

Position Description  
**DEAN, UNIVERSITY OF IOWA COLLEGE OF LAW**

The University of Iowa invites applications and nominations for the position of N. William Hines Dean, College of Law.

**The Opportunity**

The University of Iowa seeks a bold and visionary dean to join a collegial and vibrant community of colleagues and students to lead the state’s nationally recognized law school. Ranked 20th overall and 6th among public law schools, the College of Law reaches across the nation and the world through its diverse student body, faculty, and alumni. Benefitting from a major fundraising campaign that surpassed goals, the next dean will be positioned to move the school forward by creating new and innovative opportunities to learn, teach, and serve.

As the senior academic officer, the dean provides strategic leadership by working within a system of shared governance that is fundamental to the core mission of the law school and wider University. In the role of senior financial officer, the dean manages and generates resources, oversees operations, and exercises authority over programs and budgets. As one of the University’s top leaders, the dean reports directly to the Executive Vice President and Provost and benefits from a strong working relationship with other deans at a first-rate University dedicated to excellent teaching, interdisciplinary research, and meaningful public engagement.

**About the College of Law**

The University of Iowa College of Law offers students a unique opportunity for a high-quality legal education, access to major job markets, and hands-on experience at an excellent value. Founded in 1865, Iowa Law marked its 150th anniversary with a successful \$50 million capital campaign providing new resources to strengthen its programs and innovate.

Iowa Law has a strong record of student success. Boasting bar passage rates that exceed the national average, its graduates take their first jobs at some of the most prestigious law firms, public interest organizations and clerkships throughout the country. In addition to Iowa Law’s strong rankings in the 2017 *US News & World Report* survey, *National Jurist* has named Iowa Law a “Best Value” law school, and the *National Law Journal* describes Iowa as a “Go-To” law school based on the percentage of 2016 graduates at the nation’s largest law firms.

Iowa Law graduated its first woman, Mary Beth Hickey, in 1873. In 1879, Alexander Clark, Jr. was its first African American graduate and Mounq Edwin was its first international graduate. From its founding, Iowa Law has been committed to diversity and inclusion. Its 131 first-year students reflect that longstanding commitment. They joined the College of Law from 31 different states and countries, 48% are women, and 21% identify as minorities. In addition to

the JD degree, Iowa Law offers LLM, MSL, and SJD degrees, as well as an advanced standing 2-year JD for foreign-trained lawyers. Approximately 30 international students are currently enrolled in these programs.

Iowa Law has a robust writing curriculum. It is one of the few top-20 law schools that teaches its students legal analysis, writing and research (LAWR) with dedicated full-time teachers. In fact, the four faculty members teaching LAWR have a combined half-century of teaching experience. Four student-edited journals provide journal experience to the majority of Iowa Law students: the *Iowa Law Review*, ranked 10th best of all law reviews in 2017; the *Journal of Corporation Law*, ranked 2nd among specialty journals; *Transnational Law and Contemporary Problems*; and the *Journal of Gender, Race, and Justice*. Iowa Law students have also excelled in general and specialty moot court experiences, sending a team to the national round of the Giles Sutherland Rich Moot Court Competition for four consecutive years. Other opportunities for learning outside the classroom are available through the College of Law's winter session study abroad program in London and a summer study abroad program in France.

Students have the option to work during their second and third years with six clinical faculty members in an in-house clinic based on a law firm model. The Legal Clinic offers a wide range of practice areas including criminal defense, disability rights and policy, domestic violence, immigration, employment law, and the representation of organizations, including entity formation, issues related to tax status, strategic planning, and systemic advocacy. An extensive field placement program is supported by a full-time faculty instructor and provides students with a wide-array of opportunities for hands-on legal experience through externships with non-profits and for-profits. Many Iowa Law students also participate in public service through the Citizen Lawyer Program. Recent graduating classes have completed a collective total of more than 9,000 hours over their three years at the College of Law.

The Boyd Law Building, completed in 1986, provides a well-designed and comfortable home for the Iowa Law community. The building is home to the acclaimed Iowa Law Library, which boasts a collection of legal resources among the top three in the United States (nearly 1.4 million volumes), with especially strong foreign and comparative law holdings. Recent upgrades to the building include the student commons, the clinic office suite, and technological enhancements for the teaching courtroom.

Iowa Law benefits from being part of a first-rate research university in one of the nation's premier college towns. The University of Iowa was the first public university in the United States to admit men and women on an equal basis and the first institution of higher education in the nation to accept creative work in theater, writing, music, and art as theses for advanced degrees. Today, the University attracts more than 33,000 students to its campus, which includes the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, one of the largest university teaching hospitals in the United States, and the renowned Iowa Writer's Workshop, whose students and instructors have included the likes of Marilynne Robinson, Kurt Vonnegut, Jr., Flannery O'Connor, Jane Smiley, and John Irving. During 2016-17, the University opened a new performing arts center, new buildings for the schools of art and music, and a new children's

hospital. Since 2008, Iowa City has been honored as a *City of Literature* by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). With more than 160,000 residents the Iowa City area lies within a few hours' driving distance of Chicago, Minneapolis, and St. Louis.

### **Required Qualifications**

Candidates for this position must have:

- A JD or equivalent degree, and the other academic credentials appropriate for appointment at the rank of Professor of Law with tenure at the University of Iowa
- Leadership experience in an academic setting
- Informed perspective on the current challenges and market forces facing law schools, public research universities, and the legal profession
- Financial and resource management experience
- Demonstrated commitment to advancing diversity and inclusivity in support of the academic mission.
- Strong communication skills

### **Desired Qualifications**

A successful candidate should possess many of these qualifications:

- Ability to nurture an environment that values high-quality scholarship and excellence in teaching
- Innovative and entrepreneurial vision, with the ability to think creatively and build new sources of revenue
- Experience with faculty shared governance
- Experience with faculty development and evaluation
- Experience with alumni engagement and fundraising success
- Ability to build and maintain strong relationships and work effectively with stakeholders within and outside the university.

### **To apply or to nominate a candidate**

If you are interested in the deanship or have other questions, feel free to contact our search committee co-chairs: Daniel Clay, Dean of the College of Education ([dan-clay@uiowa.edu](mailto:dan-clay@uiowa.edu)) or Ann Laquer Estin, Aliber Family Chair, College of Law ([ann-estin@uiowa.edu](mailto:ann-estin@uiowa.edu)). Nominations may be submitted directly to the Dean Search Committee via our website: <https://uiowa.edu/law-dean-search>.

Candidates are invited to apply for the position by filling out an online application at the University of Iowa jobs website <https://jobs.uiowa.edu/>. You must first create an account on the site, then refer to **Requisition #71819** to access the application. All applications and nominations will be held in confidence in accordance with Iowa law.

All candidates will need to fill out the application to be considered and are also required to submit the following materials:

- An updated curriculum vitae
- The names and contact information for five references. References will not be contacted until candidates have been selected as finalists
- A statement of interest which explains how you believe you meet the qualifications for the position and focuses on your vision for the future of legal education

Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. For fullest consideration, applications before **December 1, 2017** are encouraged.

*The University of Iowa is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. All qualified applicants are encouraged to apply and will receive consideration for employment free from discrimination on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, pregnancy, disability, genetic information, status as a U.S. veteran, service in the U.S. military, sexual orientation, gender identity, associational preferences, or any other classification that deprives the person of consideration as an individual.*