

**The NY CSFI: A dinner discussion to launch the US Advisory Council of the
Centre for the Study of Financial Innovation.**

**To be held on Thursday, September 15, 2011, at 6:30pm for 7:00pm.
At Clifford Chance, 31 West 52nd Street New York, NY 10019**

With generous support from Clifford Chance

I am writing to you as someone who has been, in one way or another, a good friend of the CSFI.

As you may remember, we have been meaning to up our game in the US since before David Cameron and Barack Obama were born. To this end, we set up a 501(c)3 corporation in NY, got a little money in the bank and appointed my old friend Geoffrey Bell (founder of the Group of 30, and Wall St's favourite Brit) as chairman of the NY Advisory Council. We also held around half-a-dozen round-table meetings in NY on issues ranging from our annual *Banking Banana Skins* survey to corporate governance and Basel 3.

But, to date, we haven't really got more than our toes wet.

I want to change that. The first step is to activate the NY Advisory Council. To that end, we will hold an inaugural dinner discussion on Thursday, September 15, at the Clifford Chance. The purpose of this will be:

- to help build a small(ish) New York programme, partially tied to and partially independent of our London programme;
- to identify US concerns that deserve to get a hearing in Europe; and (inevitably)
- to explore potential sources of funding (though I promise not to twist arms on the night).

And, of course, to have a lively, robust discussion on the financial and economic issues that are driving us all round the bend. Geoffrey and I will co-chair, and I can promise that everyone will get his/her chance to stick an oar in.

Would you like to join us? If so, could you let us know as soon as possible by emailing the CSFI (sophie@csfi.org) or by phoning Evelyn at Geoffrey's office ((212) 888-3700)? We only have a couple of dozen seats, so an early response would be much appreciated.

Many thanks,

Andrew Hilton
Director
CSFI