



# WINTER 2019 DISTINGUISHED SHIDLER LECTURE

Patent Quality: What is it and why is it essential for patent holders?

**Wednesday, February 6, 2019 / William H. Gates Hall**

**RECEPTION** 4:30–5:30 p.m., First Floor Galleria **LECTURE** 5:30–6:30 p.m., Room 127

## ABOUT

Patents are only as good as they are enforceable; that is what patent quality means. Prof. Ann's presentation will show that patent quality is not only about the patent system at large, but first and foremost about the interests of patent holders, especially small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). Startups need quality patents to exclude competitors, to raise venture capital, to license out their patents, and to successfully enforce them in court or obtain preliminary injunctions to cease and desist. However, as this lecture will demonstrate, not all stakeholders are incentivized to prioritize patent quality.

## SPEAKER



**Professor Christoph Ann** holds the chair of Corporate and IP Law at the Technical University of Munich (TUM), School of Management. In 2018, he was nominated for elevation to the bench of the German Federal Court of Justice. He declined the honor in order to stay in academia, where he teaches IP Law at both TUM and the Munich Intellectual Property Law Center (MIPLC). Prof. Ann's academic focus is Patents & Trade Secrets; his publications include 7 books and more than 150 contributions to books and journals.

## REGISTRATION

**TO REGISTER, VISIT:**

TBD

## QUESTIONS

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## CLE CREDIT

**1 CLE CREDIT PENDING**

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