

Addressing Innovation through Institutional Reform

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The United States Patent and Trademark Office is seeking to improve innovation by remedying the information deficit that plagues effective patent examination. This "Peer-to-Patent" pilot of community patent review is an attempt to test whether the public can participate in the patent examination process and thereby produce higher quality patents, greater accountability to the legal and scientific community and an increased level of innovation in the software arts. The presentation will discuss the relationship between patent examination practices and innovation and the metrics by which this relationship might be measured as a result of empirical testing. This talk will outline the details of this first-of-its-kind experiment in opening examination practice for public participation and show the system that will be deployed.