamentary Standing Committee has presented a report on the review of the IPR regime in the country before the upper house of Parliament. The committee has recommended that the national IPR policy needs to be reviewed. There is a need to take initiative for the encouragement of IP financing. State governments should be involved to frame strong IP policies for the respective states. Every Ministry and Department shall allocate specific funds for R&D activities to help increase the number of IP filings in India. An exclusive apex level institution shall be established in India for IPR Development to promote social and economic growth.

The committee recommended exploring avenues in incorporating the practice of marking products with ‘patent pending’ in India to provide maximum benefits to inventors or patent applicants. IP awareness programs or other initiatives should be increased to promote IPR filings. IPR Facilitation Centres shall be established in remote regions, Tier-I and Tier-II areas of the country. More IP funds should be created to foster IP Culture in India. Traditional Knowledge digital library (TKDL) should be further reinforced. A distinct category of Inventions could be generated at the level of colleges or schools. A separate framework for the protection of Trade secrets can be created. The renewal time for Copyright Societies shall be raised from five to ten years. A centralized agency for Geographical Indications (GIs) can be established to have a strict enforcement mechanism for monitoring the infringements of GIs.

Are you on LinkedIn?

Why not download the "I am attending" banner and add it to your profile!

Get it here
What’s on Today & Wonder info

Friday, October 15, 2021

1:30 PM - 2:00 PM  Opening Ceremony  
Speaker: Trevor Albery

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM  Executive Committee Meeting I (Admin)

Getting used to the AIPPI World Congress platform:

Part 1  This year’s virtual Congress is hosted on a new platform. Because new applications may be difficult for some people to navigate at first, we have prepared two videos to demonstrate to you how to get around and find everything you need. A couple of minutes invested here should lead to a richer Congress experience!

Part 2

Networking at the 2021 AIPPI World Congress Online  
Join us in WONDER!

Wonder is a virtual space where people can meet and talk. You will have to move around to meet people, you can move your avatar around with your mouse. You can see who is speaking to whom. To join a conversation, you have to move closer to a group or other people. To leave a group, you simply move away.

This short video shows you how you can use Wonder - the new online networking tool for AIPPI World Congress delegates:

The Networking Lounge for the 2021 AIPPI World Congress Online opens on Friday, October 15.

There are different meeting points within the platform, so you can suggest to others to meet you at a specific meeting point.

Note:

Wonder does NOT work on mobile devices. You will need to access the Networking Lounge from your computer.

When you are done, make sure that you leave the room and close the browser completely, otherwise, you will stay connected.

Wonder will not work if you have another video conferencing tool open, therefore please ensure you exit any other session prior to joining the Networking Lounge.
We are very appreciative to all of our sponsors and media partners who are listed below. Their support of this event allows us to offer attendees an expanded programme. AIPPI encourages all attendees to visit the sponsorship section on the online platform during the Congress.

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**Law of Raw Data**
*Edited by Christian Czychowski & Jan Bernd Nordemann*

*Law of Raw Data* gives an overview of the legal situation across major countries and how such data is contractually handled in practice in the respective countries. In recent years, digital technologies have transformed business and society, impacting all sectors of the economy and a wide variety of areas of life. Digitization is leading to rapidly growing volumes of data with great economic potential. Data, in its raw or unstructured form, has become an important and valuable economic asset, and protection of raw data has become a crucial subject for the intellectual property community. As legislators struggle to develop a settled legal regime in this complex area, this invaluable handbook will offer a careful and dedicated analysis of the legal instruments and remedies, both existing and potential, that provide such protection across a wide variety of national legal systems.

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**Special Wolters Kluwer offer for delegates of the 2021 AIPPI World Congress Online**

All Kluwer Law International titles, now 30% off using discount code 30AIPPIWCO2021* when ordering on kluwerlaw.com/store

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