ENTREPRENEURIAL & BUSINESS LAW

COLORADO LAW

colorado.edu/law/entrepreneurial
Wayne Gazur, Mark Loewenstein, Alexia Brunet Marks, Scott Peppet, Amy Schmitz, Brad Bernthal, Andrew Schwartz, Dean Phil Weiser, and Erik Gerding
LOCATION MATTERS. The University of Colorado Law School enjoys a world-class startup scene in beautiful Boulder, Colorado. Colorado Law is closely connected to the surrounding business and technology community. Entrepreneurs and business leaders regularly participate in events offered by our Silicon Flatirons Center. Our students closely interact with leaders from the innovation community and, as a result, enjoy rich opportunities for understanding the trends and issues shaping our economy and society.

Colorado Law is at the forefront of educating the next generation of deal-makers, business counselors, and entrepreneurial-minded JDs. Over the past decade alone, Colorado Law implemented a dozen innovations—including a first year entrepreneurship course, hands-on contract drafting opportunities, expanded interactions with the MBA program—that enhance our curricular and co-curricular offerings. We are ahead of the curve in how to prepare business-minded law students.

Our students understand the importance of understanding a business' needs. Beginning in your first year at Colorado Law, you will take advantage of a robust set of business offerings within and outside of the classroom. You will participate in transactional law and entrepreneurship competitions, learn to create value for clients in classes like Negotiations and Venture Capital, make investment decisions in early-stage startups through the student-run Deming Center Venture Fund, and draft agreements for startup clients in the Entrepreneurial Law Clinic.

Colorado Law's faculty understands that the legal landscape and employment opportunities for JDs are changing. Colorado Law is deeply committed to combining rigorous doctrinal training with multiple opportunities to get the practical and real-world experience needed to succeed as a transactional attorney. Whether you want to practice mergers and acquisitions at a traditional large law firm, work at the SEC, counsel a startup through a venture capital transaction, or launch your own venture, Colorado Law provides you the skills and expertise to help you succeed.

I encourage you to join us at Colorado Law.

J. BRAD BERNTHAL
Associate Professor
Entrepreneurial Law Clinic
Director, Entrepreneurship Initiative
Silicon Flatirons
ACADEMICS

Colorado Law's curriculum provides you with a strong entrepreneurial framework on which to build your career at the intersection of law and business. In addition to teaching fundamental business law concepts, we offer students the chance to refine their education with real world experience in the areas of entrepreneurial law, technology policy, intellectual property, venture capital, business entities, and corporate tax structures. We will help you to be ready on the first day of practice while also giving you the tools to solve problems creatively for clients over the length of your career.

COURSES

Business & Commercial Law
Accounting Issues for Lawyers
Agency, Partnership and the LLC
Advanced Contracts:
Commercial Transactions
Antitrust
Arbitration
Bankruptcy
Business Planning
Business Transactions
Consumer Empowerment
Contract Drafting
Corporations
Counseling Families in Business
Creditors’ Remedies and Debtors’ Protection
Deals
International Business Transactions
Law and Economic Development
Law and Economics of the Information Age
Law Practice Management
Mergers, Acquisitions and Reorganizations
Regulation of Financial Institutions
Secured Transactions
Securities Litigation and Enforcement
Securities Regulation
Sports Law
Transactional Drafting
Venture Capital and Private Equity

DUAL DEGREES & CERTIFICATES

Entrepreneurial Law Certificate
Tax Emphasis Program
LLM in Entrepreneurial Law

JOURNAL

Journal on Telecommunications and
High Technology Law

DEALS, BOOT CAMPS,
AND COMPETITIONS

Advanced Deals Lab
Practice negotiating, drafting, and structuring complex deals and to build a writing portfolio.

Deals Course
Introduction to transactional lawyering, culminating in students working with practitioners.

Week-long Boot Camps
Immersion in topics such as finance, for students without a business background.

Deals Colloquium
Brings nationally-recognized scholars in business law to campus to interact with students.

Deming Venture Fund Program
Provides business and law students the opportunity to work together.

Transactional Competitions
Provides moot court style experiences in transactional law.

ENTREPRENEURIAL LAW CLINIC

Under the guidance of successful lawyers, students are connected with real businesses and start-up ventures, helping their clients by drafting corporate and investment documents, offering legal advice, and negotiating through complex business deals.
MARK LOEWENSTEIN  
MONFORT PROFESSOR OF COMMERCIAL LAW  
JD, University of Illinois College of Law

Professor Loewenstein joined the faculty of Colorado Law in 1979, leaving a business law practice in a Chicago law firm. His research interests center on business associations, agency law, and securities law, with a particular interest in corporate governance. During the 1990-91 academic year, he was a Fulbright scholar and visiting professor of law at Hokkaido University in Sapporo, Japan. From 1995 to 2000, he served as a member of the state’s Securities Board, which oversees the Colorado Commissioner of Securities and is an active member of the Colorado Bar Association’s Corporate Law Revision Committee, including the subcommittee that drafted the 1994 Colorado Business Corporation Act.

SCOTT R. PEPPET  
PROFESSOR OF LAW  
JD, Harvard Law School

Professor Peppet’s scholarship focuses on the ethics of alternative dispute resolution and privacy, technology, and contracts. He previously taught at Harvard Law School and was a Senior Fellow on Negotiation at the Harvard Negotiation Research Project. In 2002, Colorado Law students honored him with their Excellence in Teaching Award. He lives in Boulder with his wife, children, and a quarter horse named Betsy.

AMY SCHMITZ  
PROFESSOR OF LAW  
JD, University of Minnesota Law School

Professor Schmitz now teaches courses in Contracts, Secured Transactions, Arbitration, International Arbitration, and Consumer Empowerment (service learning). Her current research explores empirical realities of contracting behavior, as well as various other issues related to consumer arbitration and contract law and policy. Professor Schmitz has been active in recent debates regarding consumer arbitration and online dispute resolution. She also is a delegate to the United Nations working group seeking to create a global online mechanism for resolution of consumers’ and businesses’ e-contract disputes.

ANDREW SCHWARTZ  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW  
JD, Columbia Law School

After law school, Professor Schwartz clerked for two federal judges and practiced for several years with Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz. Since entering academia, Professor Schwartz has published a number of articles in leading venues, including the UCLA, George Washington and Notre Dame law reviews. In 2011, he founded the annual “Junior Business Law Conference,” an intimate scholarly workshop for some of the most promising junior business law scholars in the country, including faculty from Harvard, Columbia, NYU and Chicago.

PHIL WEISER  
DEAN  
JD, New York University School of Law

Dean Weiser is the Dean of the law school, Thomson Professor of Law, and Executive Director and Founder of the Silicon Flatirons Center for Law, Technology, and Entrepreneurship at the University of Colorado. In 2011, Dean Weiser rejoined the Colorado Law faculty as Dean. Since first joining the Colorado Law faculty in 1999, Dean Weiser has written and taught in the areas of competition policy, innovation policy, and Internet policy.
FACULTY

BRAD BERNTHAL
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW
JD, University of Colorado Law School

Professor Bernthal is the founder and director of the Silicon Flatirons Center’s Entrepreneurship Initiative, which connects the CU-Boulder campus with the surrounding high tech entrepreneurial community. His teaching and research focuses upon entrepreneurial law and innovation policy. Prior to academia, he worked at Brobeck, Phleger & Harrison LLP; Hogan & Hartson, LLP; and Berg Hill Greenleaf & Ruscitti LLP. Prior to law school, Bernthal conducted legislative research as a staff assistant to U.S. Senator Robert Kerrey.

ALEXIA BRUNET MARKS
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW
JD, Northwestern University Law School

Professor Marks holds a Ph.D. and M.S. in Agricultural Economics from Purdue University, where she wrote her dissertation on funding allocations for domestic counter-terrorism efforts. Before entering academia, Professor Marks worked at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in Washington, D.C. and as a general partner in an international trade venture. She is a member of American Agricultural Economics Association, the Society for Empirical Legal Studies, and the American Society of International Law.

ERIK GERDING
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW
JD, Harvard Law School

Professor Gerding’s research interests include securities, banking law, financial regulation, and corporate governance. In his book, Law, Bubbles, and Financial Regulation, Gerding explores the interactions between market frenzies and financial regulation. He previously taught at the University of New Mexico and the University of Georgia. Before teaching, Gerding practiced in the New York and Washington, D.C. offices of Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP. His practice at the firm included representing clients in an array of financial transactions and regulatory matters.

WAYNE GAZUR
PROFESSOR OF LAW
JD, University of Colorado Law School

After spending five years in private practice, Professor Gazur joined the faculty of Colorado Law. In 1999, he was named a Charles Inglis Thomson Fellow. His educational background and research efforts are concentrated in the area of taxation, including estate and business planning. His articles have appeared in a variety of law reviews, and have been cited extensively in the field. His current research interests include taxation and alternatives to the individual income tax, and he has recently completed an estate planning textbook.

PETER HUANG
PROFESSOR OF LAW AND DEMUTH CHAIR
JD, Stanford Law School

Before teaching, Professor Huang was a staff economist in the Division of Consumer Protection of the Federal Trade Commission in Washington, D.C. He is a member of the California Bar, served on the Executive Committee for the Association of American Law Schools Section on Securities Regulation, and was a co-Chair of the Association of American Law Schools Section on Socio-Economics. His numerous publications apply research from economics, finance, judgment and decision making, marketing, neuroscience, and cognitive and social psychology to analyze legal rules and institutions.
CAREERS

Colorado Law’s commitment to helping you excel in your professional endeavors comes through the individualized support of our Career Development Office. With four career advisors with JDs, we will connect you with employers and help you succeed in the current job market. The depth and breadth of experiences, theory, and skills you will gain will enable you to make meaningful contributions as intellectual property and technology practitioners upon graduation. Our 7,000+ alumni network provides you access to and support from leaders across the nation.

RECENT TOP EMPLOYERS

AMG National Trust Bank
Ball Corporation
Boulder Brands, Inc.
Colorado State Bank & Trust
Cooley LLP
Deloitte
DISH Network
D.O.G. Development
Ernst & Young
GMR, Inc.

Hogan Lovells
Intrawest
Holland & Hart
Latham & Watkins LLP
Level 3
MWH Global, Inc.
Silicon Legal Strategy (San Francisco, CA)
SolidFire
Woodspear Properties

“At Colorado Law I learned the importance of understanding the policies and goals behind applicable law and understanding the subject matter itself. I now know the importance of doing my homework so I can establish a clear understanding of my clients’ goals and develop a comprehensive strategy, not limited to purely legal solutions, to achieve those goals.”

CASSANDRA M. MCCASLAND ('96)
VP and General Counsel
Simpson Housing, LLLP

“Colorado Law allowed me to immerse myself in a thriving entrepreneurial community where I could engage with, and learn from, lawyers and entrepreneurs alike. This dual immersion gave me the ability and confidence to pursue career opportunities outside of traditional legal paths, ultimately allowing me to take ownership of the direction of my own career.”

FRANZ HARDY ('00)
Partner
Gordon & Rees LLP

“Colorado Law gave me the opportunity to succeed beyond my wildest dreams. It provided a close community of alumni and friends for important networking. I remain deeply connected and committed to the school.”

HARRY HOLLINES ('97)
VP, Corporate Development and Legal Affairs
Miller Heiman

“Colorado Law did a wonderful job of not only teaching the law from a substantive perspective but also pointing out the practical business implications beyond legal decisions and judgments.”

DAN FREDRICKSON ('10)
Attorney
Kendall, Koenig & Oelsner PC
The Silicon Flatirons Center for Law, Technology, and Entrepreneurship (SFC) is an interdisciplinary research center at the University of Colorado Law School that provides unique opportunities for students to interact with high-level attorneys, policy-makers, businesses, and entrepreneurs, and familiarizes students with policy issues in telecommunications, technology, and intellectual property. SFC’s core mission is to elevate the debate surrounding technology policy issues; support and enable entrepreneurship in the technology community; and inspire, prepare, and place students in these important areas.

INITIATIVES & PROJECTS

Technology Policy Initiative
Seated in innovative Boulder, Colorado, SFC is well positioned to attract thoughtful policy leaders, legal and business professionals, and entrepreneurs to discuss the challenges and opportunities of various technology policy issues.

Entrepreneurship Initiative
In support of Boulder’s entrepreneurial environment, SFC helps stitch together the entrepreneurial fabric for the area’s software, telecommunications, and Internet startup communities.

Privacy Initiative
SFC sponsors an annual conference that has become one of the most important venues for debate, housing scholars at the center of thought leadership on the topic, and training students to become the next generation of lawyers, advisors, and policymakers in the field.

Energy Innovation Initiative
SFC builds on the law school’s deep expertise in technology, entrepreneurship, energy, and natural resources to support research and analysis; training for students and professionals; and an ongoing series of public lectures, workshops, and conferences.

Spectrum Policy Initiative
Careful interdisciplinary work in the wireless technology market that pulls together policy, electrical engineering, and computer science expertise.

IP Initiative
SFC hosts a yearly patent conference focusing on competition policy and software patent challenges. With the opening of a U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in Denver, Silicon Flatirons is developing promising areas for collaboration.

The New Normal and Law 2.0 Project
Through conferences, roundtables, white papers, and research, SFC convenes and engages the brightest and most forward-looking thinkers about the future of the legal profession and legal education.

EVENTS & CONFERENCES

Crash Course Series for Entrepreneurs
Digital Broadband Migration: After the Internet Protocol Revolution
Energy Innovation Series
Entrepreneurs Unplugged Series
In House Counsel Series
New Venture Challenge
Radio Spectrum Pollution: Facing the Challenge of a Threatened Resource
Roundtable Series on Entrepreneurship, Innovation, and Public Policy
Software Patents and Their Challenges
The Challenge of Monetizing Content in a Changing Era
The Future of Entrepreneurial Finance
The Future of Health Care Innovation
The New Frontiers of Privacy Harm
What I Wish I Knew in Law School
PHIL WEISER
Dean
Executive Director and Founder

Since first joining the Colorado Law faculty in 1999, Dean Weiser has worked to establish a national center of excellence in telecommunications and technology law at Colorado Law, founding the Journal on Telecommunications & High Technology Law (JTHTL) and the Silicon Flatirons Center for Law, Technology, and Entrepreneurship.

In June 2011, Weiser became dean of Colorado Law, prior to which he served as the Senior Advisor for Technology and Innovation to the National Economic Council Director at the White House and as the Deputy Assistant Attorney General at the U.S. Department of Justice’s Antitrust Division.

Prior to joining the Colorado Law faculty in 1999, Dean Weiser served as senior counsel to the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Antitrust Division at the U.S. Department of Justice, advising him primarily on telecommunications matters.

Before his appointment at the Justice Department, Dean Weiser served as a law clerk to Justices Byron R. White and Ruth Bader Ginsburg at the U.S. Supreme Court and to Judge David Ebel at the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals.
At the Entrepreneurs Unplugged Series, seasoned entrepreneurs such as Ted Turner, Sam Zell, Liberty Media’s Greg Maffei and Michael Zeiesser, and Jerusalem Mayor Nir Barkat share their stories of business innovation.