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Abstract for an Invited Paper  
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**Alternative Careers in Physics: Patent Law**

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Dario Machleidt, an attorney with the law firm Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP, will discuss the unique path he took after receiving his physics degree: patent law. Mr. Machleidt will explain his career trajectory, beginning with the switch he made from physics to law, and how his physics background has helped him throughout a 10-year career that includes an appearance before the United States Supreme Court in a closely watched patent case and, more recently, being part of a team that achieved a verdict in excess of \$20 million. The presentation will include an overview of what it is like to practice patent law—as a litigator (a lawyer who handles disputes about patent matters), a prosecutor (a lawyer who helps inventors turn their ideas into patents), and a patent agent/scientific advisor (roles that entail similar work as a prosecutor but avoid the need to go to law school). Consider attending this presentation if you are interested in learning about an exciting and challenging alternative career that you can pursue with your physics degree.