

Biography

Ruth L. Okediji is the William L. Prosser Professor of Law and Solly Robins Distinguished Research Fellow at the University of Minnesota Law School, where she teaches copyright, trademarks, contracts and international intellectual property. Prior to her appointment at the University of Minnesota, Professor Okediji taught at the University of Oklahoma College of Law where she held the Edith Kinney Gaylord Presidential Professorship and chaired the Faculty Senate.

Professor Okediji's scholarship focuses primarily on international intellectual property issues with an emphasis on the relationship between multilateral trade law and intellectual property policy. Her work has addressed the relationship between developing and developed countries in the international intellectual property system, including economic analysis of the bargaining strategies that facilitate harmonization of intellectual property rights. She has written, lectured and published extensively in the area of international intellectual property regulation and harmonization. She is a coauthor of the leading copyright casebook, *COPYRIGHT IN A GLOBAL INFORMATION ECONOMY* now in its second edition and used in foreign and U.S. law schools including Harvard, Georgetown, Virginia, and NYU. The book has also been translated and adapted for use by law students in China.

In addition to intellectual property Professor Okediji has taught employment law and international trade. She has earned numerous teaching awards, citations, and held appointments in public service. She recently completed a three-year term on the Committee on Sections and the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) and served as Chair from 2005-2006. She is past-Chair of the Section of Law and Computers for the American Association of Law Schools, and past-Chair of the Section on Intellectual Property. She has held visiting research positions at Harvard Law School and the Max Planck Institute for International and Comparative Patent, Copyright, Trademark and Unfair Competition Law in Munich, Germany.

From 1997-2000, Professor Okediji was Of Counsel with the Oklahoma City Law Firm of Crowe & Dunlevy. In 2002, she was appointed by Governor Frank Keating to the Oklahoma Public Employee Relations Board where she served until she joined the faculty at the University of Minnesota. Among numerous teaching and leadership awards earned throughout her academic career, Professor Okediji has served on numerous committees for Dean Searches, Faculty Tenure and Promotion, Dean Reviews and University-wide Task Forces.

Professor Okediji has served as a consultant with various international organizations including the United Nations Development Program's (UNDP) flagship project on Innovation, Culture, Biogenetic Resources, and Traditional Knowledge; the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)-ICTSD Capacity Building Project on Intellectual Property Rights and Sustainable Development. She has also served as TRIPS Advisor to various countries under the auspices of the Commercial Law Development Program in the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Professor Okediji is a board member of IP-Watch and e-IFL two non-governmental organizations working in the intellectual property field and headquartered in Geneva and London respectively. She is a member of the New York Bar Association, the American Bar Association and Order of the Coif.