Shaping the Future of Competition and Consumer Law and Policy
Antitrust and Consumer Protection Law

Antitrust and consumer protection law are so closely related that they have been referred to as two sides of the same coin. Antitrust law is the law of competition. Since 1890, the United States has had federal antitrust laws that have been amended and strengthened over time. Today the U.S. is joined by more than 100 jurisdictions that have their own laws and procedures to create and preserve competitive markets for the benefit of consumers. Modern antitrust law prohibits agreements between competitors that unreasonably injure competition, such as price fixing, bid rigging, limiting production, and dividing markets and customers. Antitrust law also prohibits anticompetitive mergers and acquisitions, monopolization, attempted monopolization, and, in many jurisdictions outside the U.S., the abuse of a dominant position. The stakes are high for both producers and consumers with vigorous criminal, civil, and private enforcement of the laws in courts and agencies in the U.S. and abroad.

Consumer protection law in the U.S. and abroad seeks to ensure that consumers can choose products and services in competitive markets free from fraud, coercion, deceit, and misrepresentation. The field is vast, aimed at preventing common law and statutory fraud; deceptive advertising practices; misleading guarantees; abusive consumer and mortgage lending, credit billing, credit repair, credit reporting, and debt collection; internet fraud; identity theft; and other unfair commercial practices that harm consumers. Federal, state, and local agencies, as well as private litigation by consumers, seek to prohibit these and other forms of unfair and deceptive conduct, but the challenge of protecting consumers continues.

The Institute for Consumer Antitrust Studies: A Unique Mission

Founded in 1994, the Institute for Consumer Antitrust Studies is a non-partisan, independent, academic center designed to explore the impact of antitrust and consumer protection law and enforcement on the tangible interest of the individual consumer. The Institute is the only academic organization of its kind in the U.S. bringing together competition and consumer law and policy in an integrated manner. The Institute promotes a comprehensive, inclusive view of the benefits of competition and consumer law and policy that includes, yet goes beyond, prevailing narrow notions of economic efficiency. A vital part of Loyola University Chicago School of Law, the Institute fulfills its mission by sponsoring a rich JD and graduate legal curriculum, student and senior fellowships, research, publication, conferences, symposia, and other programs in Chicago, throughout the U.S., and around the world.

We invite you to learn more about the Institute, and the ideas, people, and programs that have been part of our success for nearly two decades, and to join us in our mission of creating a more just, competitive, and consumer friendly economy.

Spencer Weber Waller
Professor and Director
Institute for Consumer Antitrust Studies
Loyola University Chicago School of Law
Preparing the Next Generation of Competition and Consumer Advocates

As the importance of consumer and antitrust law grows, the Institute for Consumer Antitrust Studies readies today’s lawyers for the challenges of tomorrow with a deep and broad curriculum, externship opportunities, and a unique Student Fellowship Program for JD and graduate students at Loyola University Chicago School of Law.

Representative Antitrust and Consumer Courses
- Administrative Law
- Antitrust and Intellectual Property
- Antitrust in Health Care
- Antitrust Law
- Bankruptcy Law
- Competition Law in the Global Economy
- Complex Litigation
- Consumer Law
- Corporate Compliance Seminar
- Cyber Law
- Economic Regulation
- European Union Law
- Intellectual Property Law
- International Business Transactions
- Law and Economics
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Preparation and Trial of an Antitrust Case
- Telecommunications Law
- Transnational Dispute Resolution

Exterships
Antitrust and consumer protection externships are available with a wide variety of agencies and organizations including the Federal Trade Commission; the Antitrust Division of the U.S. Department of Justice; the Antitrust and Consumer Bureaus of the Illinois Attorney General; the Chicago Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection; other federal, state, and local regulatory agencies; and numerous public interest and legal organizations such as the American Bar Association, Citizen Works, and the Citizens Utility Board. The Institute also has funds available to support unpaid summer public sector and public interest work in antitrust and consumer protection law for Loyola law students.

Student Fellowship Program
Outstanding Loyola JD and graduate law students with demonstrated interest or experience in antitrust or consumer protection may apply for the Institute’s unique Student Fellowship program. Student Fellows pursue a specially structured curriculum designed not only to teach the law, but also to prepare them for a career of active engagement with these critical areas of the law. Student Fellows in the top third of their classes receive a stipend to support their legal education. All Student Fellows attend monthly lunches with practitioners and policymakers to introduce them to professional life in the field, meet with top enforcement officials in connection with Institute programs, attend the spring meeting of the Antitrust Section of the ABA at Institute expense, and undertake sophisticated research and publication projects with fellow students and Institute faculty.

Past Student Fellows have testified before the Illinois State Senate Judiciary Committee; assisted in the preparation of amicus briefs before the U.S. Supreme Court; worked on committee projects for the Chicago, Illinois, and American Bar Associations; participated in the preparation of the first consumer scorecard of the Illinois Supreme Court; worked as faculty research assistants; and published their own scholarly work in leading U.S. and international legal and business journals.

“Preparing the Next Generation of Competition and Consumer Advocates”

“My Student Fellowship with the Institute helped me tie together what I was learning in class and in my internship with the Chicago Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection. It’s a very practical program that helped me to communicate a complicated topic—and introduced me to lawyers who are out there practicing what I’m learning.”
Danny Heidtke (JD ’12)

“The Institute gave me an excellent foundation for my work in consumer protection law. I was able to tap into resources to which I wouldn’t otherwise have had access, like monthly roundtable discussions with practitioners in a variety of roles. The annual colloquium is a good place to share ideas and talk to people from all sides of the legal profession.”
Shirley Chiu (JD ’08), enforcement attorney, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
Partnering with the Legal Community

The Institute for Consumer Antitrust Studies views its mission as a partnership between the academic and legal communities. Practitioners, professors, enforcers, and judges are a key audience for—and active participants in—the Institute’s initiatives and programs.

Conferences and Lectures

The Institute sponsors frequent conferences, symposia, lectures, and other programs for the broader legal community. The Institute often cosponsors events with such diverse partners as the ABA, universities, institutes, consumer groups, and other units of Loyola University Chicago to bring together students, professors, policymakers, and lawyers from Chicago, across the country, and around the world. These cutting-edge programs educate, inform, and shape public policy for both consumer and antitrust law.


The annual Loyola Antitrust Colloquium, held each April, brings together leading professors and practitioners from the antitrust community for a day of discussion of the newest research in the field. The Antitrust Marathon roundtable discussion series gathers select groups of U.S. and international experts to debate the enduring issues of comparative consumer and competition law. Papers from these and the many other Institute programs and events have been published in the Loyola University Chicago Law Journal, Loyola Consumer Law Review, Antitrust Law Journal, European Competition Journal, Journal of Competition Law and Economics, and other leading journals in the U.S. and abroad.

United States Advisory Board

The Institute welcomes the input of lawyers, professors, and policymakers through its U.S. Advisory Board. Members of this board advise the director and the law school on issues and programs of interest to the antitrust and consumer community. The board represents a rich body of experience and adds to the available resources of the Institute. Members include former heads of the U.S. Department of Justice Antitrust Division, former FTC commissioners, current and former staff from federal and state enforcement agencies, distinguished practitioners, leading academics, consumer advocates, in-house counsel, and alumni of the law school and the Institute who give generously of their time to extend the reach of the Institute throughout the U.S.

Distinguished Alumni

Loyola University Chicago School of Law and the Institute are proud of our more than 10,000 alumni, many of who have made their mark in consumer and competition law over the more than 100 years of the law school’s existence. Since the Student Fellowship program was established in 2001, graduates from this unique program have gone on to work in the Antitrust Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, Brooklyn Legal Services, Chicago Volunteer Legal Services, the Antitrust Section of the Florida Attorney General, federal and state judicial clerkships, private practice across the U.S., and leading corporate legal departments. Many alumni stay closely connected to the Institute by serving on advisory boards, mentoring students, and participating in Institute conferences and programs.

“Whether it’s monthly lunches with guest speakers active in all areas of antitrust law, opportunities to conduct research, or the chance to participate in the annual colloquium, the Institute provides real-world exposure to cutting-edge antitrust and consumer protection issues beyond the classroom. It was one of the most rewarding experiences I had in law school.”

Thomas G. Weber (JD ’10), litigation associate, Winston & Strawn LLP
Leading in Scholarship

Research and publication are key parts of the Institute’s mission. The Institute distributes a wide variety of publications by Loyola faculty and students, visiting scholars, research fellows, members of the antitrust and consumer protection community, and friends of the Institute. These include:

- Competition Policy in the Global Economy: An On-Line Casebook
- Consumer Protection in the United States: An Overview
- Consumer Guide to Antitrust
- Working Papers Analyzing Current Antitrust and Consumer Issues
- News and Views Highlighting the Most Timely Consumer Antitrust and Consumer Developments
- Institute Fact Sheets with Priorities for Competition and Consumer Protection Policy
- Current and Archived Institute Newsletters
- Antitrust and Pop Culture: A Quick Reference

All publications may be downloaded from the Institute Web site at LUC.edu/antitrust.

Senior Research Fellow

The Institute’s Senior Research Fellowship is designed to encourage junior scholars in law, economics, business, and related fields to pursue theoretical, empirical, and applied research in antitrust or consumer protection law. The fellowship consists of an annual stipend, office space and library/computer privileges, opportunities to present work in progress, the possibility of teaching a course or seminar, and a faculty mentor to assist with research.

Loyola Consumer Law Review

The Institute works closely with the Loyola Consumer Law Review, one of the law school’s leading student-run journals. Dedicated to examining legal issues as they relate to consumers, the CLR is the only review of its kind in the country. The journal is published four times per year and provides a forum for dialogue among practitioners, law professors, advocates, and enforcers in the consumer protection field.

Recent issues have included lead articles and student comments on advertising, financing, debt collection, product safety, professional services, insurance, consumer credit, corporate corruption, privacy, and antitrust, as well as consumer news and developments. The CLR also has published the papers and transcripts from Institute conferences and roundtable discussions. Full issues of the CLR can be found on the Institute Web site.

“The Institute has always been on the law’s cutting edge. During my term as a Federal Trade Commissioner, my views were informed by many of the academic papers, brown-bag discussions, and legal scholars who attended the annual colloquium. Several of the topics still stand out in my recollection, such as a behaviorally informed approach to antitrust law, suing OPEC, and suggestions for more closely integrating competition and consumer protection law. These and the Institute’s many other publications are substantive, intellectually honest, and written from a refreshingly non-partisan point of view.”

Pamela Jones Harbour, partner, Fulbright & Jaworski LLP; member, U.S. Advisory Board, Institute for Consumer Antitrust Studies
Engaging with the International Community

The Institute’s expanding emphasis on international and comparative antitrust and consumer law reflects the deep globalization of the economy, the increasingly global Loyola law curriculum, and the increased number of international contributors to Institute programs and publications.

International Programs and Partners
The Institute has partnered with the British Institute of International and Comparative Law, the British Consulate General of Boston, the Irish and Italian Competition Authorities, Haifa University, University College London, the University of Rome, the U.K. Competition Appeals Tribunal, and other international organizations to present programs throughout the world. These programs have included workshops, roundtable discussions, and conferences on comparative monopolization law; competition and consumer protection enforcement; antitrust in high tech industries; brands, competition, and the law; and public and private enforcement issues.

Antitrust Marathon
The Institute sponsors the Antitrust Marathon, a global roundtable discussion of comparative competition law issues. Antitrust Marathons have been held in Chicago, London, Boston, and Dublin, and the papers and transcripts of the discussion have been published in the Loyola Consumer Law Review and the European Competition Journal.

International Advisory Board
More than 100 jurisdictions now have their own laws dealing with anticompetitive agreements, abuse of a dominant position or monopoly power, and regulation of anticompetitive mergers and acquisitions. Like the U.S. Advisory Board, the International Advisory Board brings together distinguished competition and consumer law experts to share their points of view and help the Institute become a global resource. More than 25 jurisdictions are represented on the advisory board, including several former heads of national enforcement agencies.

“There is much going on internationally in these areas of the law. There are clear lessons of what has worked and what has not worked in different systems, and this can help guide authorities as to how most effectively and efficiently to apply their own enforcement and policy approaches. The Institute is an important voice in this process.”

Philip Marsden, director, Competition Law Forum, and senior research fellow, British Institute of International and Comparative Law; member, International Advisory Board, Institute for Consumer Antitrust Studies

Full-Time Faculty
Spencer Weber Waller, Director
Jane Locke
Matthew Sag, Associate Director
Lea Krivinskas Shepard

Adjunct and Visiting Faculty
Ted Banks
Jo Anne Gazarek Bloom
Christine Chabot
Ted Donner
Philipp Fabbio
James Langenfeld
David Marx
David O’Toole
Michael Sennett
Robert Slaughter
Kenneth Wexler

Research Associates
Sarah Riddell (JD ’11)
William Schubert (JD ’10)

Staff
Christine Nemes, Administrator
Denice Barnes, Web Master
Michael Patena, Business Manager