

MEET THE PTRCP STAFF

PTRC Program Office Staff

Robert Berry, PTRC Program Manager

Sara Butts, Librarian

Spruce Fraser, Librarian

Tom Turner, Librarian





ROB BERRY

Rob is manager of USPTO's Patent and Trademark Resource Center (PTRC) Program. That program supports a nation-wide network of libraries designated by USPTO to receive specialized patent and trademark training.

Prior to working with libraries, Rob served as a litigator for the New York City Law Department, Tort Division, Special Litigation Unit, where he handled state and federal cases from inception through trial.

Rob has a BA in Sociology from Edinboro State University of Pennsylvania, an MA in Political Science from the New School for Social Research, a JD from Brooklyn Law School, and an MLS from Southern Connecticut State University. Rob's research interests include Native American legal history, the Frankfurt School, trademark law, and Latin American literature.



SARA BUTTS

Sara Butts joined the PTRC Program Office on June 22, 2020 after working for Wichita State University as an Engineering, Patents, and Trademarks Librarian where she also oversaw the government documents collection. She earned her Masters of Library Science in 2016 from Emporia State University and her BA in Secondary Education in 2013 from Wichita State University. In her free time, Sara enjoys reading, playing video games, meeting friends to play board games, and exploring the D.C. metro area.



SPRUCE FRASER

Spruce Fraser joined the Patent and Trademark Resource Center Program (PTRCP) as a Librarian in January 2017. She had been a Patent and Trademark Resource Center (PTRC) Representative with the Saint Louis Public Library (SLPL), where she had worked for the past fifteen years, five of those as the PTRC Representative. She did PTRC outreach to schools, business groups, entrepreneur, and inventor organizations ranging from elementary school children, high school entrepreneurs, to inventors in the Saint Louis inventor community.

Spruce has assisted college and university administrators, faculty, and students at McGill University, Providence College, and the Stevens Institute of Business and Arts. She also provided reference services at the Etobicoke Public Library (Toronto, Ontario, Canada), Providence Public Library (Providence, RI), and the Saint Louis Public Library in this capacity.

She is a past-president of the Patent and Trademark Resource Center Association (PTRCA), after holding several positions on their Executive Board. She received university degrees in Geography, Environmental Studies, and Library Science (DEC, BA Hons Minor Environmental Studies, MA, MLIS). In her free time

Spruce enjoys singing with the USPTO choir, "The Patenters," crocheting, knitting, sewing, and discovering new restaurants in the Virginia/D.C. area.



TOM TURNER

Tom Turner is a Librarian for the Patent and Trademark Resource Center Program. Tom joined the USPTO in 2001 having completed five years as the PTDL (PTRC) representative at Arizona State University's Noble Science and Engineering Library. At ASU, Tom held positions as engineering librarian, acting head of science reference, and patent/trademark librarian. From 1998 to 1999 he was the 16th Fellow to the PTRCP. Previously, he was the librarian for the Skidaway Institute of Oceanography in Savannah, Georgia from 1986 to 1996. Tom has given numerous presentations promoting PTRC services to librarians and inventor groups. He served on the editorial board for *Science & Technology Libraries* from 2002 to 2006.

Tom received the Department of Commerce Bronze Medal Award in 2013. He has a B.S. (Education) and a M.L.S. (Library Science), both from Louisiana State University. Tom is a current member of the American Library Association. Tom retired from the USPTO in 2016 and returned in 2020. During his "retirement," he worked for the Newseum and as a contractor for U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.