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## Licensing Executive Society International Life Sciences Committee

presents a Virtual Presentation and Panel Discussion

### IP and licensing best practices for deep tech and AI technologies

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<b>Date:</b>	Friday, 22 April 2022
<b>Webinar:</b>	Details will be provided upon Registration
<b>Time:</b>	10:00 to 12:00 (GMT)

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#### **ABOUT THE SESSION:**

The concept of “deep tech” refers to the intersection between artificial intelligence (AI), advanced materials and synthetic biology, oftentimes using two or more of these technologies to create and develop new products or services. This space is highly rich in IP and there are unique challenges and opportunities for businesses operating in this space. The LESI Life Sciences committee will present a webinar discussing best practices for IP protection and licensing in this space, with particular emphasis on the life sciences industry. The panel will discuss planning an IP strategy covering freedom-to-operate and IP protection and management as well as best practices for IP transactions in this exciting and fast evolving field. The panellists will also tell us of their experiences in developing such technologies including pitfalls, stakeholder engagement and investment.

*The Licensing Executives Society International is an international association having 30 national and regional member societies, each comprising of men and women who have an interest in the transfer of technology, or licensing of intellectual property rights - from technical know-how and patented inventions to software, copyright and trade marks.*

## ABOUT THE PANELLISTS:

### Dr Anna Gregson



Dr Anna Gregson is a partner, UK and European patent attorney at Mathys & Squire with more than 10 years' experience in providing strategic IP advice. 'Commercially savvy', Anna is recommended in the latest edition of IAM Strategy 300 as one of the world's leading IP strategists, and in the inaugural IAM Strategy 300 Global Leaders guide, receiving praise for being 'the ultimate safe pair of hands...She puts her clients first at all times and is a delight to work with'. She is recommended in the most recent IAM Patent 1000 guide, in which she is described as a 'biotechnology ace', who is 'unwaveringly reliable and determined'. Anna is also recommended in the latest (2022) edition of The Legal 500, in which she has been praised for being 'accessible', 'knowledgeable', and having a 'really outstanding, can-do attitude' (2021).

Dr Gregson specialises in strategic patent management, including the drafting and prosecuting applications, as well as coordinating worldwide patent families. As part of devising comprehensive, multi-layered protection around her clients' innovations, she is an expert in patent landscape searching, monitoring of third-party patents and freedom-to-operate analysis. She is renowned for her ability to immerse herself in clients' businesses, working with them to identify opportunities to add value through new intellectual property, and to provide creative solutions to strengthen their existing portfolios. With her keen commercial focus, Anna has been instrumental in developing IP portfolios that are the foundation of high-value spin-outs and university-industry partnerships.

With a formidable background in biochemistry and biotechnology, Dr Gregson obtained a first-class natural sciences degree, specialising in pathology, from Cambridge University. She also holds a PhD in biochemistry from the University of Manchester for research into the control of angiogenesis in the eye. This technical expertise enables her to provide specialist IP advice in all areas of biotechnology, including technologies such as cell and gene therapies, next-gen sequencing, vaccine technologies, antibodies, viruses and virus-like particles, siRNA technology, biomarkers and diagnostics, expression systems, recombinant protein technology and therapeutics.

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Dr Gregson is equally happy working with experienced in-house professionals and start-ups and spin-outs with limited previous IP experience. She has significant expertise in working with university and public sector clients, and is adept at balancing technical excellence, budget control, transparency and predictability to develop bespoke IP strategies to match her clients' needs.

## James Fry



James Fry is a partner and heads the multi-disciplinary life sciences practice at Mills & Reeve. This specialist practice supports clients in the pharma and biotech, medical device, diagnostic, medtech and digital health sub-sectors and is described by the main legal directories as providing an "excellent level of service". James' own practice focuses on intellectual property transactions and advisory work, as well as strategic contracting and sector regulation. He has advised on a number of licensing and partnering transactions with AI providers for life sciences/pharma clients.

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## **Dr. Geoff Smith**



Geoff built and led the team that invented and developed the entire next gen sequencing workflow - from sample prep, to the core sequencing technology, to new instrument systems - and ran Technology Development globally for Illumina after acquisition. He invented the MiSeq, a desktop sequencing instrument that has remained unchanged since its launch over 10 years ago and is now the most widely placed instrument in Illumina's portfolio. In developing a new platform, Geoff also pioneered new applications on it, including NIPT, metagenomics, and detecting infectious disease outbreaks in hospitals. Geoff is passionate about exploring new technology, and driving product-market fit- as an Independent Board Member, advisor, and in creating new ventures.

## **Moderator: Dr Joanne van Harmelen**



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Dr. Joanne van Harmelen leads the Biotechnology and Life Sciences Cluster in ENSafrica's Intellectual Property ("IP") department. She is a qualified patent attorney specialising in patent filing and prosecution in the biotech and pharmaceuticals sectors. Joanne holds a PhD in medical microbiology and vaccine development. She has extensive experience in the field of biotechnology and life sciences, having prepared and filed patent applications locally and in foreign jurisdictions in the fields of microbiology, biochemistry, molecular medicine, agrobiolgy, bioremediation, bioprocessing, biopharmaceuticals, nutraceuticals, cosmetics and food sciences. Joanne is also experienced in the preparation and filing of plant breeders' rights applications.

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