TEACHING OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

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SUMMARY

This paper was initially prepared for the Round Table of University Professors on Teaching and Research on Intellectual Property Law, held in Geneva, in 1979.

I mention only teaching in which substantial emphasis is placed on aspects of industrial property--not courses in which it plays a minor role (for instance, on personal property or competition law).

TEACHING TO LAW STUDENTS (LL.B., LL.M., B.A. (Law), etc.)

(a) In no British university is there a mandatory course on industrial property.

(b) At undergraduate level, a full-year optional course in the subject is offered at Southampton University. Half-unit options involving aspects of the subject have recently been offered at some universities (e.g., Kent and Warwick). It is possible that Manchester, Exeter, Cambridge and other universities and polytechnics will begin to teach the subject in some form in the near future.

(c) At graduate level (examination degree) the subject is one full-year option available in the LL.M. degree at London University.

TEACHING TO THOSE PROFESSIONALLY OR OTHERWISE INTERESTED

(a) Courses are provided in a number of polytechnics (e.g. City of London, Polytechnic of Central London) to those wishing to enter the professions of patent or trademark agent. It is likely that more extensive courses aimed primarily at such people will soon be established at Queen Mary College, University of London.

(b) As part of a programme of further education in business studies, the City University has mounted a regular series of courses on different aspects of the subject.

(c) Occasionally university departments have been responsible for short courses on particular aspects of the subject.

TEACHING AND RESEARCH IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW IN JAPAN

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SUMMARY

This paper was initially prepared for the Round Table of University Professors on Teaching and Research in Intellectual Property Law, held in Geneva, in 1981.

TEACHING AND RESEARCH AT UNIVERSITY UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE LAW SCHOOLS

Undergraduate law teaching at various universities is a part of general university education rather than professional. Most of the law school graduates work for various central and local government agencies and private companies.

A limited number of law schools offer courses in industrial property law. A couple of law schools offer intangible property law to cover both industrial property and copyright law by different teachers.

These courses are frequently taught by part-time teachers who have practical experience.

TEACHING AT UNIVERSITY ENGINEERING SCHOOLS

A very limited number of engineering schools offer courses in industrial property law, although the need is keenly felt.

TEACHING OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY LAW AT THE INSTITUTE OF LEGAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING

To become a member of the legal profession, students have to take the judicial examination which is highly competitive. Around 500 applicants pass this examination annually. They are trained at the Institute of Legal Research and Training for two years to become career judges, public prosecutors or members of the bar. At this institute, a course on industrial property law is taught by a distinguished teacher in the field who is a member of the bar.

ACADEMIC SOCIETIES

Both the Copyright Law Society and the Industrial Property Law Society have university professors and practitioners as their members. Both societies conduct annual or semi-annual meetings and publish annuals.

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

The Copyright Association (Chosakuken Shiryo Kyokai) -- members include publishers, broadcasting companies and other companies interested in copyright. The association conducts monthly lecture meetings and publishes a monthly bulletin. It also conducts seminars.

The Invention Association (Hatsumei Kyokai) -- members include manufacturing companies, research and development firms, engineering companies etc. Its research institute offers a well-organized program in industrial property law. The courses of the institute are open to company employees as well as members of the public.

The Patent Management Association (Tokkyo Kyokai) -- members include leading manufacturing, research and development, and engineering companies which have patent departments. The main purpose of this association is the training of the staff members of the patent departments of member companies. The association offers an extensive program in the field of industrial property law as well as related laws such as civil law and civil procedure law. The association publishes a monthly journal.

The Japanese Group of AIPPI -- members include leading manufacturing companies, lawyers and patent attorneys. It conducts lecture and seminar meetings and publishes a monthly bulletin in Japanese and a quarterly in English.

The Licensing Executives Society of Japan -- both Tokyo and Kansai branches conduct lecture and seminar meetings regularly for its members.

GOVERNMNET AGENCIES

The Copyright Section of the Cultural Affairs Agency is a government agency which administers copyright law. It conducts lecture meetings on copyright regularly at various places inviting school teachers, librarians and other persons interested in copyright. Lectures at these meetings are mainly conducted by the staff members of the section, but university professors are invited to give lectures from time to time.

CONCLUSION

A cursory review of the activities of universities, government institutions, academic societies and professional organizations in Japan reveals that the intellectual property law is a subject of law which is more suitable for advanced professional teaching. However, more law schools should offer intellectual property law. Engineering schools should have teachers who can teach the patent law, and business schools should offer courses covering trademark and unfair competition law and licensing law. University professors who are specialized in intellectual property law will gain more from the experience of lecturing to professional people rather than to university students. There are a number of law journals specialized in industrial property or copyright. These journals give ample incentives to university professors to write and publish.