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Job Posting

BCLBE is currently looking for an **Associate Director of Corporate & Foundation Relations** to work closely with the BCLBE Executive Director and the Berkeley Law development team to secure grants and gifts to support BCLBE's research, education, and policy activities. This is an exciting opportunity to join a dynamic team at Berkeley Law. To review the full job description, required qualifications, and application, go to [Berkeley Jobs](#) and search #16419.

Faculty News and Research Highlights

Prof. **David Gamage** writes that key [reforms](#) are needed to prevent the Affordable Care Act from hurting low- and moderate-income workers. If not, he says businesses may shift some full-time workers to part-time and cut their salaries to circumvent the employer mandates.

The SEC passed a series of rules that would allow for easier and more accessible funding for startups. Prof. **Robert Bartlett** weighs in, saying that more platforms will emerge "that provide verification services for investors looking to invest in crowd-funded/angel deals." [Read more>](#)

Curriculum Highlights

Economics in Legal Practice: Winning With Experts

Success in today's law practice requires that lawyers can understand and apply economic concepts. In [this course](#) **Suzanne Scotchmer** and **Ken Taymor** present real world and simulated cases to prepare students, regardless of prior economic training, to tackle the economic issues that they will inevitably face, whether they work as litigators, transactional or advisory lawyers, regulators or in-house (private or NGO) counsel. The course builds skills for understanding, using and critiquing the reports, analyses and opinions provided by economic consultants. The case studies reviewed include: the Apple eBooks price fixing conspiracy; cities using eminent domain to rescue homeowners whose house value has plummeted; cost benefit analysis in a variety of settings: regulating arsenic in drinking water; building nuclear power plants; providing health care; calculating the value of a human life; statistics in the criminal courtroom; damages from massive marine oil spills; damages from patent and copyright violations or contract breaches; and determining whether competitive behavior violates antitrust laws.

Events Highlights

The Economic Value of a Law Degree

Michael Simkovic, Seton Hall University School of Law

September 12, 2013

Boalt Hall, Room 110; 12:45 – 1:45 pm

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How much is a law degree worth? [Prof. Simkovic](#) will present his research into the market value of a law degree. His [study](#), co-authored with Frank McIntyre, is one of the first to examine the issue since the financial crisis. Through US Census data and statistical techniques from labor economics, Simkovic will present his conclusions on the average lifetime earnings of a law degree compared to a bachelor's degree. Simkovic's methods have generated significant controversy and an ongoing battle in the press and the academy. [Read more>](#)

Banking Law Fundamentals

September 23-25, 2013

I-House, Berkeley, CA

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[Banking Law Fundamentals](#) returns to the West Coast with its concentrated two-and-a-half day introduction to the mysteries of banking law. Taught by a highly-experienced faculty of practitioners, professors, and former regulators, this course features a close-knit, interactive format, and is limited to 50 enrollees. Offered since 1998, the course is back under the sponsorship of BCLBE. Banking Law Fundamentals is designed for private and public sector attorneys, examination and regulatory staff, bank and compliance professionals, and consultants. This program provides a comprehensive overview to banking law for professionals new to the field or as a refresher course for experienced practitioners looking for broader exposure. Up to 18 hours of CLE will be provided. [Read more>](#)

Coming Out of the Crash – What's Changed

September 27-29, 2013

Alumni Reunion

At this year's [Alumni Reunion](#), BCLBE will host a panel assessing the US and European financial footing five years after the economic crash of 2008. Did the Dodd-Frank Act improve financial stability or are banks still "too big to fail" and consumers too unwary or uninformed to prevent another collapse of the economy? Is all the talk about crowdfunding and new pipelines of capital for entrepreneurs "just talk" or will the JOBS Act create opportunities for entrepreneurs to turn their ideas into real businesses and jobs?

Curriculum Highlights *(continued)*

This year, 30 LL.M. recipients received the [Certificate in Business Law](#) as part of Berkeley Law's unique 2 summer Professional LL.M. Program. The program is designed for lawyers educated outside the US who want a Berkeley Law degree, but who can't leave professional commitments for an entire year. [Watch a video](#) about the program.

The Network Highlights

The Network provides an online forum for academics, professionals and students to engage in dialogue about the impact of law and regulation on business and the economy. The Network invites you to submit posts and comments. You can email your submissions to: BCLBE@law.berkeley.edu. The following are selections from recent posts:

Recently, the SEC announced the adoption of new rules to protect clients with cash or securities at brokerage firms by requiring more disclosure and safeguards from securities brokers. The new measures, which were approved in a split 3-2 vote by the commission, are part of regulators' ongoing efforts to strengthen custody rules and prevent future fraud in the wake of Bernard Madoff's long-running Ponzi scheme. [Read more>](#)

The OECD released an action plan to reduce practices by businesses that diminish the taxes they pay in the world's leading economies. The plan is in part a response to the fluidity of the world's digital economy, which allows for new types of tax planning and evasion. The plan aims to fix "gaps in international tax and transfer pricing rules that . . . some multinational taxpayers exploit to shift profits into low- or no-tax jurisdictions." [Read more>](#)

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Events Highlights *(continued)*

Coming Out of the Crash – What's Changed *(continued)*

BCLBE has gathered a team of Berkeley Law faculty who are business and financial industry experts to bring you up to date on how the changes from Washington and Europe have and will impact businesses and consumers. The panel will include a structured discussion among our expert panelists with ample time for audience Q&A. This event is open only to Alumni Weekend registrants. [Event and Registration Information>](#)

Is Venture Capital in China Possible?

Arman Zand, SPD Silicon Valley Bank

October 2, 2013

Boalt Hall 100; 12:45 - 1:45 pm

Co-sponsored with the [Center for Chinese Studies](#)

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Within the last few months, China has taken steps to liberalize restrictions on interest rates, a move that may signify serious reform in its inefficient financial system and a more rational allocation of capital. The reform already includes efforts to increase lending to the private sector and venture capital formation.

At this event, [Arman Zand](#), Head of Technology and Finance at SPD Silicon Valley Bank in Shanghai, will analyze these challenges and opportunities, while also exploring some of the highs and lows of doing business in a fluctuating economic and social environment.

Managing Tax Audits and Appeals

October 17-18, 2013

San Francisco, CA

In collaboration with Crowell & Moring, this two day seminar will discuss current issues that impact the tax audit process. The event **will be chaired by Harold J. Heltzer**, formerly with the Treasury Department and the Department of Justice. UC Berkeley Law Prof. **David Gamage** will speak on issues relating to the Affordable Care Act, and Prof. **Mark Gergen** will address partnership tax matters. Pre-registration is required and space is limited.

For more information about the event, please contact Ami Naik at anaik@crowell.com or Phyllis Martinez at pmartinezhaarz@law.berkeley.edu.

For a complete list of BCLBE past and upcoming events, please follow this [link](#). If you would like to view videos from our past events or symposiums, please go to our [Video Library](#).

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