William & Mary Law School

William & Mary Law School Scholarship Repository

Stanley H. Mervis Lecture

Conferences, Events, and Lectures

9-23-2013

The Intellectual Property System of the U.S. and Its Discontents

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarship.law.wm.edu/mervis



Part of the Intellectual Property Law Commons

Repository Citation

"The Intellectual Property System of the U.S. and Its Discontents" (2013). Stanley H. Mervis Lecture. 3. https://scholarship.law.wm.edu/mervis/3

Copyright c 2013 by the authors. This article is brought to you by the William & Mary Law School Scholarship Repository.

https://scholarship.law.wm.edu/mervis

THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM & MARY MARSHALL-WYTHE SCHOOL OF LAW



THE 2013 STANLEY H. MERVIS LECTURE IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Many of the world's leading companies call on Mr. Jacobs to lead trial teams in their most complex litigation. In 2012, he served as co-lead counsel in the year's two highest-profile intellectual property battles, including a high-profile smartphone case leading to a jury verdict of over \$1 billion. He has represented information technology and life sciences companies in more than 100 patent lawsuits, often prevailing at early stages of the dispute. Mr. Jacobs is the co-founder of the firm's Intellectual Property Practice Group, and currently heads its Life Sciences Practice Group.

Mr. Jacobs' work in several landmark cases has helped to shape the laws governing emerging technologies. Early in his career, he led the technical team that represented Fujitsu in its landmark operating system software arbitration with IBM. He represented the motion picture industry in the On Command Video case, which established that on-demand video systems require a license under copyright's public performance right. Mr. Jacobs represented Novell in the widely reported SCO v. Novell Linux litigation, prevailing in a bench trial on Novell's multi-million dollar claims, defeating SCO's \$200 million claim in a three-week jury trial, and defending those results on appeal in the 10th Circuit. He also represented Autodesk in the Vernor v. Autodesk case, which established that copyright's first sale doctrine does not immunize the re-sale of licensed software.

Mr. Jacobs has also achieved victories in important *pro bono* cases. He was co-lead counsel for plaintiffs in the landmark *Williams v. State of California* class action, which led to a settlement in which the State undertook to address shocking conditions in California's lowest performing schools. He also represented the Jewish Community Relations Council and the Anti-Defamation League in a successful pre-election challenge to an anti-circumcision initiative slated for San Francisco's ballot.

Mr. Jacobs is a graduate of the Yale Law School and teaches Trade Secrets Law at the University of California at Berkeley.

THE 2013 MERVIS LECTURE

"The Intellectual Property System of the U.S. and Its Discontents"

Michael A. Jacobs
Partner
Morrison & Foerster LLP

Monday, September 23, 2013 12:50 p.m. Room 124

THE STANLEY H. MERVIS LECTURESHI IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

The Stanley H. Mervis
Lectureship in Intellectual
Property was created in
memory of Stanley Mervis
by his family and friends. Mr.
Mervis, a member of the Law
School Class of 1950, was
patent counsel for Polaroid
Corporation for most of
his career and was actively
involved in patent and
intellectual property issues.