

TRAILBLAZERS

TECHNOLOGY LAW

JUDITH HASKO LATHAM & WATKINS LLP



PIONEER SPIRIT Judith Hasko earned a B.A. in biopsychology, and “as an undergrad, I really crossed the divide between science and the liberal arts.” She then attended the University of Sussex for a master’s degree, where she became interested in research. “I needed to write my thesis, so I came to the Bay Area and got a job at Genentech. I worked with scientists doing novel science to make the impossible possible. I decided to try a role in the industry as a lawyer blending my prior interests in the liberal arts with my science-based experience. I chose to pursue transactions in the life sciences industry. As I learned more, I got excited and dug in.”

TRAILS BLAZED Hasko has always advised her clients to craft transactions that last a long time. “We make sure we are aware of the risks and the likely ways these deals can present challenges. Along the way, there were some more transformative experiences to take brand-new technology and craft a deal uniquely suitable for that. Every larger deal I do is groundbreaking, in that the technology our clients are developing is unique and the risks and benefits are very different.” For example, she represented Juno in its deal with Celgene. “It was a large deal, but also one that required careful crafting as there were so many unknown aspects of their technology, immuno-oncology.” Recently, she advised Daiichi Sankyo in its \$6.9 billion deal with Astra Zeneca. “Daiichi Sankyo developed a drug to treat different kinds of cancers, but they needed a strong global partner to amplify development and reach the markets.”

FUTURE EXPLORATIONS The life sciences industry will continue to innovate, including around novel therapeutics and neurology. “I look forward to helping companies that are trying to develop therapies to help patients.”