Five groups sought recognition.

WE DECLINED TO RECOMMEND:
- antitrust club (filing an appeal)
- Cooking club
- Social Justice Network

WE RECOMMENDED:
- Education Law and Policy Society of Columbia Law School
- Student Hurricane Network

Procedurally, we will first vote on the two "recommended" groups and the two "declined to recommend" groups that are not filing an appeal. We will next consider the appeal of "CIALA", the Columbia International Antitrust Law Association (in its original application it was "CALA", the Columbia Antitrust Law Association.

- Cooking club:
  - DECLINED TO RECOMMEND; no appeal.
  - The main reason was the existence of the Gastronomy Society, whose stated mission includes cooking and hosting cooking tutorials. On the one hand, everyone acknowledged that the Gastronomy Society is not currently performing the functions that the Cooking Club wants the Cooking Club to perform. Nevertheless, it was also widely felt that solution for this is not to create another, redundant club, but to go to the leadership of the existing club and ask them to change their practices -- and if they don't, to lead the club next year and make the changes internally. A leader of the Gastronomy Society, on the Student Senate, commented that the club might be willing to change its practices (such as charging a membership fee) in order to make this possible.

- Social Justice Network:
  - DECLINED TO RECOMMEND; no appeal.
  - Many committee members raised the concern that SJN seriously overlaps the mission of PILF. The Committee felt that SJN people should demonstrate that you've tried & not had success in working within PILF before starting a new club. We were optimistic about this. We sought comments from various members and leaders of PILF, and heard back statements such as the following:
    - "I really am thrilled that there are so many students who want to improve public interest life at Columbia. But PILF already has 30 years of alumni contacts and resources. It would be great to collaborate with the SJN students to help leverage these resources in the best way possible, and to improve the public interest community at Columbia."
    - "We recognize that two large events are no longer sufficient to create a sense of community. We know that especially in this economy, having personal connections with alumni is more important than ever. This year, our 1L representatives specifically suggested that we should have more informal, community building events. To that end, we have been working extremely hard to bring smaller, more intimate, community building and networking events throughout the year. However, we could really use more help! Currently, we have only one VP of Membership, who works with our
three 1L reps to plan the events. We would love to have the students from SJN work with us on our Membership Committee to bring more events to the school."

- "It makes much more sense for us to collaborate to reach these goals, rather than for the Senate to divide its scarce resources, and for us to risk duplicating each others' efforts."

- Education Law and Policy Society of Columbia Law School
  - RECOMMENDED.
  - Unanimous vote; one student said, "I can't imagine why we haven't had this group until now."

- Student Hurricane Network
  - RECOMMENDED.
  - For the last four years (in the wake of Hurricane Katrina), a group of CLS students have led an annual Spring Break caravan to New Orleans under the name "Student Hurricane Network". Although they missed the formal recognition deadline this semester and last, the e-board and Student Services have been working closely with their leadership to expedite their recognition this semester, for the following reasons. Their group has never formally gone through the recognition process, because they received Senate sanction in various other ways: In their first year of existence, they were an ad hoc committee of the Student Senate; in the second, they were permitted to participate in the budget process and received core funding; in the third and fourth, they successfully made ad hoc funding requests. This year it created difficulty for the first time, as people with an institutional memory of the group started graduating. Because the group was never formally recognized, it never had a constitution, and its "de facto" leadership was not included on various emails of the Senate and Student Services. If SHN wants money NEXT year, we want them to seek it through the budget process rather than through ad hoc budget requests as they have done in recent years. To assure that this happens, they need to develop better institutional knowledge and familiarity with the Senate's funding procedures and Student Services' requirements for student groups. This will be more likely to happen if they apply to the Senate recognition committee this semester, rather than postponing this process to next semester. I helped them design their Constitution to feature leadership positions and clear rules of succession, so that they have leadership positions in place next fall, and so that the Student Senate & Student Services are both kept apprised of who to contact about the budget process at that time.
  - The

We will next consider the appeal of "CIALA", the Columbia International Antitrust Law Association (in its original application it was "CALA", the Columbia Antitrust Law Association.

- Their amended documents are here: Constitution, "CIALA Replies to Student Senate's Arguments".
  - The changes they made to the Bylaws are as follows:
    - added"international" to the organization name
    - added (1) "around the globe" and (2) "different jurisdictions" to the purpose statement

- Their original documents are here.
• Below are the notes from the meeting, which I combined with the online discussion that occurred beforehand; I emailed this to the applicants (it is what they are basing their "replies to Student Senate's arguments" on)

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-- Slightly concerned that these guys are all LLMs, except for one 3L. Any chance of continuity, or will this be around only for the next four months? Also, sounds from the application that they're more interested in starting a journal.
   -- I share this concern
   -- I too share this concern. Additionally (to the extent that it matters), antitrust is a smaller practice area in the US/there has been very little if any antitrust enforcement in the US over the past two-three decades, that I think this group would be too LLM focused (Antitrust is a huge field in the EU/internationally) to be supported by the JD community.
   -- If we allow such a small subset of litigation to be carved out then we'll have a securities lit group, a plaintiffs lawyers group, a complex commercial group, an IP lit group, a white collar group, etc. It opens up a door we don't want opened.
   -- I think the strongest issue that I have with this group is that it's purpose is already covered by the Columbia Business Law Association. I see no reason why antitrust would not fall under "corporate law." I think these students already have a group that they can join and cultivate their interest in antitrust law. Is antitrust a clean (i.e., non-overlapping with other distinct fields) subset of corporate law? Is this like having a Boston Law Students' Association alongside the New England one?
   -- Even as a person who likes antitrust and who is on the business law journal, it doesn't feel it requires a separate group than Business Law Society.