

## Hon. Michelle Kwok Lee, Transitions

For some time, there has been a growing consensus that the incumbent Under Secretary of Commerce in charge of the PTO would be leaving her Agency.

The latest indication pointing in this direction is provided today by Politico (as per the press report included as part of the pdf version of this note).

**On to the OSTP:** Politico suggests that PTO Director Lee may be headed to lead the Office of Science & Technology Policy.

### **Ms. Lee in Any Event is Said to be Slated to Leave the PTO:**

Politico confirms that the Administration is actively looking for a new head of the PTO. It reports that Secretary of Commerce “Wilbur Ross \*\*\* has been interviewing replacement candidates to head USPTO.”

**Unconfirmed Rumors:** The writer has no personal knowledge whether the information in Politico is correct or if correct will lead to the matriculation of Ms. Lee out of the PTO.

Regards,  
Hal

### **Michelle Lee under consideration to head OSTP, POLITICO (April 18, 2017):**

Michelle Lee, director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, is in the running to head up the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, sources familiar with the job search tell POLITICO.

The report is the latest sign that Lee is poised to move on to another role in the Trump administration. Rep. Darrell Issa, one of Lee's biggest boosters in Congress, floated the idea of Lee taking a position at OSTP earlier this month. And Wilbur Ross, Lee's boss at the Commerce Department, has been interviewing replacement candidates to head USPTO.

Lee, a former Google executive, is a holdover from the Obama administration. Playbook said she didn't respond to requests for comment and the White House did not have any comment in time for publication this morning.