



Rachel Highland, B.S.B.E. '05, J.D. '08, M.S. '09

Patent Examiner
United States Patent and Trademark Office

Rachel Highland is a patent examiner for the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). She specializes in examining implantable prosthetics and biomedical device patent applications. Highland serves on the board of the Patent and Trademark Office Society and as a governor and editor for the Journal of the Patent and Trademark Office Society, the oldest intellectual property law journal in the country.

Before joining the USPTO in 2010, Highland worked for a boutique intellectual property law firm in Ft. Lauderdale and as a recruiter for the Office of Student Recruitment at the University of Miami School of Law.

As a past president of the Washington D.C. 'Canes Community, Highland helped organize Hurricanes' game watch parties and Global Networking Night. She also created alumni programming unique to D.C., including "Smart Drinks," a networking and mini-speaker series; wine-tasting trips to alumni-owned Virginia wineries; and participation in Wreaths Across America at Arlington National Cemetery.

A triple 'Cane, Highland was active in student organizations during her years at the U, including the Student Bar Association, Bar & Gavel, Homecoming Executive Committee, Engineering Advisory Board, Dean's Dozen (now called Engineering Student Ambassadors), and the Society of Women Engineers. As a young alumna, Rachel helped to revitalize the College of Engineering Alumni Association and served in several capacities on its board.

She lives in Alexandria, Virginia, with her husband, Howard, their daughter Josephine, and their two golden retrievers, Gadget and Gizmo.