Duke University seeks applications and nominations for the position of Dean of the School of Law to succeed David F. Levi, who will step down in June 2018. The Dean is the chief academic and administrative officer of the Law School and reports to the University Provost. The Dean leads the Law School’s efforts in strategic planning, faculty appointments, budgeting, administrative oversight, alumni and external relations, and development. The Dean is also responsible for supporting the intellectual vitality and collegial culture of the Law School, for developing productive relationships with University peers and administrators, and for maintaining strong affiliations with all segments of the legal profession. The roles and responsibilities of the Dean are described in full in the attached Position Description.

The search committee is conducting an international search to identify outstanding candidates for the position in the top echelon of the legal academy and among exceptional leaders with relevant experience in government, the practice of law, and the judiciary. The University has retained Isaacson, Miller to assist the search committee in the recruitment process. Applications, inquiries, and nominations can be directed to Isaacson, Miller as outlined at the end of this Statement. The search committee hopes to identify a large pool of highly qualified candidates that includes persons of color, women, and individuals with diverse intellectual and professional backgrounds and experiences.

School of Law

Among the top law schools in the country, Duke University School of Law values its distinctiveness as a highly collaborative institution. The faculty are focused on preparing students for responsible and productive lives in the legal profession. They are also a community of scholars providing leadership at the national and international levels in efforts to improve the law and legal institutions through research, advocacy, and other forms of public service.

The Dean will build on a strong foundation of excellence. The Law School is ranked #10 in the most recent US News & World Report rankings and has notable strengths across a host of dimensions that place it among a very elite cohort in American legal education. For example, the Princeton Review ranks Duke Law School #2 for best classroom experience and best quality of life, and #4 for best professors.

The University is seeking a Dean who understands, values, and can enhance the Law School’s core characteristics. These include a faculty that welcomes a wide range of methodologies and viewpoints. Junior faculty play significant roles in the institution, and clinical faculty have strong voices in the decision-making process. The faculty support one another in the pursuit of high quality scholarship,
and service on Law School committees and projects is widely shared. There is a robust sense of collective endeavor, as well as a streamlined organizational structure that allows for experimentation both within the Law School and between the Law School and other parts of Duke University.

Duke also has an exceptionally talented and diverse student body drawn from across the United States. Students benefit from small class sizes, easy access to faculty, a wide range of curricular offerings, and rich opportunities for interdisciplinary study and the pursuit of joint degrees. The Law School has maintained a remarkable record of success in placing its graduates, and the school’s resources have expanded with a 50% increase in the endowment over the past decade. The new leader of the Law School will thus have wide latitude for creativity and meaningful opportunities to advance the school’s mission.

Faculty:

The Dean’s role is critical in the hiring and promotion of faculty and especially in the retention of outstanding younger scholars.

- The School of Law currently has 63 governing faculty members, 50 of whom are tenured or tenure track.
- Duke’s faculty are among the most cited and influential in legal academia. In the last decade, citations of the faculty’s scholarship have increased from 23,297 in 2007 (an average of 555 per faculty member) to 45,558 in 2017 (an average of 893 per faculty member).
- The school has enhanced its scholarly depth and breadth with recent hires of exceptional faculty in constitutional, corporate, criminal, environmental, health care, and international law, empirical studies, law and economics, clinical education, and legal writing and research.
- Academic Centers at the Law School include: Criminal Justice and Professional Responsibility; Innovation Policy; Institutional and Organizational Performance: International and Comparative Law; Judicial Studies; Law, Economics and Public Policy; Study of the Public Domain; Law, Ethics and National Security; Law, Race and Politics; Global Financial Markets; and Public Law.

Students:

The Dean has an essential role in personally recruiting the best students, building and motivating an admissions staff of the highest caliber, raising funds for scholarships, and encouraging accessibility. The quality of the Law School’s students is exceptional and has remained remarkably consistent throughout the past decade, despite nationwide shifts in the demand for lawyers and legal education.

- Entering first-year LSAT scores (170 at the 75th percentile) easily place Duke Law School among the very best entering classes in the nation.
The Law School draws applicants from across the United States. In 2016, 25% of the entering class came from the Northeast, 20% from the South, 18% from the Mid-Atlantic region, and 10% from outside the U.S. The student body also includes significant West Coast representation, and last year more students came from California than any other state.

Duke Law students come from many institutions of higher education. The entering class in the fall of 2016 included students from 118 colleges and universities. Top feeder schools included UC-Berkeley, Columbia, Cornell, Duke, Harvard, George Washington, the University of North Carolina, Vanderbilt, and the College of William & Mary.

The Law School also strives to have a diverse class of students. In 2016, 31% of the entering 1L class was drawn from traditionally underrepresented minority groups.

For the 2016-17 academic year, the Law School enrolled 676 full time students with a student-faculty ratio of 8.3 to 1.

The average JD class size over the past decade is 217 students.

Curriculum:

The Law School’s rigorous curriculum takes advantage of an interdisciplinary environment fostered within one of the world’s leading research universities. The school is also distinguished by its small class sizes and known for the unusual access students have to faculty and staff. Most faculty spend their working days on campus and give substantial time to students’ scholarly projects and professional development. Teaching is highly valued at Duke Law, and student evaluations of instructors and courses are exceptional, reflecting the priority given to high-quality instruction.

The faculty offer more than 200 courses beyond the first-year curriculum, including 76 seminars, and the majority of non-seminar upper-division courses have fewer than 50 students.


In addition to the JD program, the Law School has an LLM program for non-U.S. lawyers, which has grown from 652 applicants and 81 enrollees in 2007 to 850 applicants and 99 enrollees in 2017.

The Law School’s academic programs also include an LLM in Law & Entrepreneurship, a Master of Judicial Studies (a summer program for federal and state judges), and the Doctor of Juridical Science (SJD). Within the Law School, students can elect a dual degree (JD/LLM) in International Law and Comparative Law or in Law and Entrepreneurship.

The Law School supports several professional joint-degree programs through formal agreements with the Divinity School, the Fuqua School of Business, the Nicholas School of
the Environment and Earth Sciences, the School of Medicine, and the Sanford School of Public Policy.

**Student Activities and Opportunities:**

The strong student culture at Duke emphasizes engagement and service beyond the traditional law school classroom.

- In the 2016-2017 academic year, students enrolled in clinics provided more than 21,500 hours of service to clients, partner organizations, and underserved individuals and communities.


- Each year, more than 300 students a year participate in inter-school skills competitions, such as moot courts and mock trials.

- The law school hosts 55 student organizations.

- In partnership with the student-led Public Interest Law Foundation, the Law School provided more than $375,000 in funding to 85 students working in unpaid public interest internships in 2017.

- Over 75% of each graduating class typically participates in at least one externship placement or clinical course.

- The Duke in DC Program, created in 2009, gives students opportunities for a semester-long externship placement with a D.C.-area government or non-profit organization.

**Employment and Placement:**

Duke Law is also distinguished by its close connection with the legal profession and its strong relationship with the judiciary. Both contribute to an enviable record of placing recent graduates in meaningful employment in all sectors of the legal profession. The Law School has also made great investments in bolstering and expanding career services and clinical and experiential opportunities in order to provide students with the right mentoring and skills to pursue rewarding careers of interest to them. The Dean’s role in making and nurturing these connections with the bench and bar and in assembling a top flight team of placement advisors cannot be overstated.

- For the JD class of 2016, 66% began their careers in private practice, and 92% of graduates launched their careers in positions requiring bar passage (making Duke #2 in this regard among all law U.S. schools). In addition, 16% of JD graduates were selected for federal judicial
clerkships (making Duke the #5 school in this regard), and 8% were employed by federal, state and local government agencies or public service organizations.

- 94% of the LLM class of 2016 was employed as of March 2017, with graduates working in 25 countries.

- Duke Law School’s 11,000 alumni practice in all 50 states and more than 70 countries. Approximately 30% of graduates practice in New York, and approximately 10% practice in each of the following locations: Washington, D.C., North Carolina, and California.

**Resources:**

Under the leadership of outgoing Dean David Levi, the Law School has also done extraordinarily well in raising resources to support its faculty and students.

- Over the last decade, the Law School’s endowment increased by more than 50% ($165.0 million in 2007 to $250.2 million in 2017).

- The number of student financial aid endowments increased by more than 75% (83 in 2007 to 148 in 2017).

- Total student aid has tripled ($5 million in 2007 to $15 million in 2017).

- In the Duke Forward campaign, the Law School raised $132.4 million from donors, the largest campaign in the School’s history and one that surpassed the Law School’s goal for the campaign by more than 50%.

- Thirteen new endowed professorships and 69 new endowed scholarships were established.

- The Law School has a large and committed alumni base, with nearly half of all alumni (47%) making a commitment or gift to the Law School during the last decade.

**Administration:**

The Law School has an annual operating budget of approximately $70 million. The administration of the School comprises 14 departments: the Dean’s Office, Academic Affairs, Academic Technologies, Administrative Services, Admissions and Financial Aid, Alumni and Development, Career and Professional Development, Communications, Events, International Studies, Goodson Law Library, Public Interest and Pro Bono, Registrar and Student Records, and Student Affairs. The ability to lead and manage these departments is vital to the success of the Law School.

More information about the Law School can be found at [https://law.duke.edu/](https://law.duke.edu/).

**Duke University**
Since its founding in 1924, the University has grown to include 10 schools and colleges\(^1\) comprising more than 6,400 undergraduate students, 8,300 graduate and professional students, 3,500 faculty, 37,000 employees (including employees of Duke University Health System) and 160,000 active alumni. The annual operating budget in FY2017/2018 is $5.8 billion, with $2.6 billion for university operations and $3.2 billion for the health system. Duke’s home campus is situated on nearly 9,000 acres in Durham, NC, a city of more than 200,000 people. The University is also active internationally through the Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School in Singapore, Duke Kunshan University in China and numerous research and education programs across the globe. More than 75% of Duke undergraduate students pursue service-learning opportunities through the highly acclaimed “DukeEngage” and other programs that advance the University’s mission of “knowledge in service to society.”

Duke has a culture of innovation and collaboration rooted in an environment that promotes interdisciplinary research and education. In addition to supporting schools and departmental programs, six university institutes\(^2\) focus on interdisciplinary research and education in ethics, brain sciences, humanities, environmental policy solutions, global health, and the social sciences. Four new initiatives\(^3\) engage faculty and students in issues related to energy, innovation and entrepreneurship, science and its connections to society, and the increasing availability and power of ‘big data.’ Across this institutional landscape, faculty and students address enduring and emerging intellectual and policy problems from multiple perspectives.

In December 2016, Duke University’s Board of Trustees selected Vincent Price, Ph.D., to serve as the institution’s 10th President. A renowned scholar in the fields of public opinion, social influence, and political communication, Dr. Price oversaw a substantive and complex portfolio of responsibilities as Provost at the University of Pennsylvania. He will be tasked with building on past accomplishments and forging a new and exciting path forward for Duke University. Dr. Price officially assumed his duties as President on July 1, 2017. Sally Kornbluth, Ph.D., serves as the University’s Provost. From 2006 to 2014, Dr. Kornbluth was Vice Dean for Basic Science at the University’s School of Medicine.

Recently, the University concluded its Duke Forward capital campaign. The comprehensive campaign, which began on July 1, 2010, and ended on June 30, 2017, benefitted all 10 of Duke’s graduate and undergraduate schools, Duke Athletics, Duke Libraries, Duke Health and a range of university-wide initiatives and programs. Record giving by more than 315,000 donors and foundations helped propel the campaign past its original goal of $3.25 billion. The campaign concluded by raising $3.85 billion over the past seven years.

More information about Duke University can be found at [www.duke.edu](http://www.duke.edu).

**The Research Triangle**

Durham is an integral part of a growing tri-city area known as the Triangle, which includes Raleigh and Chapel Hill. These three cities are home to Duke University, North Carolina Central University,  

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\(^1\) In addition to the Law School, these include Trinity College of Arts & Sciences, Divinity School, Graduate School, School of Medicine, School of Nursing, Pratt School of Engineering, Fuqua School of Business, Sanford School of Public Policy, and the Nicholas School of the Environment.

\(^2\) Duke Global Health Institute, Duke Institute for Brain Sciences, Kenan Institute for Ethics, John Hope Franklin Humanities Institute, Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions, and the Social Science Research Institute.

North Carolina State University, and The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, four prominent educational institutions that help create an active intellectual, cultural, and recreational atmosphere.

In the heart of the Triangle lies Research Triangle Park, one of the oldest and most successful high-technology research parks in the country. The Triangle is conveniently located just a few hours from the mountains and the coast, offers a moderate climate, and has been ranked among the best places in the nation to live and to do business.

Durham itself has a rich history and is a dynamic and progressive city. It is a center for innovation in research and technology and a growing hub for startups, accelerators, and venture capital. Renowned restaurants, a thriving music scene, and vibrant venues for the arts and athletics all contribute to the high quality of life in Durham.


** Desired Experience and Qualifications **

The Search Committee strongly welcomes applicants from a diversity of backgrounds and experiences and will consider a number of factors in evaluating candidates for this role. The position requires an individual with vision, who can convene a strong leadership team, communicate effectively with all constituencies, and enhance the existing sense of collegiality among the faculty, students, administrators, and staff. While no individual will possess all the desired experiences and qualifications, the successful candidate should possess the following characteristics:

- A scholar with a J.D. or other terminal degree in law, at least ten years of experience in the teaching and/or practice of law, and accomplishments meriting tenure at the rank of full professor under the Law School’s criteria.

- An intellectual leader among the faculty who can be expected to have the highest aspirations in faculty hiring and retention.

- An energetic and conscientious administrator broadly familiar with issues in higher education and in legal education in particular.

- A persuasive advocate for the Law School and its core teaching, research, and service mission in the context of the University’s strategic commitment to internationalization, interdisciplinarity, and knowledge in the service of society.

- A strong proponent for a diverse faculty and student body.

- An effective fund-raiser.

- A collaborator with fellow deans, the President, and Provost in promoting University priorities.

- Both a consensus builder and a decision-maker.

- A preeminent University citizen.
• A leader committed to inclusiveness, transparency, and integrity, as well as a history of considering multiple perspectives and building consensus and community.

• A enthusiastic representative of the Law School with the capacity and desire to enhance its overall reputation.

Applications, Inquiries, and Nominations

Applications should include a resume or curriculum vitae and cover letter that describes a vision for the Law School as well as broader issues in legal education and research and their possible implications for Duke. Applications should be sent to www.imsearch.com/6360. Electronic submission of materials is strongly preferred. Review of applications will begin on September 1 and end on the application deadline of Friday October 27, 2017 at 5pm Eastern Time. Inquiries and nominations may also be sent to the above web address. All inquiries and expressions of interest will be held in strict confidence. Applications, inquiries, and nominations can also be addressed to:

Tim McFeeley and Kahn Lee
Isaacson, Miller
1300 19th Street, NW, Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20036

Duke University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer committed to providing employment opportunity without regard to an individual’s age, color, disability, genetic information, gender, gender identity, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status.
The Dean of the Law School is the chief academic and administrative officer of the Law School and reports to the Provost. The Law School’s academic programs include the following: Juris Doctor, Master of Laws, and Doctor of Juridical Science as well as joint degree programs within the Law School. In addition to the joint degree programs, the Law School also offers several professional joint-degree programs through formal agreements with the Divinity School, the Fuqua School of Business, the Nicholas School of the Environment and Earth Sciences, the School of Medicine, and the Sanford School of Public Policy.

As chief academic and administrative officer of the Law School, the Dean is responsible for the following specific activities:

1. **Strategic Planning:** The Dean of the Law School is responsible to the Provost for ongoing strategic planning for the Law School that provides a long-range vision, specific strategies, and detailed administrative and fiscal provisions to ensure the excellence of the Law School faculty and its teaching, research and clinical programs. The Dean is also responsible for ensuring the excellence of the student body, the affordability of a Duke Law education, and the availability of a wide range of career opportunities for graduating students. To achieve these goals, the Dean of the Law School works closely with the university’s senior officers.

2. **Faculty Appointments; Intellectual Culture:** The Dean of the Law School is responsible to the Provost for the recruitment, appointment, re-appointment, promotion, and tenure of faculty in the Law School. The Dean works through the Law School’s established appointment, promotion, and tenure process of the university and is responsible for its integrity in the Law School. The Dean works with the faculty in the context of approved long-range plans to develop annual recruiting plans for the Law School for the approval of the Provost. The Dean is responsible for ensuring that the university’s and Law School’s objectives with respect to the quality and diversity of the faculty are met. The Dean is also ultimately responsible for the vitality of the intellectual and collegial culture within the Law School.

3. **Budgetary and Administrative Oversight:** The Dean of the Law School is responsible to the Provost for all aspects of the Law School’s budget consistent with the university’s management center budget system. In addition to budgetary oversight, the other principal areas of administrative responsibility include the allocation of academic space, planning
for future academic facilities’ needs, and responsibility for non-faculty staffing decisions within the context of university-wide policies and procedures. The Dean works closely with senior administrators and, as the administrative leader of the School, is responsible for their overall efficacy, morale, and retention. In this role, as in others, the Dean is responsible for creating and maintaining a collegial working environment that encourages staff dedication to the mission of the Law School.

4. Alumni Relations and Development: The Dean is also responsible for alumni relations and stewardship with the School’s Board of Visitors and the Board of Trustees. The Dean has primary responsibility for articulating the development needs of the Law School in conjunction with the long-range plans of the School and the University. The Dean works collegially with the Provost, President, and other deans in planning university-wide fund-raising priorities and goals, cooperates with the University Development staff in executing those plans, and manages the Law School’s development team. The Dean is responsible for maintaining and strengthening the alumni network and the closeness of connection between the greater Duke Law community and the Law School.

5. Relationship to the Legal Profession, the University, and the Community: The Dean is responsible for establishing and maintaining a close working relationship between the Law School, particularly its clinics, and other law improvement and advocacy institutions, entrepreneurial efforts and opportunities in the Triangle, and community service organizations. The Dean is expected to cultivate strong ties with different segments of the legal profession, including public interest, law firm, governmental, and new legal services entities. The Dean should seek out and embrace close working relationships with other deans and Schools at Duke University and in the Triangle.

In order to succeed in these tasks, the Dean must be an intellectual leader among the faculty an energetic, understanding, and conscientious administrator broadly familiar with issues in higher education, legal education and law practice, a strong advocate for the School and its teaching and research mission, for its faculty, staff, and students in the achievement of their full potential, and a preeminent university citizen and leader of the legal profession.

Office of the Provost
August 2017

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