

## PLUGGED IN



# Judith Hasko

Latham & Watkins  
partner

Hasko helps her clients ink some of the most significant—and complex—technology-focused transactions in the life sciences sector, spanning spin-out, licensing and co-development matters. Before turning to a legal career, she performed cardiovascular research at Genentech Inc., putting her biopsychology and neurobiology degrees to work.



## What is the most challenging thing about negotiating the massive agreements you work on?

Crafting comprehensive, legally and technically correct and balanced agreements under tight timelines and in an evolving business environment.

## Biggest career accomplishment?

With a potential total value of \$3.3 billion, the recent biotech strategic collaboration between our client, OncoMed Pharmaceuticals, and Celgene Corp. is certainly among the largest preclinical/early clinical deals in the history of the biotech industry. It was particularly challenging because it required such close coordination between the parties' teams to manage and address a rapid timeline and enormously complicated matters. I was highly satisfied that I was able to apply all of my years of transactional experience to help OncoMed achieve such a great result.

## What is changing most rapidly in your field?

Too much to list. Patent laws, healthcare reform, scientific advancements, business structures and business environment, to name a few.

## What do you like most about your work?

I learn something every day, and work with dedicated and talented people to address practical challenges that help our clients succeed in the market.

## Best career advice you ever got?

Become a true member of the client team—know the client's business and earn its trust.

## What would you do if you weren't doing this?

If I had the talent, some kind of professional sport.

## Guilty pleasure?

Reading biographies and travel books, hopefully on a beach somewhere.

## Words to live by?

It's a marathon, not a sprint.

## One word others would use to describe you?

I suspect "focused" might be one of the responses.

## Recent book or movie you'd recommend?

"Founding Brothers" by Joseph J. Ellis. Fascinating portrait of the individuals and personalities driving the American Revolution.

## Any advice for new lawyers?

Be open to opportunities and perform at a consistently high level.

—Chelsea Allison