

DEAN

DRAKE UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL

The School

The Drake University Law School, a charter member of the Association of American Law Schools, traces its history to 1865. The School prepares its graduates to practice law, to serve and provide leadership to their profession and their communities, and to respond to the call of public service. Current enrollment is 420 students, and there are 29 full-time members of the faculty.

Drake Law School is a national leader in its orientation toward the bench and bar and in its preparation of students for the practice of law. In addition to being serious scholars, all the members of the faculty have practiced law and thus are able to integrate both professional skills and professionalism into a rigorous legal education. The Law School's unique First-Year Trial Practicum puts students in a courtroom for a week to observe a jury trial and to participate in discussions with the attorneys, judge, parties, and jurors. Many second and third-year students participate in the Law School's extensive clinical and externship programs.

Drake students prepare for law practices that will extend beyond national borders through the Law School's international law offerings. These include a Summer in France study program in Nantes, as well as faculty and student exchanges with a variety of foreign universities and law schools.

The Law School's library is housed in Dwight D. Opperman Hall, winner of multiple design awards. The library, nationally recognized for adoption and application of new technologies, provides a wealth of print and electronic resources for faculty and student research, for law student studying, for the University at large, and for members of the local bar. The library houses the archives of the National Bar Association, a network of more than 40,000 African-American judges, lawyers, students and educators.

The Law School offers courses leading to the Juris Doctor (JD) degree and curricular certificates through centers of excellence in Food and Agricultural Law; Constitutional Law and Civil Rights; Children's Rights; and Legislative Practice. In addition, the School offers joint degrees with the Drake College of Business and Public Administration (JD/MPA, JD/MBA); Iowa State University (JD, Master of Arts in Political Science, and JD/Master of Science in Agricultural Economics); and the University of Iowa (JD/Master of Social Work). Other options include a 3/3 program for Drake undergraduate students and a joint Pharm.D. /JD degree with Drake's School of Pharmacy. Co-curricular options include participation on the *Drake Law Review*, the *Drake Journal of Agricultural Law*, as well as the Law School's extensive, nationally renowned Moot Court and Mock Trial programs.

The national headquarters of the American Judicature Society, a national association of judges, lawyers and interested citizens, which works to improve the administration of justice in the United States, recently moved to the Drake campus and now offers remarkable collaborative opportunities for law school administrators, faculty, staff, and students. Other recent notable developments at the Law School include technology enhancements to all classrooms, a \$3 million endowment contribution for scholarships from Law School benefactor Dwight D. Opperman, and establishment of the Kern Family Chair in Intellectual Property Law, as well as an Intellectual Property Law Center. In July 2007, the American Bar Association named Drake's Student Bar Association the "Best SBA in the Nation."

The University

Drake is Iowa's largest private university. It is located in Des Moines, the State capital with a metropolitan area of 500,000. The University's location within ten miles of downtown Des Moines makes Drake uniquely positioned to provide learning opportunities through partnerships with the city's businesses, schools, government and cultural organizations.

Drake enrolls about 5000 students in six schools and colleges: Arts and Sciences, Business and Public Administration, Education, Journalism and Mass Communication, Law, and Pharmacy and Health Sciences.

The University regularly is highly ranked for educational quality, student achievement, and value for the dollar.

The Law School benefits tremendously from being amid the rich variety of interdisciplinary academic resources afforded by the University and from its location in a city that offers so much—academically and socially—to its faculty and students.

The Opportunity

The Drake Law School is poised to move into the next phase of its continued development as one of the nation's foremost centers of legal education. To build on the School's excellence, the new Dean, working with the faculty, will have the opportunity to:

- Lead the Law School's participation in an upcoming University-wide fundraising campaign.
- Implement the multi-year strategic initiatives envisioned in the Law School's strategic plan and continue that visioning process into the future.
- Enhance the newly created Center for Intellectual Property Law and pursue the creation of a center for litigation and dispute resolution.
- Enhance the operation of the Legal Clinic to assure that its faculty resources meet the substantial student demand for clinical education.

- Build on the already-excellent relationships the School enjoys with units of State government to ensure that opportunities for student engagement remain various and vital.
- Assure the resources necessary to continue the School's tradition of enabling students interested in public service careers to pursue those careers without undue financial sacrifice.
- Enrich the School's comparative and international curriculum, including its Summer in France study abroad program and the faculty and student exchange programs with foreign law schools.
- Maintain the School's tradition that its Dean is accessible to, and personally supportive of, the interests of, students.
- Plan for, and implement as the opportunities arise, changes in the faculty occasioned by retirement and program expansion.
- Interact with other deans and the Drake administration in building and strengthening the relationships—curricular and co-curricular—that help to bind the units of Drake into a true university.
- Create new, effective ways to enhance diversity among the School's faculty, students, and staff.

Candidate Attributes

Candidates should possess the following qualities:

- Strong and effective communication skills
- Ability to work well with others and build consensus
- Experience in the institutional budget process
- Dedication to supporting excellence in scholarship, teaching and service to the community
- Demonstrated administrative ability and collaborative leadership
- Proven ability to attract external funding and to strongly advocate for the Law School with outside constituencies and alumni on a local, state and national level
- Experience in the private practice of law
- Commitment to diversity
- A vision of legal education and the Law School's role in the 21st Century and beyond
- Credentials appropriate for a tenured appointment to the faculty of the Law School

Applicants should submit a letter describing specifically how their background, skills and education match the needs of the Law School, a current résumé and the names and contact information (including email addresses) of at least three professional references. Applications should be submitted electronically (Adobe PDF or MS Word format) to:

DrakeLawDean@academic-search.com

To ensure full consideration, applications should be received by September 30, 2008; however, applications will continue to be received until the position is filled.

Assisting in this search are:

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Drake is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer and actively seeks applications from women and minority candidates.