Trials@uspto.gov 572-272-7822 Paper 147 Entered: September 29, 2014

### UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

### BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

ILLUMINA, INC. Petitioner,

V.

### THE TRUSTEES OF **COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY** IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK Patent Owner.

Case IPR2012-00007 US Patent 7,790,869

Before SALLY G. LANE, RICHARD M. LEBOVITZ, and DEBORAH KATZ *Administrative Patent Judges*.

LANE, Administrative Patent Judge.

DOCKET

DECISION Miscellaneous Motion 37 C.F.R. § 42.56

### I. Introduction

On Friday 26 September 2014, Columbia counsel contacted the Board via email inquiring as to "how to expedite unsealing certain confidential documents in connection to their use in the Federal Circuit appeal briefs". The parties indicated that "[b]riefing is due on Monday 9/29." (See attached email communication appearing to have been sent at 10:15 am on 26 September 2014).<sup>1</sup> A later email states that:

Pursuant to the Patent Owner's earlier e-mail to the Board regarding unsealing confidential exhibits, the Parties have reached an agreement that portions of the record no longer contain confidential information. The Parties therefore jointly request that the following sealed exhibits be made public: 2054, 2065-2070, and 2072-2087 [listed exhibits].

(See attached email communication appearing to have been sent at 11:00 am on

26 September 2014 (Request)).

Communications from Illumina counsel via email confirm that the request to

make public the sealed versions of the listed exhibits is a joint request. (See

<sup>1</sup> While we are able to accommodate the parties in the case, it is not a good practice to wait until just prior to a due date to seek relief as the Board needs a reasonably sufficient time to consider issues put before it.

attached email communications appearing to have been sent at 12:12pm and 1:51pm on 26 September 2014).

### **II.** Discussion

The parties were authorized to file certain Exhibits under seal. As to those certain Exhibits, each was filed as an "under seal" and "public" version. The parties have agreed that the listed Exhibits no longer contain confidential information and that the under seal versions of these Exhibits may be made public.

There is a strong public interest in making the record of the proceeding open to the public as the proceeding affects the rights of the public by determining whether a party has a right to its patent. Accordingly, we grant the Request as its grant makes further information available to the public. We understand that judicial review of our decision has been sought (See Notice of Appeal, Paper 146) but we view making the listed Exhibits public as a purely ministerial act that is reasonable in the present circumstances.<sup>2</sup>

#### Order III.

It is

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ORDERED that the under seal versions of the following exhibits shall be

made publically available:

Exhibits 2054, 2065-2070, and 2072-2087.

See Loshbough v. Allen, 359 F.2d 910, 912 (CCPA 1966) (stating that the 2 Board may "exercise a purely ministerial function in their administrative capacity" despite a notice of appeal).

### **PETITIONER:**

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