Nancy Lambert Announced as 2008 IPI-Award Recipient for Dedication to Patent Information Community

Ms. Nancy Lambert, former Senior Information Analyst at ChevronTexaco, is to be honored as the recipient of the ‘International Patent Information (IPI) Award’ for 2008.

The announcement was enthusiastically greeted by more than 300 information professionals in attendance at the International Patent Information Conference & Exposition, IPI-ConfEx 2008, in Seville, Spain, on 3rd March.

The IPI-Award Selection Board paid tribute to Ms. Lambert for her extensive and tireless career devoted to patent information. They applauded her 30+ years in the chemical industry, becoming a leading authority in chemical and polymer patent searching, The Board also highlighted Ms. Lambert’s “persistent pursuit for maintaining the quality of patent databases” through her work with numerous database producers and other vendor quality control committees. Ms. Lambert was also acclaimed as one of the great teachers, communicators, and mentors in the industry, which includes an impressive contribution of more than 60 papers and articles, and more than two dozen presentations, all advancing the cause of expert patent searching. The Board also called attention to Ms. Lambert’s ongoing support and active participation in the Patent Information Users Group (PIUG), of which she is a founding member. The Board concluded by saying that this is a person whose, "many years as a collaborator, historian, reporter, critic, and interpreter are worthy of the IPI-Award".

Patent Information Advocate and Leader

Nancy Lambert earned a B.S. with honors in Chemistry from Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh and went on to complete two years of graduate work in Chemistry at Princeton University before receiving her M.S. in Library Science from Columbia University.

She joined 3M Company as a patent information specialist in 1974 and became their principal chemical and polymer patent searcher. In 1986, lured by the prospect of living in Northern California, Ms. Lambert moved to Chevron Research Company and served as a patent information resource for all of ChevronTexaco and its subsidiaries.

Ms. Lambert was one of 17 individuals in attendance at the first ever meeting of the PIUG in Crystal City, Virginia. She served as the PIUG Recording Secretary for the first six years and later wrote a history of the PIUG during its early years for World Patent Information.

Representing PIUG, she chaired the Derwent Committee for 12 years; chaired the PIUG Vendor/Producer Committee and the Questel.Orbit Committee; and also served on the Derwent, IFI, and CAS/STN Committees. Ms. Lambert has also contributed many articles to the PIUG Newsletter and has provided a semiannual Vendor Update column for the PIUG Newsletter. In addition, she has promoted the spirit of community by serving as organizer and Director of the “IFFI Players” at the PIUG Annual Meetings, often re-writing whole scripts to fit the bill and slip in a generous helping of patent related humor.

As well as to the PIUG, Ms. Lambert has also made extensive contributions to the patent information community as a whole. She is a prolific communicator in the field of patent information, having published numerous articles and columns and having given more than two dozen professional talks on topics such as online searching of polymer patents, online statistical techniques as patent search tools, and a wealth of valuable practical advice for searching various databases. She has continuously volunteered her time and talents to improve patent information databases and search systems for the benefit of the world’s patent information specialists. She is a charter member of the Questel.Orbit Advisory Group and has served on several Derwent advisory committees. She has served on the Patent Task Force and the Vocabulary Working Group for El EnCompass (formerly the American Petroleum Institute patent and literature databases) and has chaired their Online Users Group for several years. Ms Lambert has frequently provided expert feedback on new patent information products in the beta-test phase, which has assisted vendors in developing products that are tried and tested and market-ready.

Ms. Lambert, now retired, remains actively involved in the PIUG and the patent information community. Anyone wishing to send a congratulatory message to Ms. Lambert may contact her directly at n.e.lambert@gmail.com.

The presentation of the actual IPI-Award plaque to Ms. Lambert will take place during the PIUG Annual Meeting at the Hyatt Regency, Crystal City, in May. The IPI-Award consists of a plaque and an honorarium of $3000.

The IPI Award, founded by Ford Khorsandian, is sponsored by patent search firm Technology & Patent Research International, Inc., (www.TPRInternational.com). For more on the IPI-Award (www.IPI-Award.com), or the specialist European patent information conference and exposition, IPI-ConfEx (www.IPI-ConfEx.com), contact Trudi Jones, Trudi@IPI-Institute.com.