

Introduction to the 5th Annual Innovation and Technology Law Conference

Co-Sponsored by Seattle Journal for Technology, Environmental and Innovation Law

Introduction: Annette Clark

Summary of Proceeding by McKaylin Hughes

Seattle University School of Law's then dean, now Dean Emerita, Annette Clark, opens the 5th annual Innovation and Technology Law Conference, co-sponsored by the Seattle Journal of Technology, Environmental, and Innovation Law (SJTEIL) at Seattle University School of Law. Annette Clark has been involved with the planning and organization of the Innovation and Technology Law Conference since the conference's inception. The theme of the 5th annual 2022 conference is "deep innovation dives."

Annette Clark explains that "This conference is part of our continuing efforts at Seattle [University] Law to expand educational opportunities for our students and community in innovation, technology, and entrepreneurship. To that end, we offer an LLM and a Masters of Legal Studies in Technology, Innovation and Entrepreneurship, a Masters of Legal Studies in Health law, and a very popular, fully online, Masters of Legal Studies in Compliance and Risk Management."

After thanking the Conference's co-sponsor, SJTEIL, Annette Clark explains that SJTEIL is one of the four student run, academic journals at Seattle University Law, publishing articles from students and practitioners twice a year. As the name suggests, SJTEIL focuses on legal concepts and issues relating to innovation, the environment, and technology.

The Innovation and Law Conference is part of the Seattle University School of Law's Summer Institute of Technology, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship Program (SITIE). The SITIE Program is currently in its 4th year of offering a summer curriculum. The online courses offered during the Summer 2022 include Artificial Intelligence Law: Practice and Theory, Counseling Startups: Law, Regulation, and Fundraising, and The Role of In-House Counsel: Lawyering within an Organization.

Providing a brief overview of the Conference, Annette Clark explains that the conference will consist of four panels. The first panel, titled Innovation and Legal Services, "offers the possibility of a regulatory sandbox in Washington State, to expand access to legal services in the furtherance of access to justice for all. As well as detailing the innovation in the law firm hiring setting, hiring lawyers through the use of artificial intelligence."

The second panel showcases diversity in the context of in-house lawyering, with a panel featuring several Seattle University Law graduates, all of whom are women of color working at high profile, innovative companies.

The third panel featuring speaker Dave Heiner, is a deep dive, moderated discussion into health equity and research with a new data partnership, Truveta, poised for research breakthroughs in the healthcare field.

Finally, the fourth panel is a financial services panel focusing on Financial Technology, Decentralized Finance , Web3 (a blockchain worldwide web), and NFTs, Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs).

Annette Clark wraps up her introduction, by first sending a thank you to Seattle University Law's adjunct professor, Joseph Vincent, for his work in organizing the financial services panel. Annette Clark then closes with an extra special thank you to Seattle University Law Associate Dean for Planning and Strategic Initiatives, and Professor, Steven Bender, without which this Conference would not have been possible.