



**Alka A. Patel, Esq., ENGR '96,
Secretary, Pitt Alumni Association Board of Directors 2016-2018**

For over 10 years, Alka, a registered patent attorney, has been in private practice counseling entities from start-ups to Universities to Fortune 500 companies on all aspects of intellectual property matters. She worked at firms including The Webb Law Firm and Pepper Hamilton, LLP. Most recently, in 2011 Alka joined the legal department of BNY Mellon supporting its Treasury Services business line. Her work primarily focuses on transactional matters including, development, software and privacy related matters. Prior to practicing law, Alka worked as an engineer with Latrobe Steel and GE Industrial Systems.

She has served on the Alumni Leadership Council and Pitt Alumni Board of Directors since 2007 in various roles, including Director at Large and served on the Awards Committee.

Alka currently serves on the boards of Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens and the Consortium for Public Education and is a past board member of the YWCA of Greater Pittsburgh and Girl Scouts, Trillium Council. She is the one of the founding chairs of the Asian Attorneys Committee, and is currently the chair of the Diversity Collaborative Committee of the Allegheny County Bar Association.

Alka has been recognized for her professional achievements as well as for her involvement in the community. Some of her recognitions include the following: being named a “Rising Star” by the Pennsylvania Super Lawyers in 2011 and 2008; being named a “Fast Tracker” by The Legal Intelligencer & PA Law Weekly in 2010, being named a community Builder/Social Engineer by the Pennsylvania Bar Association Minority Attorney Committee; as well as being the recipient of the Young Alumni award from the University of Pittsburgh’s School of Engineering.

Alka received her J.D. and M.B.A. degrees from Duquesne University and a B.S. in Materials Science and Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh.

Alka lives in the South Hills with her husband and three young children.