

Member Spotlight

Julia Jackson

Senior Counsel

Takeda Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc.

Deerfield, IL

** Past President of ACC Chicago Chapter*

Current position since: 2006

Years in-house: 8

Law School: Indiana University – Indianapolis

Undergrad: Kentucky Christian University, Bible and Psychology Double Major

Post Grad: Indiana University, MS in Higher Education and Student Affairs

Best thing about my job:

Knowing that the work that I do is helping to enable new medication options to be provided to patients and working with such intelligent, supportive and collegial colleagues.

What I've accomplished as an in-house lawyer of which I'm most proud:

- (1) helping to establish Takeda Legal's pro bono initiative;
- (2) bringing Takeda into the ACC Diversity Internship Program; and
- (3) my work through ACC Chicago related to pro bono and diversity and inclusion initiatives

My most pivotal career move:

Making the jump to in house which required a relocation to the Chicagoland area from Indianapolis.

Worst job I ever had:

I used to clean the house of a good friend the summer I took the bar – surprised I'm still friends with him.

What I look forward to in my career:

Takeda is constantly changing and I really enjoy having to adapt to those changes and learning new aspects of the business that I'm supporting as well as getting to mentor junior attorneys.

Most valuable life lesson that I still apply today:

I'll never know that I can't do something if I don't at least try.

Words of wisdom I try to keep in mind:

"Whenever you are asked if you can do a job, tell 'em 'certainly I can!' Then get busy and find out how to do it." – Theodore Roosevelt

Advice I would give to new lawyers:

Never be afraid to ask for advice – sometimes it's hard to look like you don't know the answer or need help, but I've learned so much by just being willing to ask questions.

Best thing about ACC membership:

Everything – I love all the connections I've made, great friends and colleagues; I love the opportunities to serve through Street Law; mentoring interns; and the pro-bono activities. We have some of the best CLEs that I've attended thanks to our amazing sponsors, as well as having access to such terrific resources through Headquarters.

When I am not working, I like to:

Spend as much time as I can with my kids. It's hard being a working mom, kids grow up so quickly. Kelsey just turned 3 and Will is 1. We love to be outside. I love to read. I'm a huge Colts football fan and travel back to Indy for all the home games. I also enjoy watching the Cubs and Blackhawks.

The place I've never been but would most like to visit:

This is still a long list – Hawaii, Ireland, Tahiti are three that come to mind quickly. Ireland to see where some of my ancestors are from, and I love the water which is the draw of Hawaii and Tahiti.

What's currently on your music playlist:

Depends who's with me – varies from anything kids related such as the Wiggles, Alvin and the Chipmunks or Disney classics; Keith Urban; Zac Brown Band; Lady Antebellum; Pharell; Iggy Azalea; Usher – this is just a small sampling

People may be surprised to learn that I:

LOVE cheesy jokes. Such as – why do cemeteries have fences around them? Because people are dying to get in. Or: Why can't you trust atoms? Because they make up everything.