
Intellectual Property Law Centre established at UP

The Faculty of Law has joined forces with one of the leading intellectual property law partnerships in the country to establish cutting-edge capacity in the field of intellectual property law. The establishment of the Adams & Adams Chair in Intellectual Property Law and the Centre for Intellectual Property Law was made possible by a contribution of R5 million from this legal partnership.

The centre will be engaged in the advanced academic programmes offered by the faculty in intellectual property law, will present short courses and be involved in community outreach programmes. According to Prof Christof Heyns, dean of the faculty, “intellectual property law is one of the most dynamic areas in which legal developments are taking place today. If we are indeed to move towards becoming a knowledge-based economy, we will have to ensure that we are at the forefront of these developments. As a faculty, we take a special interest in the development of the law in Africa. Our collaboration with a firm of the stature of Adams & Adams will put us in an ideal position to do just that.”

Mr Chris Job, Chairman of Adams & Adams, concurs with Prof Heyns. “The establishment of the Adams & Adams Chair in Intellectual Property Law and the Centre for Intellectual Property Law occurred in the centenary year of both founding parties, thus concluding a historic year for both of them with a significant achievement in this specialised area of law. Adams & Adams looks forward to working with the University to optimise the combined resources of these two institutions in terms of knowledge, experience and expertise to promote this dynamic area of law through continuing education, research and community involvement to the ultimate benefit of the country and its people.”