



# 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.

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# 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><u>Panelists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ed Petrosky</b>, Co-Head of Capital Markets, <b>Sidley Austin LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Bob Treuhold</b>, Capital Markets Partner, <b>Shearman &amp; Sterling LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Duane McLaughlin</b>, Capital Markets Partner, <b>Cleary Gottlieb Steen &amp; Hamilton LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Cathy Clarkin</b>, Corporate and Finance Partner, <b>Sullivan &amp; Cromwell LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Joe Hall</b>, Corporate Partner, <b>Davis Polk &amp; Wardwell LLP</b></li> </ul> <p><u>Moderator:</u> <b>Merritt Fox</b>, Michael E. Patterson Professor of Law and NASDAQ Professor of the Columbia Law and Business Schools' Joint Project on the Law and Economics of Capital Markets</p>
	M&A	<p><u>Panelists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Matt Kaplan</b>, Corporate Partner at <b>Debevoise &amp; Plimpton LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Jack Bodner</b>, M&amp;A Partner at <b>Covington &amp; Burling LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Marjan Ziadlou</b>, Corporate Associate at <b>Proskauer Rose LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Sean Crnkovich</b>, M&amp;A Associate at <b>Simpson, Thacher &amp; Bartlett LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Nina McIntyre</b>, M&amp;A Associate at <b>Sullivan &amp; Cromwell LLP</b></li> </ul> <p><u>Moderator:</u> <b>Curtis Milhaupt</b>, Parker Professor of Comparative Corporate Law, Director of the Parker School of Foreign and Comparative Law, Fuyo Professor of Japanese Law, and Director of the Center for Japanese Legal Studies, all at Columbia Law School</p>
	Asset Management	<p><u>Panelists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Jennifer Dunn</b>, Investment Management Partner, <b>Schulte Roth &amp; Zabel LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Charles Parsons</b>, Corporate Partner, <b>Proskauer Rose LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Christopher Wells</b>, Partner/Head of the Hedge Funds Group, <b>Proskauer Rose LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Lindsay Wiersma</b>, Corporate Associate, <b>Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton &amp; Garrison LLP</b></li> <li>• Investment Management Practitioner from <b>Simpson Thacher &amp; Bartlett LLP</b></li> </ul> <p><u>Moderator:</u> <b>Michael Nissan</b>, Tax, Benefits, and Executive Compensation Partner at <b>Weil, Gotshal &amp; Manges LLP</b>, and Adjunct Faculty at Columbia Law School</p>
	Commercial Litigation	<p><u>Panelists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Teena Sankoorikal</b>, Litigation Partner, <b>Cravath, Swaine &amp; Moore LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Jennifer Farina</b>, Litigation Associate, <b>Covington &amp; Burling LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Caitlin Grusauskas</b>, Litigation Associate, <b>Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton &amp; Garrison LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Patrick Rideout</b>, Litigation Associate, <b>Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher &amp; Flom LLP</b></li> </ul> <p><u>Moderator:</u> <b>Janice Shaw</b>, Senior Director of J.D. Career Services at Columbia Law School and former litigation associate at <b>Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher &amp; Flom LLP</b></p>

<b>Educational Conversations</b>	A Q&A Session About Success on the Tennis Courts and in Business	Discussion with <b>Novak Djokovic</b> , a professional tennis player, on the interaction of business and the law with his own athletic career. Moderated by <b>Mark Barenberg</b> , Columbia Law School Professor and Co-Director of the Labor Law and Policy program
	Law as Code: Reality, Possibility, and Potential Blockchain Legal Trends	Discussion of the regulatory and legal trends surrounding the public ledger database known as the “Blockchain,” which is integral to the functioning of Bitcoin. The discussion covered both the tech basics as well as the legal landscape and federal enforcement. The panelists included <b>Miles Cowan</b> and <b>Zachary Smith</b> , co-founders of <b>TilliT Inc.</b>
	Sustainability & Innovation: Transforming the Value Chain	Discussion with executives from <b>Hewlett-Packard</b> , <b>Walt Disney</b> , and <b>Amalgamated Bank</b> on how to create a responsible and competitive supply chain. Moderated by <b>John Wilson</b> , an Adjunct Professor at the Columbia Business School.
	Dodd-Frank and Too Big to Fail: A Debate	Debate over Dodd-Frank and the recent financial crisis with <b>Margaret Tahyar</b> , a Financial Institutions Group Partner at <b>Davis Polk &amp; Wardwell LLP</b> , and Ammon Simon, Policy Counsel at the Judicial Crisis Network. Moderated by <b>Robert Jackson, Jr.</b> , Associate Professor of Law and Co-Director of Columbia Law School’s Ira M. Millstein Center.
	Credit as Contract: Understanding Money Markets	Discussion of the legal principles involved in the development of financial instruments, as well as the design and function of money markets. Speakers included <b>Zoltan Pozsar</b> , Senior Advisor at the U.S. Department of the Treasury, <b>Joseph Sommer</b> , Legal Counsel at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, and <b>Marshall Auerback</b> , INET Director of Institutional Partnerships. Moderated by Jeffrey Gordon, Richard Paul Richman Professor of Law at Columbia Law School and Co-Director of the Richman Center for Business, Law & Public Policy.
<b>Panel Discussions</b>	Women in Firms	Female partners from the following firms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Cravath, Swaine &amp; Moore LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton &amp; Garrison LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Sullivan &amp; Cromwell LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Willkie Farr &amp; Gallagher LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>White &amp; Case LLP</b></li> </ul>
	Surviving and Thriving in Big Law as a Summer and Junior Associate	<i>Panelists:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tom Paskowitz</b>, Litigation Partner, <b>Sidley Austin LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Jack Rossman</b>, Junior Corporate Associate, <b>Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher &amp; Flom LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Tammy Wang</b>, Junior Corporate Associate, <b>Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton &amp; Garrison LLP</b></li> <li>• A Junior Associate from <b>Shearman &amp; Sterling LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Michael Mariani</b>, Senior Corporate Associate, <b>Cravath, Swaine &amp; Moore LLP</b></li> </ul>
	Retirement & Estate Planning for Young Professionals	<i>Panelists:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Paula Ryan</b>, Partner, <b>Davis Polk &amp; Wardwell LLP</b></li> <li>• <b>Alec Haverstick</b>, Principal and Senior Wealth Advisor at Goldman Sachs</li> <li>• <b>Nick DeGasperis</b>, Private Wealth Advisor at Goldman Sachs</li> </ul>

*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 2013–2014, CBLA coordinated with nine 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*

<b>Lunch at a law firm series</b>	Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP*
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	Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP*
	Shearman and Sterling LLP*
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## MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Our sponsors enabled us in the academic year of 2013-2014 to organize membership events to promote CBLA and recruit new members from the class of 2016. These events were geared toward providing a new framework through which law students perceive business. **The Bagel and Champagne Brunch** in fall 2013 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 **tours** of the **Federal Reserve Bank of New York** and **Bloomberg** for members to experience these 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.

## SUPPORT CBLA!

We are requesting a single donation of \$2,000 to become a General Sponsor of CBLA for the academic year 2014–2015. 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

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Co-Presidents, 2014-2015

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

### COLUMBIA BUSINESS & LAW ASSOCIATION

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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.

