

James Hicks

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Appointments

Washington University in St. Louis

Associate Professor of Law, 2024–

Associate Professor of Finance, 2024– (by courtesy)

Co-organizer, Workshop on Empirical Research in Law, 2024–

Columbia Law School

Academic Fellow, 2022–2024

University of California, Berkeley, School of Law

Fellow in Law, Business, and Innovation, 2021–2022

Education

University of California, Berkeley

Ph.D., Jurisprudence and Social Policy, 2021

Fields: Innovation Law & Policy; Law and Economics (with distinction)

J.D., 2014

Second-Year Distinction; Jurisprudence Award; Prosser Prize

Reed College

B.A., Political Science, 2008

Commendation for Excellence in Scholarship (2007; 2008)

Scholarship

Do Patents Drive Investments in Software?

118 NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY LAW REVIEW 1277 (2024)

*Do Social Movements Spur Corporate Change? The Rise of
“MeToo Termination Rights” in CEO Contracts*

98 INDIANA LAW JOURNAL 125 (2022)

(with Rachel Arnow-Richman and Steven Davidoff Solomon)

The Future or Fancy: An Empirical Study of Public Benefit Corporations

11 HARVARD BUSINESS LAW REVIEW 113 (2021)

(with Michael Dorff and Steven Davidoff Solomon)

Copyright and Economic Viability: Evidence from the Music Industry

17 JOURNAL OF EMPIRICAL LEGAL STUDIES 696 (2020)

(with Kristelia García and Justin McCrary)

Works in Progress

What's a Patent (Portfolio) Worth? (with Neel Sukhatme)

Predicting Certiorari (with Tejas Narechania)

A Survey of High-Tech Entrepreneurs, Revisited (with Chien, Katyal, and Narechania)

Do Venture Capitalists Value IP?

Do Patents Affect Investment in Medical Diagnostics?

Teaching

Washington University

Copyright Law (spring 2025)

Survey of Intellectual Property Law (fall 2025)

Law and Economics Colloquium (fall 2024; fall 2025)

Service

WashU Law

Appointments Committee (2025–26); Center for Empirical Research in Law Advisory Board (2024–)

Referee

Journal of Law & Economics; *American Law & Economics Review*; *New England Journal of Medicine*

Conference Reviewer

Conference on Empirical Legal Studies; Society for Institutional & Organizational Economics

Presentations & Commentary

* = *scheduled*

- 2026 Vanderbilt Law faculty workshop*; WashU Law faculty workshop*; UC Berkeley Law faculty workshop*
- 2025 Workshop on Empirical Methods in IP, Northwestern; Columbia Federal Courts Workshop; Illinois Law IP Lecture Series; Works in Progress in IP, UNLV
- 2024 Economics of Criminal Justice Conference, WashU; Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, Emory; Canadian Law & Economics Association, Toronto; PatCon 12, USD; Columbia Data Science Day (declined due to illness); Boston University IP workshop; Works-in-Progress in IP, Santa Clara University
- 2023 Mid-Atlantic WIP, Georgetown; PatCon 11, Northwestern; Munich Summer Institute
- 2022 Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, Virginia; Georgetown Law & Economics workshop; George Mason Law & Economics workshop; Canadian Law & Economics Association, Toronto; American Law & Economics Association, Columbia; Bay Area IP Works-in-Progress, Berkeley; Works-in-Progress in IP, Saint Louis University
- 2021 American Law & Economics Association (virtual); Online Workshop on the Computational Analysis of Law (virtual); LEAP workshop, UC Berkeley (virtual) CU Boulder Corporate Law workshop (virtual); Works-in-Progress in IP (virtual)

Awards & Honors

Berkeley Center for Law & Business Graduate Research Fellowship (2018–21)

Law, Economics, and Politics Center Research Fellowship (2020)

Law & Economics Fellowship, UC Berkeley (2016)

Selznick Fellowship, UC Berkeley (2014)

Phi Beta Kappa (2008)