WILSON SONSINI

Marjorie Moran

SENIOR PATENT STRATEGIST

Patents and Innovations

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FOCUS AREAS

Patents and Innovations

EXPERIENCE

Marjorie “Marjie” Moran is a senior patent strategist in the patents and innovations department at Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, where she assists with patent prosecution and intellectual property matters, serving clients in a wide range of technology fields, including the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries.

Prior to joining the firm, Marjie spent 22 years at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). During much of her tenure, she served as an expert in subject matter eligibility. In the aftermath of pivotal Supreme Court decisions (*Mayo* and *Alice*), Marjie collaborated in formulating the USPTO Subject Matter Eligibility (SME) Guidance, released in 2014. As a Supervisory Patent Examiner in Art Unit 1631 (molecular biology, bioinformatics, and gene regulation), she was heavily involved in developing examples and training materials in accordance with the SME Guidance and promulgating the Guidance to both the patent corps and other patent practitioners. Over the years, Marjie participated in several patent practitioner summits and meetings as a panelist or speaker regarding USPTO subject matter eligibility.

In addition to her role as an SME expert, Marjie occupied a variety of other positions at the USPTO. She led all quality programs and efforts for her Technology Center (TC1600) for over five years. As Quality Lead, she was responsible for developing and coordinating all training for examiners in her TC, as well as assisting with training for examiners across the entire USPTO in all aspects of examination. She acted as a liaison with representatives from various foreign patent agencies and was pivotal in formulating International Classification Schemes (IPC, later known as CPC) for Bioinformatics, Cheminformatics, and Medical Informatics. Prior to her stint as Quality Lead in TC1600, Marjie was the Supervisory Patent Examiner for the Bioinformatics Art Unit for several years.

After receiving her master’s degree from Carnegie-Mellon University, Marjie worked for MedImmune, where she managed the Quality Control (QC) Division, developing and producing nasal vaccines. Under her purview, MedImmune’s QC processes were granted FDA approval. Prior to MedImmune, Marjie worked at several start-up and drug development companies, where she gained experience in a wide variety of biological and chemical approaches, including cell culture techniques, small animal testing, and protein purification.

CREDENTIALS

Education

- M.S., Biological Sciences, Carnegie Mellon University, 1988
- B.A., Biology, Johns Hopkins University, 1985

Admissions

- U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

INSIGHTS

Select Publications

- Contributor, "2014 Interim Guidance on Patent Subject Matter Eligibility," USPTO, 2014-29414, 79 *Federal Register* 74618
- Author, "Evaluating subject matter eligibility under 35 U.S.C. §101," USPTO Patent Examiner Training Materials, August 2012