

November 2010

Berkeley Center for Law, Business and the Economy

## BCLBE Core Faculty

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## Business Law Faculty

Berkeley Law VC  
Research Network

## Events

**SAVE THE DATE:** On **Friday, March 11, 2011**, BCLBE and the Berkeley Business Law Journal will host a Symposium on “**Financial Regulatory Reform: Dodd-Frank and Beyond.**” The Symposium will address a range of issues arising from the legislative and regulatory response to the financial system collapse, including securitization, corporate governance, consumer protection, and venture finance. Speakers will include academic experts from law, business and finance, government officials, representatives from major financial institutions affected by the legislation, and practicing attorneys. Proceedings of the Symposium will be published in a special issue of the Berkeley Business Law Journal in the summer, 2011. Program and registration details will be available on the BCLBE website in January.

On November 15, it was standing room only as Prof. **Richard Buxbaum** '53 shared his perspective on the development of business law in California and the role played by Boalt Hall in that evolution over the last five decades. To view the video of this special retrospective, please follow this [link](#).

On October 26, 2010 William Lerach spoke on “**America's Broken Retirement Plans and Pension System: Another 'Gift' From Wall Street.**” Mr. Lerach discussed his views on the relationship between the deregulation of our financial markets and what, if anything, he believes can be done to avoid or ameliorate the crisis that would arise from the collapse of our pension systems. To view a video of his presentation, follow this [link](#).

## News

**John D. Wright**, Chief Regulatory Counsel and manager of the Regulation and Compliance Section of the Law Department at Wells Fargo & Company in San Francisco, has joined the BCLBE Advisory Board. Mr. Wright is responsible for corporate bank and bank holding company regulatory matters. He previously had responsibility for attorneys handling technology services, intellectual property, securities brokerage, and insurance. In prior positions with Wells Fargo and one of its predecessor banks, Crocker National Bank, Mr. Wright handled matters relating to credit card and home equity lending, privacy and information sharing, and bank operations. Prior, he practiced securities and banking law at the Brobeck, Phleger & Harrison and Graham & James law firms in San Francisco. He is a graduate of Stanford University and Yale Law School.

**Ken Taymor** submitted a [comment letter](#) to the Federal Stability Oversight Council (FSOC) in response to the FSOC's request for input on how it should implement the Volcker Rule part of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act. Drawing on the legislative history of the Dodd-Frank Act and the economic evidence of the role of venture capital funds in the economy, Ken argued that FSOC should not interpret and apply the Volcker Rule to prevent banking entities from continuing to sponsor and invest in venture capital funds.

## Sponsors



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## News - continued

November 9, 2010 **Prasad Krishnamurthy** presented, "Reflections of My Year Teaching Law in India" as part of the Law Teaching Series at Yale Law School. His research applies empirical methods to the analysis of legal rules and institutions relating to law and policy. Prof. Krishnamurthy serves as Editor-in-Chief of the Indian Journal of Law and Economics and has taught at the National Academy of Legal Studies and Research (NALSAR) in Hyderabad, India.

**Eric Finseth's** article, "Shareholder Activism by Public Pension Funds and the Rights of Dissenting Employees Under the First Amendment" appears in the November issue of the Harvard Journal of Law and Public Policy. Eric argues that public sector employees who are legally compelled to contribute to public pension funds have a First Amendment right to object to pension fund administrators' voting the pro rata portion of the employee's share in the fund on ideological matters in a manner with which the employee disagrees.

In his article, "[Chinese Workers' Rising Rights-Consciousness](#)" in the Wall Street Journal's *China Real Time Report*, October 20, 2010 - **Stanley Lubman** describes how Chinese workers grow increasingly bold in demands for better treatment while the institutions designed to address their concerns appear to be failing.

**Eric Talley** spoke at the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Empirical Legal Studies at Yale Law School. Eric is a member of the Board of Directors of the Society for Empirical Legal Studies.

BCLBE's [Venture Capital Research Network](#) and the National Venture Capital Association recently published a detailed analysis of the recent election results relevant to public policies pertaining to the venture capital industry and continued debate concerning the conclusions to Josh Lerner's book, *Boulevard of Broken Dreams: Why Public Efforts to Boost Entrepreneurship and Venture Capital Have Failed – and What to Do about It*