



## **IP Federation biographies 2020–2021**

### ***Scott Roberts, President***

Scott is a UK Chartered Patent Attorney and European Patent attorney with 20 years of experience in patents gained in both industry and private practice. Scott joined the patent profession after 10 years' experience as a software engineer and a period lecturing in computer science. He has worked in-house at both British Telecommunications and IBM specialising in computing and telecommunications technologies. Scott has represented both BT and IBM at the IP Federation since 2008 and chaired the IP Federation patent committee from 2016 to 2019.



Scott is the UK industry representative at the Standing Advisory Committee of the European Patent Office (SACEPO) and also sits on the SACEPO working parties for Rules and Guidelines. In addition to these roles, Scott is a member of the UK Government Department for International Trade's IP Thematic Working Group. He also

represents UK industry at the BusinessEurope patents working group. Since 2009 he has been a member of the Examination Committee of the European Qualifying Examination (EQE) for professional representatives. He is also a co-author of the CIPA *European Patents Handbook*.

Originally from South Wales, he now lives in the South of England with his wife and three children where he tutors maths, science and computing. He volunteers at a local NHS trust where he works with nurses to address the challenges in their professional practice. In his down-time he can be found indulging in dystopian literature.

### ***Suzanne Oliver, Immediate Past President***

Suzanne is a UK Chartered Patent Attorney and European Patent Attorney, as well as a Chartered Engineer. She has over 15 years of experience in patents, having entered the profession after working for a number of years as an engin-

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eer for Nortel Networks; she has a master's degree in electronics from the University of York.



Suzanne has represented Arm on the Council of the IP Federation since 2013 and she supports a wide range of IP strategy, patent and trade mark management issues for Arm. Suzanne was involved in Arm, becoming a founder member of OROPO, the world's first open patent register. In 2016, Suzanne joined the

launch panel for the inaugural "Women in IP" networking event, as a part of the UK's "IP Inclusive" initiative. She is also one of *Managing Intellectual Property's* Corporate IP Stars for 2019.

Before joining Arm in 2012, Suzanne worked in a private practice law firm in Cambridge, UK.

Outside of work, she likes to travel, as well as spend time with her family and friends. She is also a keen Rambler.

She was President of the IP Federation from 2019 to 2020.

### **Sonia Cooper, Vice-President**

Sonia is a UK Chartered Patent Attorney and European Patent Attorney with over 20 years of practical experience in all aspects of intellectual property, gained both in private practice and in industry. Sonia specialises in the fields



of software, artificial intelligence and telecommunications and has a degree in physics from the University of Bristol, a master's degree in the management of intellectual property from Queen Mary University of London and a graduate diploma in law from the University of Law.

Sonia is responsible for IP policy in Europe at Microsoft and works closely with Microsoft Research in Cambridge. She has

represented Microsoft on the Council of the IP Federation since 2017 and chairs the recently formed IP Federation data & copyright committee.

Outside work, Sonia enjoys spending time with family, friends as well as hiking and camping with her Labrador, "Sunny".

***David England, Company Secretary***



David joined the IP Federation as Secretary in June 2010. He is a UK and European Patent Attorney with 25 years of experience gained at Reckitt & Colman, Astra Pharmaceuticals and BTG International. During his career, he has worked extensively on the creation, defence and licensing of intellectual property (mainly patents, but also designs and trade marks), and has represented his employers on

both the Patents and Designs Committees of the IP Federation.

In his spare time, David sings with the highly regarded BBC Symphony Chorus, performing regularly at venues including the Barbican and the Royal Albert Hall.

***Helen Georghiou, Office Manager***



Helen joined the IP Federation as Admin Assistant in November 2016. This was a completely new sector for her, as she had spent over 20 years as a PA and office manager in market research companies. She then followed her personal passion and entered the world of property development, where she still works on a part-time basis. Some could say that in many respects intellectual property and physical

property have similarities when it comes to ownership and rights, so joining the IP Federation made perfect sense. It has proven to be a rewarding environment.

With two teenage daughters, a husband and a dog, there's not much time left! But where possible, Helen enjoys interior designing, socialising ... and the odd vodka or two!

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