Success within the legal profession depends upon making and maintaining meaningful contacts and connections. The demographic of some areas of the profession appear to show these to be the preserve of a particular and perhaps restricted group. Lawyers who are women, BMEs, openly LGBT, have disabilities, or come from non-traditional and under-represented backgrounds, etc., may not always enter the profession with the benefit of the kinds of connections most helpful in the law.

What kinds of things might corporate in-house lawyers who are responsible for, or trying to support, their companies’ equality, diversity and inclusion goals do to foster and support similar efforts within law firms and chambers? How might these efforts become more deeply embedded within the culture of the profession? And what might lawyers who practice within law firms and chambers do to help corporate clients and their in-house counsel meet and achieve their diversity, equality and inclusion goals and objectives? Can mutual efforts to foster and support more effective diversity, equality and inclusion efforts serve as a basis for lawyers in corporations, law firms and chambers to make connections and build relationships for the betterment of the individual lawyers, their companies, law firms and chambers, and the profession?

Are lawyers in the UK and the US pursuing similar or different diversity, equality and inclusion goals? Are they implementing similar or different strategies? What can British and American lawyers learn from each other about how to do this more effectively?

Please join us for a candid conversation during which British and American lawyers seek to find answers to the questions above, and pose many more.

Thursday, November 13, 2014
5:00 PM – 8:30 PM
CMS Cameron McKenna
160 Aldersgate Street
London EC1A 4DD
Supporting Each Other; Helping Ourselves

Programme

4:30 PM – 5:00 PM
Registration

5:00 PM – 5:15 PM
Welcome and Opening Remarks

5:15 PM – 6:00 PM
**Conversation with a Client**
Cathy Tang, the Chief Legal Officer for KFC, is a lawyer who also happens to be a woman of Asian ancestry. As a minority woman, what are some of the challenges she’s faced and rewards she’s received during her career? What lessons has she learned about rising within the legal profession from which other women and BMEs could benefit? What are KFC’s diversity, equality and inclusion goals and objectives? What strategies do she and other KFC lawyers implement to meet those goals and objectives? What could lawyers in law firms and chambers do to help support them? This moderated conversation will delve into the ways Cathy and KFC seek to foster and support greater diversity, equality and inclusion and the ways they’d like to seek lawyers in law firms and chambers helping in those endeavours.

6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
**Corporate In-House Law Departments and In-House Counsel Who are Diverse:**
Corporate law departments, law firms and chambers may each have their own diversity, equality and inclusion goals and objectives. Meeting those goals and objectives can impact upon business growth, professional advancement and promotion, and the betterment of the legal profession and society overall. How might law firms and chambers and the lawyers who work within them better support the diversity goals and objectives of corporate clients and the careers of in-house counsel who are women, BMEs, openly LGBT, have disabilities or come from non-traditional and under-represented backgrounds? What could and should corporate clients and in-house counsel be doing to support the diversity, equality and inclusion goals and objectives of law firms and chambers and the careers of lawyers who are women, BMEs, openly LGBT, have disabilities or come from non-traditional and under-represented backgrounds? Are there areas of common ground upon which efforts should be focused?

- John Collins, Deputy General Counsel, RBS, London
- Karl King, Hardwicke Chambers, London
- Cathy Tang, Chief Legal Officer, KFC, Louisville, KY
- Daniel Winterfeldt, Head of International Capital Markets and Diversity & Inclusion Partner, CMS Cameron McKenna, London
- Sharon E. Jones (Moderator), CEO, Jones Diversity Group, Chicago, IL
- David A. Jackson, Director-Legal, Barclays

7:30 PM – 7:35 PM
Closing Remarks

7:35 PM – 8:30 PM
Networking Reception