



SEAN MICHAEL FLYNN

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CENTRE ON KNOWLEDGE GOVERNANCE, GENEVA GRADUATE INSTITUTE, *Director*
 AMERICAN UNIVERSITY WASHINGTON COLLEGE OF LAW, *Professorial Lecturer*
 UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM, INSTITUTE FOR INFORMATION LAW, *Visiting Scholar*
 UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN, IP UNIT, *Senior Research Associate*

Sponsored Research

- Geneva Center for Knowledge Governance, 2004-2009 (\$6.5m, Arcadia Foundation).
- Program on Information Justice and Intellectual Property, 2008-2024, cumulative (\$3.8m, Arcadia Foundation, \$1.4m Open Society Foundations, \$1.75m International Development Research Centre, \$1m PIJIP Impact Gift Fund, \$750k Ford Foundation, \$500k Forum on Democracy and Trade)

Prior Teaching (American University)

- International Intellectual Property Law
- Intellectual Property and Trade
- Advanced Legal Writing Seminar: Intellectual Property & Technology
- Copyright and the Right to Research (global online seminar)
- Intellectual Property and Access to Medicines Practicum
- Intellectual Property, Human Rights & Development

Prior Degree and Certificate Administration (American University)

- Director, LLM in Intellectual Property and Technology (2015-2025)
- Founder and Director, Intellectual Property Summer Sessions (2008-2025)
- Director, Academy of Exchange and Judicial Studies, Judicial Training on Neuroscience, Biotechnology and the Law (2012-2025)
- Member, JD Admissions Committee (2021)
- Director, Program on International Organizations Law and Diplomacy, Geneva, Switzerland (2018-19)
- Director, IP in the Multilateral System Summer Course, Geneva, Switzerland (2017-19)

Leadership

- Founder, Global Expert Network on Copyright User Rights (Annual symposium, 2011)
- Founder, Global Congress on Intellectual Property and the Public Interest (2010)
- Co-Chair, American Branch of the International Law Association, International Intellectual Property Subcommittee (2018-current)
- Editor-in-Chief www.infojustice.org
- Editor-in-Chief, PIJIP Research Paper Series, <https://digitalcommons.wcl.american.edu/research/>
- Board of Faculty Advisors, AM UNIV INT'L L REV (2009-2025)
- Board of Directors, Frameworks Institute (2009-2014)

EDUCATION

HARVARD LAW SCHOOL, J.D., *magna cum laude*, 1999

Honors: Hankin Fund General University Scholar; Frederick Sheldon Fellowship; Irving Kaufman Fellowship

Leadership: Board of Student Advisors; Founder, Project on Law and Organizing
 PITZER COLLEGE, B.A., honors, Political Studies, 1992

JUDICIAL CLERKSHIPS

HON. CHIEF JUSTICE ARTHUR CHASKALSON, PRESIDENT AND CHIEF JUSTICE,
 CONSTITUTIONAL COURT OF SOUTH AFRICA, 2000-01

HON. RAYMOND C. FISHER, U.S. COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT, 2001-02

POST-GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP PRIOR EMPLOYMENT	J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship, South Africa (1999-2002) AMERICAN UNIVERSITY WASHINGTON COLLEGE OF LAW, Washington D.C. <i>Professorial Lecturer, Director, Program on Info. Justice & Intell. Property</i> (2006-2025) SPIEGEL & MCDIARMID, Washington, D.C. <i>Associate, Municipal Telecom Group</i>, 2004-2006 CONSUMER PROJECT ON TECHNOLOGY, Washington, D.C. <i>Senior Attorney</i>, 2002-04 OFFICE OF THE ASS'T ATT'Y GEN FOR CIVIL RIGHTS, U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE <i>Congressional Liaison</i>, 1994-96 DISABILITY RIGHTS SECTION, CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION, U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE <i>Paralegal Specialist</i>, 1992-94
BAR MEMBERSHIPS	U.S. Supreme Court; U.S. Court of Appeals, First Circuit; U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit; U.S. Court of Appeals, Federal Circuit; Court of Appeals of Maryland; District of Columbia Court of Appeals
SELECTED PUBLICATIONS (SSRN)	<i>Flexibility Through Openness in Copyright Exceptions for Research</i>, in FLEXIBILITIES IN COPYRIGHT LAW (Sganga and Synodinou eds., 2025) <i>Documentary History of the Broadcast Treaty in the SCCR</i>, 145 Joint PIJIP/TLS Research Paper Series (2025) <i>Copyright and COVID</i>, in Intellectual Property Rights in Times of Crisis (Jens Schov ed. 2024) <i>Limitations and Exceptions in the WIPO Instrument on Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge</i>. Joint PIJIP/TLS Research Paper Series. 129. (2024) <i>Copyright and Generative AI: Insights from the Project on the Right to Research</i>, Joint PIJIP/TLS Research Paper Series. 112. (2023). <i>Research Exceptions in Comparative Copyright</i> , PIJIP/TLS Res. Paper Series no. 75 (2022). <i>Enabling Text and Data Mining Research Through Legal Reform</i>, SCIENCE MAGAZINE (2022). <i>Non-Patent Intellectual Property Barriers to COVID-19 Vaccines, Treatment and Containment</i>. 29 African Journal of Information and Communication 1 (2022). <i>Implementing User Rights for Research in the Field of Artificial Intelligence: A Call for International Action</i>, 42 EUROPEAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY REVIEW 393 (2020). & Michael Palmedo, <i>The User Rights Database: Measuring the Impact of Opening Copyright Exceptions</i>, PIJIP/TLS Research Paper Series no. 2018-01/ <i>ACTA's Constitutional Problem</i>, in ACTA AND THE PLURILATERAL ENFORCEMENT AGENDA: GENESIS AND AFTERMATH 157 (Pedro Roffe & Xavier Seuba eds., Cambridge U. Press, 2014)

Special 301 and Global Administrative Law, in *BALANCING WEALTH AND HEALTH* 225 (Rochelle C. Dreyfuss & César Rodríguez-Garavito eds., Oxford U. Press, 2014)

Brief Amici Curiae of Law Professors and Scholars in Support of Respondents, *Am. Broad. Cos. v. Aereo, Inc.*, 134 S. Ct. 2498 (2014) (No. 13-461), 2014 WL 1348472 (Counsel of Record)

The U.S. Proposal for an Intellectual Property Chapter in the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement, 28 AM. U. INT'L L. REV. 105 (2013)

The Washington Declaration on Intellectual Property and the Public Interest, 28 AM. U. INT'L L. REV. 1 (2013)

Networked Governance and the USTR, in *MEDIA PIRACY IN EMERGING ECONOMIES* 75 (Joe Karaganis ed., Social Science Research Council, 2011)

Brief of AARP & Nat'l Legislative Assoc. on Prescription Drug Prices as Amici Curiae in Support of Petitioners, *Sorrell v. IMS Health, Inc.*, 131 S. Ct. 2653 (2011) (No. 10-779), 2011 WL 771333

Using Competition Law to Promote Access to Knowledge, in *ACCESS TO KNOWLEDGE IN THE AGE OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY* 451 (Gaëlle Krikorian & Amy Kapczynski eds., Zone Books, 2010)

An Economic Justification for Open Access to Essential Medicine Patents in Developing Countries, 37 J. L. MED. & ETHICS 184 (2009)

**RECENT
CONFERENCES
ORGANIZED**

Planning Retreat for African Group Delegates to the World Intellectual Property Organization, January 20-21, 2026

Planning Retreat for the Like Minded Countries of the Global South Delegates to World Intellectual Property Organization (2025, 2026)

Just AI in Africa, Johannesburg, South Africa, February 25-27, 2026)

User Rights Symposium, Annual 2011-2025

American Branch of the International Law Association Annual Meeting, Fordham University (2018-2025)

Global Congress on Intellectual Property and the Public Interest (2010, Washington, DC; 2013 Rio De Janeiro, Brazil; 2016, Delhi, India; 2020, Washington, DC; 2023, Bogota, Colombia)

International Conference on Copyright and the Public Interest: Africa and the Global South, University of Witwatersrand and University of Cape Town (February 3-6, 2025)

Workshop for the Access to Knowledge Coalition, South Centre, Geneva Switzerland (January 27-28, 2025)

What's at Stake in the WIPO Design Law Treaty, WIPO Diplomatic Conference on the Design Law Treaty, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia (November 15, 2024)

The End Game for the WIPO Broadcast Treaty, American University Washington College of Law (November 4, 2024)

References

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