



# The CBLA Circular

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



The Columbia Business and Law Association (CBLA) is one of the largest student organizations at Columbia Law School, and it is the only student group at Columbia dedicated to exploring the intersection 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 like capital markets, private equity, and bankruptcy; specialized practices like tax and real estate; and alternative career paths like venture capital, consulting, entrepreneurship, and in-house practice.

## SY 2014-2015 SPONSORS



WACHTELL, LIPTON, ROSEN & KATZ



# CAREER AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

CLBA is always looking for innovative ways to expose Columbia Law Students to a wide range of career opportunities in the private sector. This includes introducing members to the fundamentals of various corporate practice areas as well as options for alternative careers outside the traditional law firm setting.

<b>Fundamentals of Corporate Law Series</b>	Capital Markets	<p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Robert Ryan</b>, Securities Partner, <b>Sidley Austin LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Michael Mariani</b>, Corporate Associate, <b>Cravath, Swaine &amp; Moore LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Joshua Foran</b>, Capital Markets Associate, <b>Davis Polk &amp; Wardwell LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Dwight Yoo</b>, Corporate Finance Partner, <b>Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher &amp; Flom LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Juan Mendez</b>, Capital Markets Partner, <b>Simpson Thacher &amp; Bartlett LLP</b></li> </ul>
	Mergers & Acquisitions	<p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Bill Groll</b>, Corporate Partner, <b>Cleary Gottlieb Steen &amp; Hamilton LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Christopher Anthony</b>, Corporate Associate, <b>Debevoise &amp; Plimpton LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Richard Brand</b>, Corporate Partner, <b>Kirkland &amp; Ellis LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Melissa Sawyer</b>, Corporate Partner, <b>Sullivan &amp; Cromwell LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Igor Kirman</b>, Corporate Partner, <b>Watchtell, Lipton, Rosen &amp; Katz</b></li> </ul>
	Complex Commercial Litigation	<p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Matt Solum</b>, Litigation Partner, <b>Kirkland &amp; Ellis LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Ellis Jaren Janghorbani</b>, Litigation Partner, <b>Paul Weiss</b></li> <li>• <b>Patrick Rideout</b>, Litigation Associate, <b>Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher &amp; Flom LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Suhana Han</b>, Partner, <b>Sullivan &amp; Cromwell LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Elaine Golin</b>, Litigation Partner, <b>Watchtell, Lipton, Rosen &amp; Katz</b></li> </ul>
	Bankruptcy & Restructuring	<p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Jake Adlerstein</b>, Bankruptcy &amp; Corporate Reorganization Associate, <b>Paul Weiss</b></li> <li>• <b>Phil Abelson</b>, Restructuring &amp; Bankruptcy Partner, <b>Proskauer Rose LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Adam Shpeen</b>, Insolvency &amp; Restructuring Associate, <b>Davis Polk &amp; Wardwell LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>James Bromley</b>, Bankruptcy &amp; Restructuring Partner, <b>Cleary Gottlieb</b></li> <li>• <b>Christopher Greco</b>, Restructuring Partner, <b>Kirkland &amp; Ellis LLP</b></li> </ul>
	Investment Management	<p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Barrie Covit</b>, Asset Management Partner, <b>Simpson Thacher &amp; Bartlett LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Stephanie Breslow</b>, Investment Management Partner, <b>Schulte Roth &amp; Zabel LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Chip Parsons</b>, Corporate Department Partner, <b>Proskauer Rose LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Michael Schmidtberger</b>, Investment Funds Partner, <b>Sidley Austin LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Ben Amos</b>, Investment Management Group Associate, <b>Debevoise &amp; Plimpton LLP</b></li> </ul>

<b>Fundamentals of Corporate Law Series</b>	International Arbitration	<p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Marc Suskin</b>, Partner, <b>Chadbourne &amp; Parke LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Liang-Ying Tan</b>, Associate, <b>Hebert Smith Freehills LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Deylan Dimitrov</b>, Associate, <b>Holwell Shuster &amp; Goldberg LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Shannon Lazzarini</b>, Counsel, <b>Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher &amp; Flom LLP</b></li> </ul>
	Intellectual Property	<p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>David Greenwald</b>, Partner, <b>Cravath Swaine &amp; Moore LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Joshua Simmons</b>, Associate, <b>Kirkland &amp; Ellis LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Achal Oza</b>, Associate, <b>Goodwin Proctor LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Omar Khan</b>, Counsel, <b>WilmerHale</b></li> <li>• <b>M. Oren Epstein</b>, Counsel, <b>Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher &amp; Flom LLP</b></li> </ul>
	Tax Practice	<p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Koonho Cho</b>, Associate, <b>Davis Polk &amp; Wardwell LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Kathryn Kelly</b>, Associate, <b>Gibson, Dunn &amp; Crutcher LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Davis Wang</b>, Partner, <b>Sullivan &amp; Cromwell LLP</b></li> </ul>
	Women in Firms	<p><i>Participants:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Cravath Swaine &amp; Moore LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Latham &amp; Watkins LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Ropes &amp; Gray LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Sherman &amp; Sterling LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Simpson Thacher LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Sullivan &amp; Cromwell LLP</b></li> </ul>

## MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Our sponsors enabled us in the academic year of 2014-2015 to organize membership events to promote CBLA and recruit new members from the class of 2017. These events were geared toward providing a new framework through which law students perceive business. **The Bagel and Champagne Brunch** in fall 2014 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 organized a **tour** of the **Wall Street** and the **Financial District** for members to learn about important institutions in New York City.

CBLA also continued its successful **mentoring program**, in 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 get advice on a broad variety of topics, from career advice to study and strategies. We hope to sustain and enhance this program through the continued sponsorship of our law firm partners.

*The generous support of our firm sponsors allow 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.*

## “LUNCH AT A LAW FIRM” SERIES

For the academic year 2014–2015, CBLA coordinated with fifteen top New York firms for the “Lunch at a Law Firm” series. At each event, attorneys hosted about 20–25 first-year J.D. students and LL.M. students to discuss specific practice areas and unique aspects of each firm. Based on feedback from our members, the series provided an intimate look into the cultural differences between firms — a valuable resource for students in preparing for their summer associate interview programs.

*Asterisk (\*) indicates sponsor*

---

**Lunch at a  
law firm series**

Chadbourne Parke LLP

Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP

Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP\*

Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP\*

Debevoise & Plimpton LLP\*

Kirkland & Ellis LLP\*

Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP\*

Proskauer Rose LLP\*

Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP\*

Sidley Austin LLP\*

Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP\*

Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP\*

Sullivan & Cromwell LLP\*

Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz\*

Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP\*

---

**SUPPORT CBLA!**

We are requesting a single donation of \$2,000 to become a General Sponsor of CBLA for the academic year 2015–2016. We also welcome sponsorship of a single planned event (ranging from \$300–\$500) that may be relevant to your firm’s interests. CBLA acknowledges all our corporate sponsors on our website. If you choose to become a General Sponsor, your firm’s logo will be displayed on our homepage on the right hand side directly under our banner. If you would like to sponsor a specific event, we will acknowledge your sponsorship in all of our school-wide e-mails and publish a link to your firm’s website on our website under the event description.

**Note: In the event that no goods or services are provided in exchange for donations, your gift will be tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.**

If you would like to make a sponsorship donation, **please mail a check made out to “Columbia University” to:**

**Columbia Business and Law Association**  
435 West 116th Street  
New York, NY 10027

**Contact Information:**     **[cbla@law.columbia.edu](mailto:cbla@law.columbia.edu)**  
Maxwell Kaufman (maxwell.kaufman@law.columbia.edu)  
Carlos Estevez (carlos.estevez@law.columbia.edu)  
Co-Presidents, 2015-2016

For more information about the breadth and nature of our events, please visit our website at [www.clsccbbla.com](http://www.clsccbbla.com)

### **COLUMBIA BUSINESS & LAW ASSOCIATION**

The Columbia Business and Law Association 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 routinely sponsors lectures, workshops, and networking events from traditional areas of interest such as investment banking, management consulting, venture capital, private equity, hedge funds, and entrepreneurship. CBLA also serves as a center for members of the Columbia Law School community interested in many aspects of business law, including corporate governance and securities regulation.

