



Central Advisory Service on Intellectual Property

Central Advisory Service on Intellectual Property for the CGIAR

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Introducing: The Expert Advisory Committee for the CGIAR-Central Advisory Service on Intellectual Property

By June Blalock

June Blalock joined the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Research Service (ARS), Office of Technology Transfer (OTT) in April 1993 as Coordinator of the Technology Licensing Program. ARS has delegated authority from the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture to administer the USDA patenting and licensing programs. USDA policy is to use the patent system to promote the utilization of inventions arising from USDA research programs. OTT is responsible for making decisions regarding the protection of USDA intellectual property, for determining the most appropriate licensing strategy for such property, and for developing strategic research partnerships with both public and private institutions, including universities, businesses and international research centers.

ARS continually maintains a portfolio of more than 1000 inventions and more than 200 active patent license agreements. As Licensing Program Coordinator, June is responsible for interpreting, communicating and implementing USDA policies and priorities related to the protection and licensing of government owned intellectual property. She provides expert advice and recommendations to ARS and USDA managers on the development of licensing policy and practice. The ARS Licensing Program Office responds to inquiries from the public, industry representatives, U.S. Government agencies, and USDA managers and scientists regarding intellectual property licensing policies and procedures. The Licensing Program Office is included in all decisions to file, prosecute and maintain U.S. and international patent rights, and is responsible for continually monitoring license agreements to assure compliance with all license terms. June supervises the drafting and negotiation of all USDA license agreements. Technologies licensed to the private sector include biological pest control agents, animal health products, genetically engineered crops, plant patents and International breeder's rights, farm equipment, food processing

technologies, new materials from agricultural products and by-products, and textile finishing chemistries, among others.

Prior to joining ARS, June was Associate Director of the Triangle Universities Licensing Consortium (TULCO) for five years. At TULCO, she had primary responsibility for the licensing of university-owned intellectual property from Duke University, North Carolina State University, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in the biotechnology and biomedical fields. She has held sales and marketing positions at International Biotechnologies, Inc. and has taught microbiology at the University of Maryland and at Goucher College. She is a member of the Licensing Executives Society (LES), the Association of University Technology Managers and the American Society for Microbiology. She has served as co-chair of the LES Animal, Plant and Food Science committee.

Introducing: the CG-CAS Support team

By Monica Allmand



Monica Allmand has been the Head of the Library and Documentation at ISNAR, since July 1994. She holds dual citizenship in Argentina and The Netherlands.

A professional librarian, Monica graduated from the Universidad Nacional del Nordeste in Argentina. Monica holds as well a BSc (Social Sciences) degree, from the Open University (UK) and a MScE on Management for Library and Information Services from Wales University.

At the beginning of her career, she worked at academic libraries. She then moved to Buenos Aires to the Information Center of the National Research Council for Science and Technology (CONICET).

While Monica was at CONICET she received a scholarship to participate in a post-graduate program, sponsored by the French Government. These studies lasted in France for two years. Unesco/Unisist organized this training especially for professionals from developing countries. In addition, within the framework of exchange programs between Argentina and USAID she was able to visit relevant libraries and information services in US and Canada. During her years at CONICET, Monica Allmand coordinated two information research groups (on indexing languages and on education and training for information professionals). Before moving to The Netherlands she had the responsibility of the National Information System that coordinated activities between the different sector information networks, for, example agriculture, health and social sciences. Monica also organized the network of libraries from CLACSO (Latin American Council for Social and Economic Development). During her tenure, the CLACSO network participated in an international project IDIN (International Development Information Network).

When she moved to the Netherlands in 1990, she was initially a consultant for the International Development Research Center, Canada (IDRC). In this position, Monica was responsible for the training and setting up of bibliographic databases in libraries in Cape Verde and Guinea Bissau. During the next two years, she worked at Tilburg University for the IDIN-EADI project.

Presently, Monica, together with the two library assistants Irma Ballemans and Jacqueline van Otterloo, is actively participating at the ISNAR-CAS team, which supports CAS in different activities. Library staff is specially interested in concentrating on training and obtaining experience in accessing patent documents and related literature, using both public and commercial databases. Library staff has been performing patent searches for the CG-CAS and they have participated in a training course on Derwent databases. This course included a general introduction to Derwent World Patent Index (DWPI) and the use of patent citations from Derwent Patent Citation Index (DPCI).

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News from the Centers

CAS Visits to Centers in late 2000 and early 2001.

By Victoria Henson-Apollonio

"Visit individual Centers in order to liaise with Center personnel and help assess the IP needs of each Center"

Recommendation from the 2nd Meeting of the Expert Advisory Committee for the CGIAR-Central Advisory Service on IP, September 2000.

Visit to ICRISAT

The Director General, Dr. Willy Dar and the CG-CAS IP Contact at ICRISAT, Dr. Rodomiro Ortiz, Director of Genetic Resources and Enhancement Program hosted the visit of the CG-CAS Senior Research Officer (SRO), Victoria Henson-Apollonio, to ICRISAT 12-18 November 2000. During her visit Victoria had discussions with more 30 scientists and administrative staff. She presented a seminar entitled, "The CG-CAS: Services for ICRISAT". Victoria was also invited to attend the first India-ICRISAT Day Celebration, held at Patancheru on 15 November 2000. (See for a summary: <http://www.icrisat.org/text/news/2000/india-icrisat.htm>)

ICRISAT has completed their IP-audit and is in the process of drafting an IP Policy statement.

One of ICRISAT's requests to CAS was for web-based training materials. (Information on copyright is the topic of this issue's "[Useful WWW Links](#)" section).

Visits to CIP, CIAT, and ICRISAT

In January 2001, Victoria made week-long visits to CIP, CIAT, and CIMMYT to assist these Centers in identifying and addressing their IP management needs. These visits were arranged and coordinated by the respective CGIAR-CAS Contacts at each Center, Dr. Marc Ghislain of CIP, Dr. Aart van Schoonhoven of CIAT, and Dr. David Hoisington of CIMMYT.

These visits followed a general format in which:

- Victoria presented a seminar entitled "The CGIAR-Central Advisory Service on Intellectual Property and (the

Center): Partners in IP Management," consisting of three parts. (The first part of the seminar relates to historical information about the establishment of the CG-CAS, gives the audience a summary of the CAS services that may be of interest to their Center, and describes how the CAS operates through teams: local, center-wide, and professional networks. The second part is meant to stimulate discussion regarding IP protection and access to public goods. The last part of the seminar briefly introduces patent searching and the concept of the informational value of the patent literature, particularly to bench-scientists;

- Victoria participated in individual and group discussions with administrative and scientific staff, in order to learn, first-hand, about each center's capability and problems with IP management, and also to learn about specific field requests that staff may have;
- She obtained materials, such as copies of IP sections of agreements and contracts, IP audit information, etc., that will help in the assessment of IP management implementation at each Center thus far;
- At the end of each visit, wrap-up" discussion sessions were held with management to give initial feedback and recommendations.

All three Centers have completed their IP Audits and are in the process of implementing suggested management procedures to better manage IP that is used and generated by each Center.

Useful WWW Links

Focus on: [Copyright](#)

Links are listed to some educational sites.

Friends of Active Copyright Education (FA©E), an initiative of the Copyright Society of the U.S.A. to learn about copyright. They provided a site which contains a serie of interesting, factual, well written introductory articles on a variety of general copyright topics.

<http://www.law.duke.edu/copyright/face>

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the "About IP" section has introductory information on many types of IP, including copyright. The "About WIPO" section has a thread that leads to the text and list of contracting parties of the Berne Convention on Copyright. This thread can be

followed by clicking on the "Treaty and Contracting Parties" link and from there to the "Intellectual Property Protection" link, where you will find the "Berne Convention" link.

<http://www.wipo.int/>

U.S. Copyrights Site. Which contains U.S. copyright basics.

<http://www.loc.gov/copyright/circs/circ1.html>

U.S. Copyright Office. U.S. copyright "frequently-asked questions" (FAQs) from the U.S. Copyright Office.

<http://www.loc.gov/copyright/faq.html>

Site put together by attorney, Benedict O'Mahoney. It has a lot of useful information (mostly, from the U.S. perspective).

<http://www.benedict.com/>

IFLA. This is an informative site with many links, still mostly U.S.-based information. Looks as though it has not been updated since 1999.

<http://www.ifla.org/ll/copyright.htm#international>

Information on European copyright developments a quite active initiative until mid-1999, apparently. Lots of information

here, but it looks as though it is updated irregularly.

<http://www.eblida.org/ecup/>

Smith Lyon is a Canadian law firm. This particular page has some interesting copyright information.

<http://www.smithlyons.ca/internet:internal¶meter=/Publications>

The Oppedahl & Larson Law (U.S.+ European branches) firm website. Lots of information here, including much in a "frequently-asked-question" (FAQ) format that is an effective mode of presentation.

<http://www.patents.com/weblaw.sht>

Stanford University runs this site and contains an abundance of links to other copyright sites. This site is sponsored by the Council on Library Resources, FindLaw Internet Legal Resources and the Stanford University Libraries and Academic Information Resources.

<http://fairuse.stanford.edu/>

Please send your questions or remarks to: cas-cqjar@cqjar.org