## **Empowering Innovation:**

Expanding USPTO Outreach to Support Vermont's Entrepreneurs and Inventors

Graham Sherriff and Brianna Morales University of Vermont Libraries

# UVM's Patent and Trademark Resource Center (PTRC)



**Graham Sherriff** 

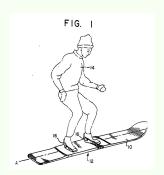
Engineering Librarian
Patent assistance



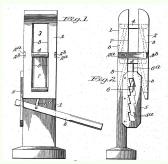
**Brianna Morales** 

Business Librarian Trademark assistance

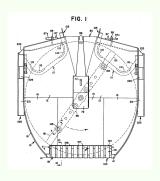
#### **Vermonters are inventors**



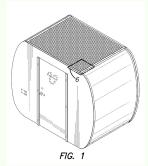
Snowboard (Jake Burton Carpenter)



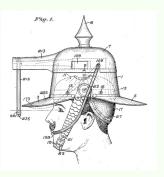
Vice (Charles Orvis)



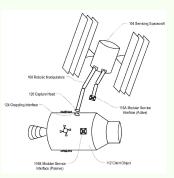
Rotating motor (John Deere)



Privacy pod (Mamava)



Helmet with pistol (A.B. Pratt)



Cubesat (Altius Space Machines)

#### Vermonters are entrepreneurs















#### What is the PTRC?

- The USPTO's Patent and Trademark Resource Center Program is a nationwide network of academic, public, and state libraries that support the public with patent and trademark assistance.
- The Burlington, VT, PTRC is hosted by UVM's Howe Library.

#### What assistance is available?



Understanding IP concepts and processes



Searching patent and trademark databases



Locating USPTO information



Finding legal advice and representation



Technical and historical research

## What's in the Howe Library?

- librarians
- self-help books, technical publications, and other useful materials
- plant patents
- historical indexes



#### How can we help virtually?

- Most patent and trademark research tools and resources are online.
- We can assist via web conference, email, phone, and regular mail.
- ptrc@uvm.edu

### **Legal notes**

We provide confidentiality but we do not sign NDAs.

We cannot provide legal opinions.

### Legal disclaimer!

So we cannot give a opinion's on a person's actual idea or invention:

- Does my idea meet the criteria for a patent or a trademark?
- How do I search for inventions, brands or ideas like mine?
- Are my searches accurate and comprehensive?
- Can you help me write my application?
- Can you recommend an attorney or agent?

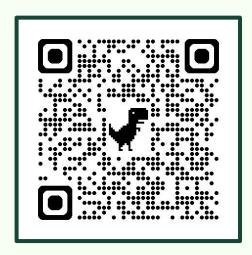
But we help patrons to find answers to these questions.

# Connections and Collaborations

We are available to assist the members of your communities.

We support inventors, innovators, entrepreneurs, small businesses, educators, historians, genealogical researchers, and more.

# THANKS!



Scan the QR code to check out our research guide and for more contact details.

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