*The **Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation** at the Smithsonian Institution, the **United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)**, and the **Center for the Protection of Intellectual Property (CPIP)** at Antonin Scalia Law School invite you to a panel discussion at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History.*

America as a Place of Innovation: Great Inventors and the Patent System

February 16, 2017, 1:00 – 2:30 PM
Smithsonian National Museum of American History
Coulter Performance Plaza (First Floor West)

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Description:

This panel will explore the history of innovation and the broader social, political, and legal context in which it occurred in the late nineteenth century in the United States. The panel will address the historical role of patents, research-intensive startups, litigation, and licensing in an important period of disruptive innovation.

Speakers:

- **Prof. Ernest Freeberg**, University of Tennessee, *discussing Thomas Edison and how the invention of the electric light impacted American culture*.

  Professor Freeberg is the author of the book *The Age of Edison: Electric Light and the Invention of Modern America* (Penguin, 2014).

- **Prof. Christopher Beauchamp**, Brooklyn Law School, *discussing Alexander Graham Bell and the legal disputes that erupted out of Bell's telephone patent*.

  Professor Beauchamp is the author of the book *Invented by Law: Alexander Graham Bell and the Patent That Changed America* (Harvard University Press, 2015).

- **Prof. Adam Mossoff**, Antonin Scalia Law School, George Mason University, *discussing early American innovation by Charles Goodyear, Samuel Morse, and Joseph Singer*.

  Professor Mossoff is the author of the influential article "The Rise and Fall of the First American Patent Thicket: The Sewing Machine War of the 1850s."

- *Moderator*: **Arthur Daemmrich**, *Director*, Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation

- *Closing Remarks:* **Alan Marco**, *Chief Economist*, U.S. Patent & Trademark Office

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