



Innovation Practice Institute

University of Pittsburgh School of Law

*Preparing New Lawyers for
the Future of Law and the Legal Profession*

Overview

The Innovation Practice Institute (IPI) at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law is a unique program that prepares new lawyers to enter and succeed in the new worlds of law and the legal profession. Those worlds are defined by innovation, by technology, by collaboration, and by changing roles for the legal profession. The IPI offers **courses, extracurricular programs, and externships and internships** that train law students in the new skills and competencies that they need to thrive as law school graduates. We bring students face to face with the clients, colleagues, and partners that they need to understand in order to succeed.

Courses

The IPI organizes new courses and innovative teaching methods in subject matter associated with innovation and technology (patents; copyrights; trademark; privacy), courses in cutting edge developments in law and public policy (artificial intelligence; cybersecurity; biotechnology), and courses in critical areas of modern law practice (representing start-up companies; understanding the business and technologies of practicing law now and in the future; social entrepreneurship; entertainment and sports law).

Extracurricular Programs

The IPI sponsors dozens of extracurricular programs each year, with weekly lunchtime speakers drawn from the broad world of innovation and law ("**Innovators, Esq.**") and monthly joint programs with entrepreneurs, practicing lawyers, and graduate students in computer science at Carnegie Mellon University ("**Start Smart**"). The IPI mentors law students in business plan competitions and supports law students competing in national moot court competitions. The IPI is home to Pitt Law's innovative **Leadership Forum**, offering mentorship and training in essential leadership skills.

Externships and Internships

The IPI partners with dozens of community organizations to design for-credit externships and both paid and unpaid internships with **innovation** as a key theme. Those include start-up incubator and accelerator programs in the City of Pittsburgh; technology and media companies of all sizes; social entrepreneurship and not-for-profit organizations; and technology licensing departments at the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University. The IPI works closely with Pitt Law's Semester in DC program to support students pursuing innovation-themed externships in Washington, DC, and with Pitt Law's Center for International Legal Education (CILE) to support students travelling outside the US.

A Track Record of Success

Our graduates' success is evidence of the success of the IPI's vision of innovation and law. IPI alumni are pursuing a wide range of careers: From Assistant United States Attorney to solo practitioner serving the urban agriculture market to general counsel of a leading video game developer to technology entrepreneur to nonprofit administrator. The IPI has worked with hundreds of law students. We would love the opportunity to work with you!

For more information, contact:
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On the Web: <http://innovation-practice.net>
Twitter: [@IPI_Pgh](https://twitter.com/IPI_Pgh)
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