Our Impact: 2018-2019

Discussing Platforms and Governance
In February, the Center hosted our annual technology policy conference. More than 200 people gathered to hear thought leaders, including Federal Trade Commissioner Rohit Chopra, discuss issues related to this year’s theme: Internet Platforms’ Rising Dominance, Evolving Governance.

Tracking Developments in Spectrum Policy
The Spectrum Policy Initiative’s annual conference explored the best and worst spectrum policy decisions of recent years, and we hosted a roundtable in D.C. on wireless system vulnerabilities. Two Executive Fellows published an inter-satellite interference risk assessment and assisted the U.S. Department of Commerce with wireless services in Afghanistan.

Launching a New Privacy Initiative
Information privacy is a critical area of debate in technology law and policy. This year, the Center launched an initiative focused on information privacy that aims to track fast-developing law, tackle policy problems of the near future, and explore the interface between technical and legal approaches to privacy.

Beginning a New Chapter
After 19 years of leading Silicon Flatirons, Founder Phil Weiser stepped down as Executive Director in January to serve as the Attorney General for the State of Colorado. This fall we welcome Amie Stepanovich as the next Executive Director, ushering in a new chapter for the Center.

What Attendees Are Saying

“Hearing perspectives from key players in the industry is hard to beat.”

“The caliber of attendees at Silicon Flatirons events is impressive. I was especially engaged by Commissioner Rohit Chopra’s talk.”

“The panelists’ knowledge was extremely valuable. I came away with an excellent grasp of issues in the law and economics of data.”
Student Engagement

Colorado Technology Law Journal
The student-operated CTLJ is a nationally recognized technology and telecommunication law journal. This year’s publications included essential ideas from the Silicon Flatirons technology policy conference focused on the internet’s rapidly changing architecture, along with three student editor notes.

Entrepreneurial Law Clinic
Student attorneys provided over 3,200 hours of free services to over 25 clients, including University of Colorado students and professors, as well as local entrepreneurs and startup companies. Clinic work included legal formation of startups, securing patents, and outreach to new and prospective entrepreneurs.

Samuelson-Glushko Technology Law & Policy Clinic
Twelve students worked to develop and execute strategic advocacy initiatives for cutting-edge technology policy issues in the public interest, including representing clients before the FCC and FTC, and presenting research before the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

Competitions
During the third annual Interdisciplinary Ethics Tech Competition, 36 students from across campus worked in teams to propose an ethical values position for a startup company specializing in artificial intelligence. Silicon Flatirons hosts this competition with the Daniels Fund Ethics Initiative at Colorado Law.

Congratulations to John Schoppert, winner of the Silicon Flatirons Writing Competition for his work on internet safe harbors and copyright law.

“Silicon Flatirons has helped me understand the most cutting-edge issues in tech law.”
—Greg Max

“My involvement with Silicon Flatirons has been the most important and fulfilling aspect of my law school career.”
—Colleen McCroskey

Summer Programs
34 students
+ 41 guest speakers
+ 63 classroom hours
+ 3 internship programs
= tomorrow’s experts

The Hatfield Scholars Program and DC Summer Program placed 12 students in technology-focused organizations and government agencies in Washington, D.C., including the FCC, Public Knowledge, AT&T, Common Cause, the Council of Better Business Bureaus, and the Center for Democracy and Technology.

The Governmental Entrepreneurial Leadership Accelerator taught entrepreneurial problem-solving to 18 law students and employees from state and local governments.

Our Startup Summer program gave 22 undergraduate students the opportunity to learn directly from the Boulder startup community through workshops, internships, and startup projects.