The IP Hall of Fame

The IP Hall of Fame is designed to honour those who have made an outstanding contribution to the development of today's IP system. The first inductees were announced in February 2006

By **Joff Wild**, **Liz Rutherford-Johnson** and **Carolyn Boyle**

It seems that at the moment you need only to pick up a newspaper to read a story about the damage the intellectual property system is doing to the world's economy, the process of innovation and creativity generally. After many years of obscurity, IP is now a front page issue; and the people who are placing the stories and setting the agenda are usually those who – for whatever reason – do not like the IP system and what it represents. There are, of course, serious discussions to be had about IP and the extent to which IP laws do or do not inhibit creativity, freedom of expression and other fundamental concepts, but right now the debate is far too often one-sided and ill-informed.

Inside the IP community, the temptation is often to blame those spreading the anti-IP message and giving it column inches or airtime; or the politicians, "who just don't understand". There has not been enough thought given to why these messages have become popular in the first place. In the nearly three years that *IAM* has been published, we have consistently criticised the IP community's efforts to put across its side of the story: too often we find that spokespeople – if they exist at all – are defensive or speak in a language that nobody other than an IP expert is going to understand. In short, IP owners, their advisers and their representatives have not proved adept at setting their own agenda or responding to the one that has been set by others.

All of which is a great shame, as IP clearly has a great story to tell. Patents, trademarks, copyrights and other rights have helped transform the world and continue to be behind developments that enhance people's lives. More than that, they are major motors for economic growth – something that has not escaped the attention of leaders in countries such as China and India.

With a proper investment in time and money, we believe it would not be impossible to get this message across; to turn IP from a right that is essentially covered as a negative to one that is seen as being broadly positive. If this does not happen, then the long-term consequences for IP owners, as well as those that purchase their products, could be serious. Rights that have always been held to be inalienable could start to trickle away, while new solutions to new problems may be slow in arriving on statute books. In Europe, this process is probably further down the line than elsewhere, but the signs are there for all to see in other parts of the world as well: even in the United States, where both patent and trademark rights are being subjected to greater scrutiny than they have been in the past. While such scrutiny should not be feared, surely it is best if it takes place when all sides of an argument are given equal consideration. But if the IP community does not properly engage with the process, this cannot happen.

The concept

Of course, it is very easy to criticise the IP community for its failures; what is harder perhaps is to suggest ways in which it can improve. As a supporter of the IP system – although not a blind one – *IAM* has felt for a while now that we should be doing more than just shouting negatively from the sidelines. We wanted to help get the good news about IP out

into the general domain. The question was, how? We are an editorially driven product that does not want to be a cheerleader for one view of IP rights, so we can never get involved in specific campaigns or organisations. But that still left us with a number of options. The one we went for was the IP Hall of Fame, an online forum designed to honour those who have made an outstanding contribution to intellectual property, and to enable the global IP community to explain and demonstrate the importance of IP to the continuing development of the world's economy.

The aim of the IP Hall of Fame is to make intellectual property accessible to the general public by focusing on individuals from business, politics, finance, the law, academia and anywhere else who have played a major role in the development of today's IP system. By looking at individuals, we feel that the IP Hall of Fame injects a human element into IP, when – if you listen to the criticisms of those who oppose it – too often it is seen as something that is of benefit only to large, faceless international corporations. The fact is that the individual lies at the heart of IP and this should be recognised.

Development

In developing the concept, we worked closely with the CPA, whose input and industry perspective proved invaluable. As we began to get the project up and running what was immediately very clear was that if the Hall of Fame was to have real credibility, those choosing the inductees would have to be well-known IP figures themselves; not everyone would agree with the names they came up with but everyone would understand they were well placed to make the decision. With this in mind, we approached a number of individuals from a wide range of backgrounds and eventually came up with a list of 18 panellists. They were:

- **Allen Baum**, President Elect of LES USA and Canada and a partner of Hutchinson Law Group in Raleigh, NC.
- **Bruce Berman**, an author and IP consultant based in New York.
- **Jérôme P Chauvin**, Director of the Legal Affairs Department at UNICE (the Union of Industrial and Employers' Confederations of Europe), Brussels.
- **Peter Chrocziel**, President of LES International and a partner with Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer in Germany.
- **Todd Dickinson**, former Commissioner of the US Patent and Trademark Office and now Vice President of IP at General Electric.
- **Melvin Garner**, President of the AIPLA and a partner of Darby & Darby in New York.
- **Anne Gundelfinger**, President of the INTA in 2005 and current Chair of the Coalition for Intellectual Property Rights, Vice President & Associate General Counsel, Intel Corporation.
- **Ian Harvey**, Chairman of the Intellectual Property Institute, London.
- **Bo Heiden**, Deputy Director, Centre for Intellectual Property Studies, Chalmers University of Technology, Gothenburg.
- **Karen Hersey**, retired Senior Counsel for Intellectual Property at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Adjunct Professor of Law, Franklin Pierce Law Center, and former President of the Association of University Technology Managers.
- **Dr Steve James**, President of the Institute of Trade Mark Attorneys and a partner of RGC Jenkins & Co, London.
- **Malte Köllner**, a partner in German venture capital firm Triangle Ventures and an adviser on IP to the European Venture Capital Association.
- **Chris Mercer**, President of the European Patent Institute and a partner of Carpmaels & Ransford, London.
- **Ciarán McGinley**, Head of the President's Office, European Patent Office, Munich.
- **Ron Myrick**, a partner with Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP, Vice President of the AIPPI and a former President of the AIPLA.
- **Jim Sobieraj**, past President of LES USA and Canada and a partner with Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione in Chicago.
- **John Tarpey**, Acting Director, Communications and Public Outreach Division, World Intellectual Property Organisation, Geneva.
- **David Tatham OBE**, trademark attorney, consultant and former Head of Trademarks for Imperial Chemical Industries plc.

Each of the panellists was asked to select five individuals who they felt merited a place in the IP Hall of Fame and to put together a submission for each one to explain why. A list of nominees and supporting statements was then compiled and sent out to each panellist, who then had to select 10 names to put forward for induction. From an original list of nearly 60 nominations 23 emerged with the most votes. The names of the inductees were made public at a dinner held in London on 7th February.

At the same time, the IP Hall of Fame website was established. This can be found at www.iphalloffame.com. As well as providing details of inductees, the site will, over time, become an IP museum, explaining how and why IP has developed, with a range of exhibits and links to other online IP resources. We hope that IP professionals use and enjoy it but, just as important, that it is also of interest to the non-IP world.

The first inductees

The nomination and voting process to find the first inductees into the IP Hall of Fame took place during December 2005 and January of this year. It could not have been completed in such a quick time without the very significant help and support of the 18 panellists. We are extremely grateful to them.

Following the voting, these are the individuals who are the first inductees.

Don Banner

A founding partner of IP boutique Banner & Witcoff LLP and a former Commissioner of the US Patent and Trademark Office, Banner played a key role in the development of the international IP system. He headed the US delegation to the international conferences on the revision of the Paris Convention and was a member of the US delegation to the conferences establishing the Patent Cooperation Treaty. Sadly, he died just days before the final IP Hall of Fame induction vote was concluded.

Heinz Bardehle

A founding partner of Munich IP boutique Bardehle Pagenberg, Bardehle has had a long involvement in international intellectual property issues – especially with regard to the harmonisation of patent law and practice – as well as serving as an adviser to the German government on IP. In 2001, Bardehle was awarded the Great Cross of Merit of the German Federal Republic by the Minister of Justice. He is Honorary President of FICPI and chairs the AIPPI's working group for the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

Birch Bayh

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Friedrich Karl Beier

Beier was for many years the managing director of the Max-Planck Institute for Foreign and International Patent, Trademark, Copyright and Competition Law in Munich. Over the decades, the Institute has influenced the development of jurisdiction and legislation in the field of intellectual property in many ways across Europe.

Johann van Benthem

One of the founding fathers of the European Patent Office (EPO), as well as its first President. Starting with a meeting in Brussels in 1960, he worked tirelessly, alongside four German counterparts and friends (Kurt Haertel, Albrecht Krieger, Romuald Singer and Klaus Pfanner) to build the European Patent System, which was finally approved by the Munich diplomatic conference of 1973.

Arpad Bogsch

Bogsch was the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) from 1963 to 1997. Under his direction, WIPO expanded its role and influence in the world of industrial and intellectual property. He contributed extensively to providing China with a modern intellectual property system and welcoming it into the international intellectual property community. Similarly, when the Soviet Union broke up he actively assisted the countries that emerged to create their own national systems.

Sir Edward Coke

An influential English jurist and author of the Statute of Monopolies of 1624, the basis of the distinction between patents of invention and patents given at the caprice of the sovereign. Coke has long been acclaimed as a key figure in the emergence of the modern free-market economy in England. He was a leading opponent of royal grants of monopoly rights to favoured individuals.

Thomas Edison

One of the greatest inventors and industrial leaders in history, Edison obtained 1,093 US patents, the most issued to any individual. He remains today the outstanding example of the use of the patent system to enable industrial and economic development. "The Wizard of Menlo Park" was one of the first inventors to apply the principles of mass production to the process of invention. He is also credited as pioneering the first fully fledged R&D laboratory.

Kurt Härtel

Härtel was president of the German Patent Office at a time when the European Patent Convention was under discussion; he played a leading role in ensuring that the convention became a reality. He was the driving force behind both the Munich and the Luxembourg Patent Conventions.

Interview: **Senator Birch Bayh**

Birch Bayh served as a Democratic senator for Indiana from 1963 to 1981, and is now with Venable LLP in Washington DC. He was a co-sponsor of the pivotal Bayh-Dole Act 1980, which gave US universities ownership rights in IP created by federally funded research. The Act allowed universities to become more active in patenting and commercialising their inventions, and is credited with helping to get the United States out of the economic doldrums of the late 1970s/early 1980s.

The Bayh-Dole Act has just celebrated 25 years on the statute book: can you tell me a little about the circumstances that prompted you to sponsor it?

The United States was in difficult economic straits during the late 70s. We'd lost our number one competitive position in steel and automobile production. There were a number of industries where we weren't even number two. Investment in R&D over the previous 10 years had been stagnant. Perhaps most significantly, our productivity was growing at a much slower place than our free-world competitors. Ralph Davis, who was head of technology transfer at Purdue University, called my office expressing concern about the situation.

It was Ralph's belief that what was needed was a means by which universities could be granted private ownership in rights to patents developed through research conducted at the nation's universities and funded by federal government research grants. We began exploring the problem.

Joe Allen, who was on my staff, was instrumental in doing a lot of the heavy lifting. He went to the US Patent and Trademark Office and found that there were 28,000 government-owned patents gathering dust there, less than 5% of which had ever been licensed to industry. The problem was that it's one thing to develop an idea in the laboratory; it's another to get it into your medicine cabinet or into a new machine.

Because it was impossible to acquire ownership, no company was willing to invest the kind of money necessary to move an idea from the laboratory to the marketplace. Over US$30 billion of taxpayers' money had been spent creating 28,000 ideas which were filed away at the PTO. The taxpayers-consumers of our country received no benefit whatsoever.

So this was a way of slicing through that Gordian knot?

Yes, that's the secret of Bayh-Dole. Ralph Davis brought in Harold Bremer, who was the director of the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation, and Norm Latker, who was the patent counsellor of HEW [the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, the precursor to the Department of Health and Human Services]. They met in my office and developed a procedure to obtain private ownership. Bob Dole joined us. We introduced this legislation and after several anxious moments, it was passed.

There has been some criticism of the Act: in September 2005, *Fortune* magazine accused it of turning universities from public trusts to venture capital firms.

I had a lengthy conversation with the author of the *Fortune* magazine article and I must confess I felt betrayed when I saw the article. It seemed to me that the author had already decided what the conclusion of his article was going to be and took isolated incidents to try to prove that his original proposition was accurate. The article was a massive oversimplification of how Bayh-Dole and our country's patent and trademark system works.

For example, I have little patience with the author who suggests that because the universities own patents, and because we have written in the law that it's important to develop a working relationship with the inventor throughout the commercialisation of the patent, this somehow makes the research intellectually dishonest. What happened previously was an inventor would invent something. He or she would write a thesis and publish an article for the *New England Journal of Medicine*. Thereafter, he or she would go back to the laboratory and the idea for a new product would languish. We thought there needed to be some sort of relationship so there was an incentive for the inventor to continue cooperating with the company, or whoever actually purchased the right from the university, to work with them until the product was finalised and available to the consumer. The inventor can speed up the process of getting an idea to the marketplace.

I've talked to the presidents of several universities who have aggressive technology development programmes and they knew of no such examples of any research that was intellectually dishonest. There have been one or two examples of extraordinarily high pricing. But you deal with the specific abuse, not throw the baby out with the bathwater so to speak. There may be isolated examples, I'm not suggesting it's perfect. But those critics of Bayh-Dole who want the federal government to maintain ownership of university-developed patents are ignoring the US economic climate before the legislation was enacted. Then the government owned the patents. Our people received no benefit from them, no return on the tax dollars spent for the research which led to the patent. It would be folly to turn back the clock to those days. Those who want to consign Bayh-Dole to the junk pile should remember Santayana's admonition, to paraphrase: "A nation that does not learn from history is doomed to repeat its mistakes."

Victor Hugo

French author Hugo was known not only for his literary works, but also for his key role in mobilising support for the international protection of authors' rights. In 1878, under Hugo's leadership, the International Literary Association in Paris was formed. At its 1883 meeting in Berne, at which Hugo presided, the group produced a draft text of an international copyright agreement which became the basis of the Berne Convention, the foundation for international copyright protection.

Sir Robin Jacob

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Thomas Jefferson

In addition to serving as the third president of the United States and to numerous other accomplishments, Jefferson was an inventor and the first head of the US Patent and Trademark Office. One of the primary framers of the US Constitution, Jefferson is widely believed to have been influential in the drafting of Article 1, Section 8, Clause 8, which states: "The Congress shall have

Interview: **Sir Robin Jacob**

Lord Justice Jacob is the judge at the Court of Appeal of England and Wales in charge of the Intellectual Property List. He has delivered a number of important decisions affecting IP owners in the UK and many of these have also proved highly influential in other European jurisdictions. He has played a pivotal role in helping to streamline procedures in UK patent cases and is also a founding governor of the Expert Witness Institute. Famously outspoken, he is an advocate for a centralised patent court system in Europe and is active in lobbying for the European Patent Litigation Agreement.

You are well known for having helped to streamline court procedures for patent cases in the UK – can you describe the situation when you first started and how this has it changed?
I think we've cut down trials by about two-thirds in time since the 1970s but I'm sure we've not made a sufficient cut in costs. When I first started at the bar, everything went on unbelievably slowly. The evidence-in-chief went on without any witness statements and without any expert statements. The whole game was played with a lot of guesswork. You didn't know what the other side was going to say until you got there except by having lots of long conferences, guessing what they were going to do. Well written statements in advance have made a big difference and made people concentrate a bit more on the parts that really matter.

You have lobbied for the European Patent Litigation Agreement – could you outline your main reasons for supporting this?
One: it would be put together by those who want to make it work.

Two: it should obviate lots of difficulties about language by not having any rules about language. In practice it may well run in English but if that's what the case warrants, that's what the case warrants. If two Germans sue each other then they can use German, and they would use German. If Nokia sue, they will not be allowed to use Finnish!

Are you pleased with the way the EPLA has been received so far?
There's quite a long way to go. But we've now got a draft, which is something we can work on, even if I don't agree with everything it contains.

Also, I would add, I'm now in favour of not involving the European Court of Justice – I don't think it's a very apt tribunal for essentially commercial disputes. It's also too slow and I don't think it would want the work; I think they've got enough to do already. And the many rulings as they've given in trademarks don't suggest that they would be terribly good at this sort of area of law.

So an independent patent court...
...would be better for Europe. I'm generally against independent, specialist courts for separate things. But I think in this instance it's the best offer in town.

In addition, as the EPLA would not be bound up with European Union rules and protocols, we could use the existing national judges. You see the European court system won't allow you to be a national judge and a European Union judge. They haven't actually figured out how a European Community court could ever get going, because there'd be nobody there. Whereas the EPLA could start straight away with existing European judges, working on existing European patents.

Further to that, do you think an agreement will eventually be reached on the Community patent?
No. I think the way forward for a Community patent, if there is a way forward, would be via the EPLA. But it may be that this is wholly unnecessary. If the EPLA covers most of Europe anyway, and it's working, then why would you need a Community patent? You can decide the case for most of Europe and that would be the end of it.

As the UK employs a common law system and most of the rest of Europe uses civil law principles - how can you construct a system that unites the two or is it a matter of giving up on the common law?
It would not be a matter of giving up on common law and it would not be a matter of giving up the European system. We would try to take the best of both. I think we would do more written stuff and less by way of oral evidence; I'm not deeply broken up about that – I think that quite a lot of a trial is rather overweighted on the oral evidence. The case seems to stop when you get to the evidence and then start again with the argument. But I think we would have more oral argument than some Europeans do now, because I think that's how you can get to the point of a case. Just sitting down and reading stuff, it all starts just bouncing off the eye.

power to promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries."

Klaus-Dieter Langfinger
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Bruce Lehman
The longest-sitting and first activist Commissioner of the US Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), Lehman was an architect of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act and helped to negotiate the TRIPS agreement. He founded the International Intellectual Property Institute (IIPI) in 1999, a think-tank and development organisation that has helped nations to understand, develop and harmonise their patent laws and facilitate commerce. As well as his IIPI activities, Lehman also works in the Washington DC offices of law firm Akin Gump.

James Madison
Madison was the fourth US President and a principal drafter of the US Constitution. He is credited with including Article III, Section 8 – the Patent and Copyright Clause – in the Constitution, providing the basis for IP in the basic US constitutional system and ensuring that Congress had a specifically enumerated power (among only a very few) to establish both a patent and a copyright system. This led to the adoption of the first Patent Act and Copyright Act by the first US Congress in 1790.

Howard T Markey
Markey was a driving force for the creation of the US Federal Circuit Court of Appeal and

Interview: **Klaus-Dieter Langfinger**

Klaus-Dieter Langfinger is Head of Patents, Trademarks and Licensing at BASF, and a key industry voice advocating the importance of the IP system to the future of the European and world economy. He has been actively involved in industry efforts to find solutions to the Community patent deadlock and has also helped to garner support among German industry for the European Patent Litigation Agreement.

How do you think the European patent system, as it is at the moment, compares to those in the US and Japan?

I think the European system is better, in terms of quality of patents, than the US system and it's at least comparable to the system in Japan. Economy wise, it's obviously not competitive, because the European patent is three to five times more expensive for the area of the European Union compared to US or Japanese patents. This is mainly due to the language issue, the translation issue.

When I speak about quality I mean the quality of the examination procedure. The procedure at the European Patent Office before grant relies only on three official languages; so the translation issue does not arise – the two factors are not directly related to one another. The cost factor comes in at the end of the process when the patent is granted and you want to validate it because then you have to translate it into more than 20 different languages. It's well known that 95% of these translations are never, ever looked at.

Why do you support the European Patent Litigation Agreement?

First of all we have about 800,000 granted European patents. It would be a real advantage to have a common litigation system for these patents, at least for the main countries where most litigation in Europe takes place. The European Patent Litigation Agreement provides a court system, which would have the same core features as the system in Germany with technical judges, a good court system and a decision within a reasonable period of time. If you look at the situation we have right now in Europe, 70% of all patent litigation cases take place in Germany – add France and Britain and it's about 90%. This clearly shows that these three countries have systems for dealing with patent infringement cases that users find reasonable. So the court system should reflect the features of those systems and this is what the EPLA does basically.

Are you pleased with the way this has been received so far or do you think there still remains a long way to go before we see a pan-European patent litigation process?

Yes, it has been well received in users' circles. Industry supports the agreement in general. It's also been well received by a number of governments, including Germany and France. Up until now it has not been well received by the European Commission because they think it competes with their Community patent. However, this is not the case; we have 800,000 granted European patents, so we need a litigation system for those regardless of whether we have a Community patent or not. We have to find ways to include the Commission in the negotiations for the EPLA because it takes the view, due to the Brussels Convention, that member states cannot negotiate agreements like the EPLA without the Commission.

If the Commission is going to drop the Community patent proposal on the basis of the political compromise, I think then it might be prepared to put its resources into supporting the EPLA. This will depend on the results of the consultation they are doing right now.

Talking more generally, what do you think are some of the main challenges and/or opportunities facing the IP sector for the future?

The main challenges will be, I think, the discussions with the open source movement. If you look back to last year and the Directive on Computer Implemented Inventions, this is an example of what we face in the future because there are still people who think intellectual property rights are evil things. I think it's pretty important that the IP community also speaks and explains the position that IP rights are not a monopoly for a few but a benefit for the majority. And they are also beneficial for the economy.

The amazing thing is the open source movement always argues that small and medium-sized enterprises suffer from the patent system. If you look at reality, exactly the opposite is true, because small and medium-sized enterprises protect their intellectual property through patents and then license them to big companies. There was a recent survey in Sweden, which asked about 500 small and medium-sized enterprises and independent inventors about the importance of IP rights for them. And they clearly said that patents are even more important for them than for big companies because big companies can use their market size or financial strength to get a competitive advantage, which small and medium-sized enterprises don't have.

its first chief justice. Among other things, the Federal Circuit was established to hear all appeals of district court decisions in patent cases, helping to harmonise patent law and practice in the US, so creating much greater certainty for patent owners and encouraging them to invest in expensive R&D projects.

Alexander von Mühlendahl

Alexander von Mühlendahl is currently with the Munich firm of Bardehle Pagenberg, but is best known for his work as Vice President of the Office for Harmonisation in the Internal Market (OHIM) in Alicante between 1994 and 2005. He was the chief German representative during the negotiations leading up to the adoption of the legislation on the European Community Trademark (CTM) system, and has also been instrumental in explaining and developing the CTM system. Through his well-founded pleadings before the European Court of Justice and the Court of First Instance, he also influenced and shaped the jurisprudence referring to the CTM.

Melville Nimmer

Melville Nimmer was a distinguished professor of law at UCLA law school, where he wrote his four-volume treatise on copyright, published in 1963. This has been continuously updated since then and

remains the "gold standard" scholarly resource on copyright in the US and around the world. His work is the most highly regarded non-judge-made authority on copyright in the US and is routinely cited in legal opinions issued on copyright cases in the country, including those of the US Supreme Court.

Marshall Phelps

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Giles Rich

As a dedicated lawyer, professor and judge, Rich played a significant role in the development and evolution of intellectual property law in the United States. He was a private practice lawyer from 1929 to 1956, specialising in patent and trademark law. He was one of the two people principally responsible for drafting the 1952 Patent Act, which served as the first codification of all federal patent laws and which has been in force for half a century without significant revision. In 1982, he was appointed as a Circuit Judge for the US Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. From his seat on the Federal Circuit, Rich authored landmark decisions clarifying some of the most difficult concepts in patent law.

Frank Isaac Schechter

In his extremely influential article "The Rational Basis of Trademark Protection", Schechter challenged as outdated the idea that the function of a trademark is solely one of indicating source or origin. Instead, he argued that the primary function of trademarks is the creation and retention of custom. The value of the modern trademark, he said, lies "in its selling power". It is from this groundbreaking article that the concept of trademark dilution developed in the US, leading to the passage of a number of state anti-dilution laws and ultimately the Federal Trademark Dilution Act.

Dudley Smith

Smith is widely recognised as a leader in the field of licensing intellectual property. He began his career as a patent examiner in the US Patent and Trademark Office and became a licensed patent attorney. He worked for several companies where he was very active in licensing their patents and trademarks. In the mid-1960s he became the prime mover behind the formation of the Licensing Executives Society (LES). He served as President of LES (USA & Canada) and later as President of LES International.

Korekiyo Takahashi

Korekiyo Takahashi was the first commissioner of the Japan Patent Office, before going on to be the country's prime minister. On 18th April 1885 he introduced Japan's first patent system by promulgating the Patent Monopoly Act. With this Act, Takahashi began the transformation of Japan into a technology-based nation and one of the largest users of the international intellectual property system.

Work in progress

The IP Hall of Fame is an on-going project and next year a new set of inductees will be announced. Over the coming months we will be working to develop the nomination process so that we can ensure it is able to encompass individuals from all over the world. We would welcome feedback and ideas from all *IAM* readers, as well as suggestions for potential nominees and panellists. We cannot guarantee that these will be acted upon but they will be very carefully considered.

The 23 individuals representing the first inductees into the IP Hall of Fame are certainly not the only people who have made a major contribution to the development of today's IP system, nor have they necessarily made the greatest contribution. But in the eyes of our panel, they were all deserving of recognition.

The IP community is too slow to sing its own praises and to stand up for the system around which it is based. But it should not be. Without intellectual property, the world would be a considerably poorer place. It is a message that we should all be singing from the rooftops. Hopefully, the IP Hall of Fame will encourage a few more people to do this.

Please visit www.iphalloffame.com; please let us have your comments; and, above all else, please stand up for IP. The world could not do without it. ■

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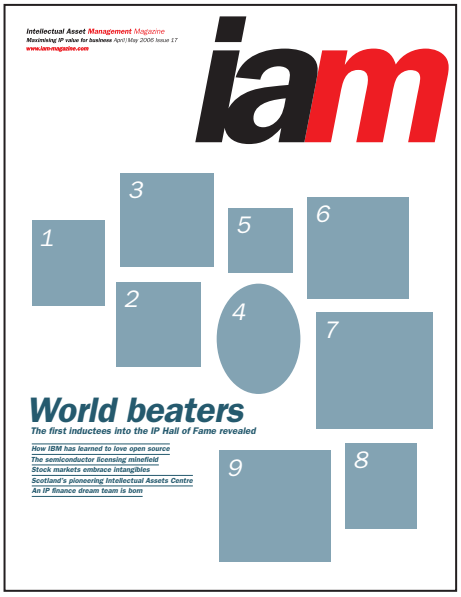
To find out more about the IP Hall of Fame and the first inductees, go to www.iphalloffame.com



Represented on our cover:

1. ***Bruce Lehman***
2. ***Arpad Bogsch***
3. ***Thomas Edison***
4. ***Thomas Jefferson***
5. ***Judge Giles Rich***
6. ***Korekiyo Takahashi***
7. ***Sir Edward Coke***
8. ***Alexander von Mühlendahl***
9. ***Victor Hugo***