



From Left to Right Ronald Clayton, Professor Hugh C. Hansen

SUMMARY OF FEBRUARY 11, 2005  
CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION LUNCHEON  
ON "COPYRIGHT DEVELOPMENTS IN P2P FILE  
'SHARING': GROKSTER & BEYOND"

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The February 11, 2005 Continuing Legal Education luncheon program was cosponsored by the Committees on Copyrights, Meetings and Forums, and Continuing Legal Education, and featured a presentation by distinguished copyright scholar Professor Hugh C. Hansen of the Fordham University School of Law. Prof. Hansen's topic was "Copyright Developments in P2P File 'Sharing': Grokster & Beyond" and his focus was a discussion of the United States Supreme Court's upcoming consideration of contributory copyright infringement in the context of "peer-to-peer" sharing of music files over the internet. The Court has granted certiorari and received initial briefing regarding an appeal from the Ninth Circuit's opinion in *Metro-Goldwyn Mayer v. Grokster, Ltd.*

Prof. Hansen began his presentation with a description of the rapidly changing socio-legal environment in which copyright now exists as a result of technological advances. Prof. Hansen then went on to survey the recent history of music file sharing cases (litigations concerning the Napster, Aimster and Grokster internet services), and their relationship to the Court's landmark contributory infringement case, *Sony Corp. v. Universal City Studios, Inc.* (the Betamax case). To conclude, Professor Hansen analyzed the arguments made by the parties and *amici curiae* in *Grokster*, and predicted that the Ninth Circuit's decision would be reversed by the Supreme Court.

Information on accessing a video replay and/or written materials of this program may be obtained at [www.nyipla.org](http://www.nyipla.org) or by contacting the NYIPLA administrative office at (201) 634-1870.