

THE CBLA CIRCULAR



Highlights of the past year from Columbia Law School's most active student organization

On-Campus
Programming

P. 2

Off-Campus
Programming

P. 5

Membership
Development

P. 6

Support
CBLA

P. 6

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The Columbia Business and Law Association (CBLA) is one of the largest student organizations at Columbia Law School, with more than 300 members, and is the only student group at Columbia dedicated to the interaction between law and business. We recognize that lawyers with business training and business leaders with a legal background can gain a critical competitive edge in the current economy. CBLA therefore aims to provide a forum for students to pursue scholarship and professional opportunities in business both within and outside of law. The organization utilizes sponsorship funds to organize lectures, workshops, networking events, and a mentorship program.

CBLA's events cover traditional corporate law practice areas such as capital markets, mergers and acquisitions, private equity, and bankruptcy; specialized practices such as tax and real estate; and alternative career paths such as venture capital, consulting, entrepreneurship, and in-house practice.



ON-CAMPUS PROGRAMMING

CBLA is always looking for innovative ways to expose Columbia Law School students to a wide range of career opportunities in the private sector, both within and outside the traditional law firm setting.

Our *Fundamentals of Corporate Law Series* introduces CBLA members to the fundamentals of various corporate practice areas through lunchtime panel discussions.

Our *Transaction Case Study Series*, launched during the 2015–2016 academic year, features immersive case studies through which New York's top law firms introduce CBLA members to the lawyering behind headline deals.

FUNDAMENTALS OF CORPORATE LAW SERIES

Mergers & Acquisitions (September 26, 2017)

Panelists:

- Anthony Vernace– Partner at **Simpson Thacher & Bartlett**
- Bob DeLaMater– Partner at **Sullivan & Cromwell**
- Max Mayer-Cesiano– Partner at **Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom**
- Chris Austin– Partner at **Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton**

Commercial Litigation (October 3, 2017)

Panelists:

- Matt Solum– Partner at **Kirkland & Ellis**
- Ben Germana– Partner at **Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz**
- Jaren Janghorbani– Partner at **Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison**
- Roger Cooper– Associate at **Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton**

Bankruptcy & Restructuring (October 12, 2017)

Panelists:

- Gabe Morgan– Associate at **Weil, Gotshal & Manges**
- Philip Abelson– Partner at **White & Case**
- Brian Resnick – Partner at **Davis Polk & Wardwell**
- Rebecca Chaikin– Associate at **Kirkland & Ellis**
- Elizabeth McColm– Partner at **Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison**

Securities & Capital Markets (October 18, 2017)

Panelists:

- Roshni Banker Cariello- Associate at **Davis Polk & Wardwell**
- James Shea– Special Counsel at **Sullivan & Cromwell**
- Erika Weinberg– Partner at **Latham & Watkins**
- Dwight Yoo– Partner at **Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom**

Banking, Credit & Finance (October 24, 2017)

Panelists:

- Bill Sheehan– Partner at **Simpson Thacher & Bartlett**
- Bjorn Bjerke– Partner at **Shearman & Sterling**
- Carlos Rodriguez – Partner at **Sidley Austin**
- Ashley Gregory– Partner at **Kirkland & Ellis**
- Brian Drozda– Counsel at **Weil, Gotshal & Manges**

(Continued)

Investment Management (October 26, 2017)	<i>Panelists:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zila Acosta-Grimes– Associate at Debevoise & Plimpton • David Miller– Special Counsel at Schulte Roth & Zabel • Monica Arora– Partner at Proskauer Rose • William Shirley– Counsel at Sidley Austin • Ganaraj Hegde– Associate at Shearman & Sterling
Antitrust (October 31, 2017)	<i>Panelists:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael Lacovara– Partner at Latham & Watkins • Maria Raptis– Partner at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom • Mark Gidley– Partner at White & Case • Damien Diddan– Partner at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz
International Arbitration (November 1, 2017) <i>In partnership with the Columbia International Arbitration Association</i>	<i>Panelists:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Justin Lee– Partner at White & Case • Floriane Lavaud– Counsel at Debevoise & Plimpton • Esti Tambay– Associate at Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton • Ben Love– Senior Associate at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer
White Collar/Regulatory (November 7, 2017)	<i>Panelists:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avi Gesser– Partner at Davis Polk & Wardwell • Arlo Devlin-Brown – Partner at Covington & Burling • Roberto Finzi – Partner at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison • Nic Bourtin – Partner at Sullivan & Cromwell • Will Mattessich – Associate at Debevoise & Plimpton

TRANSACTION CASE STUDY SERIES

Mergers & Acquisitions (November 2, 2017)	<i>Presenting Firm:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom
White Collar Appeal (November 16, 2017) <i>As part of White Collar Week</i>	<i>Presenting Firm:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WilmerHale
Initial Public Offering (January 31, 2018)	<i>Presenting Firm:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Latham & Watkins
Mergers & Acquisitions (February 6, 2018)	<i>Presenting Firm:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kirkland & Ellis
Restructuring (March 5, 2018)	<i>Presenting Firm:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Davis Polk
Finance (March 27, 2018)	<i>Presenting Firm:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Norton Rose Fulbright
Corporate (April 3, 2018)	<i>Presenting Firms:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WilmerHale
Advertising Litigation (April 12, 2018)	<i>Presenting Firm:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kramer Levin



OFF-CAMPUS PROGRAMMING

LUNCH AT A LAW FIRM SERIES

During the 2017–2018 academic year, CBLA coordinated with fourteen top New York firms for the *Lunch at a Law Firm Series*. At each event, attorneys hosted a group of first-year J.D. students and LL.M. students to discuss specific practice areas and the unique aspects of their firm.

Based on feedback from our members, the series provided an intimate look into the cultural differences between firms — a valuable resource for students preparing to interview for summer associate positions.

Participating firms included:

- Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton;
- Davis Polk & Wardwell;
- Debevoise & Plimpton;
- Kirkland & Ellis;
- Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison;
- Proskauer Rose;
- Shearman & Sterling;
- Sidley Austin;
- Simpson Thacher & Bartlett;
- Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom;
- Sullivan & Cromwell;
- Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz; and
- Weil, Gotshal & Manges.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMMING

Current Issues in Tax Law (October 10, 2017)

*In partnership with the Columbia
Journal of Tax Law*

Panelists:

- **Kimberly Blanchard**– Partner at **Weil, Gotshal & Manges**
- **Elliot Pisem**- Partner at **Roberts & Holland LLP**
- **Stuart L. Rosow**– Partner at **Proskauer**
- **Michael Schler**– Of Counsel at **Cravath, Swaine & Moore**
- **Andrew Walker**– Partner at **Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy**
- **Davis Wang**– Partner at **Sullivan & Cromwell**

Tipper X (November 6, 2017)

As part of White Collar Week

Presenters:

- **Tom Hardin a.k.a. Tipper X**– Former hedge fund trader and FBI insider trading informant

Women in Mergers & Acquisitions (October 17, 2017)

*In partnership with the Columbia
Law Women's Association*

Participating firms included Houlihan Lokey; Schulte Roth & Zabel; Sullivan & Cromwell; Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom; and Hogan Lovells.

Women in Private Equity (April 10, 2018)

Presenting Firm:

- **Kirkland & Ellis**

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

During the 2017–2018 academic year, our sponsors enabled us to organize membership events to promote CBLA and recruit new members from the class of 2020. These events were geared toward providing a new framework through which law students perceive business. The *Bagel and Champagne Brunch* in fall 2017 was an opportunity for existing and prospective members to interact with the CBLA board and ask questions about what CBLA can do for them. During *happy hours*, members engaged with each other to provide feedback and exchange ideas about upcoming events.

CBLA also continued its successful *mentoring program*, through which 2L and 3L members were matched with incoming 1Ls for the academic year. This program provided 1Ls with the opportunity to candidly engage with upper-level students about their experiences as 1Ls and to get advice on a broad variety of topics, from career advice to study strategies. We hope to sustain and enhance this program through the continued sponsorship of our law firm partners.

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We hope you will consider becoming a sponsor of CBLA for the 2018–2019 academic year. CBLA acknowledges all of our corporate sponsors on our website. If you would like to get involved with CBLA's programming, we will also acknowledge your sponsorship in all of our school-wide e-mails. If you would like to make a sponsorship donation, please contact us for more information.

Contact Information: cbla@law.columbia.edu

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- Mackenzie Humble, Vice-President (meh2249@columbia.edu)
- Hayes Hagan, Vice-President (thh2112@columbia.edu)

For more information about the breadth and nature of our events, please visit our website at www.clsbcla.com.

SUPPORT CBLA

CBLA is proud to be sponsored by some of the world's leading law firms.

The generous support of our firm sponsors allows us to put our ambitious ideas into action. Our successful educational and panel events would not have been possible without the funding provided by our sponsors.

We thank them for their support.



COLUMBIA BUSINESS AND LAW ASSOCIATION

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