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The Opportunity

Brooklyn Law School, an independent law school based in Brooklyn, New York, seeks applications and nominations for the position of Dean and President.

Reporting to the Board of Trustees, the Dean and President will be a creative, dynamic, and ambitious leader with a track record of distinguished scholarly contributions to the field of law. This person must possess the organizational and leadership skills necessary to attract and retain human and financial resources, as well as a deep commitment to student success and faculty scholarship and development. The ideal candidate should have a sophisticated understanding of the changing landscape of legal education, demonstrable managerial proficiency, fundraising experience, and a vision for Brooklyn Law School’s role in the future of legal education.

The future Dean and President should demonstrate:

- The passion, energy, and drive to lead Brooklyn Law School
- The creativity and skill to develop and implement an ambitious vision for Brooklyn Law School’s future
- A talent for fundraising and a track record of success in leading fundraising efforts
- Strong financial and administrative experience and the capacity to manage a large, complex independent academic institution, including budget and the ability to lead an effective administrative team
- Ability to attract and retain a strong, highly qualified and intellectually diverse faculty
- Deep investment in the student experience and student outcomes
- Strong diplomatic skills, patience, and flexibility

All applicants must have a J.D. or equivalent and must have the necessary qualifications for tenure as a Professor of Law at Brooklyn Law School.

The Search Committee invites letters of nomination, expressions of interest, and applications (letter of interest, full curriculum vitae, and contact information for five professional references). Review of materials will begin immediately and continue until an appointment is made. To ensure full consideration, please submit your application before October 22, 2018. Applications received after this date may be considered at the discretion of the Search Committee. Information about how to nominate a candidate or to apply for this opportunity may be found later in this document in the section titled “Procedure for Candidacy.”
Organization Overview

Founded in 1901 as an independent law school, Brooklyn Law School is a vibrant intellectual community emphasizing teaching excellence, exceptional scholarship, and an innovative academic program designed to prepare students for public service and private practice. The Law School is well positioned in every sense: boasting an endowment that has grown in recent years to well in excess of $200 million, the school is located in the heart of downtown Brooklyn, adjacent to charming residential neighborhoods and surrounded by Brooklyn’s Tech Triangle, which includes more than 500 innovative companies and startups. Brooklyn Law School’s faculty members have earned national and international acclaim in diverse fields, including criminal law, evidence, torts, civil liberties, intellectual property, products liability, international human rights, and domestic and international corporate and commercial law. The Law School’s adjunct faculty includes leaders in government, business, and private practice.

The curriculum combines traditional course offerings with innovative professional skills training courses. Its nationally renowned clinical program—one of the first of its kind—is one of the country’s most diverse and comprehensive professional skills programs. The clinics take full advantage of the Law School’s ideal location, within blocks of many of the busiest courts, law offices, and government agencies in the nation.

Brooklyn Law School’s academic centers offer expertise in a wide range of fields and disciplines. From public interest law to international business law to criminal justice, these centers host lectures, symposia, and conferences that bring experts from all over the world to the Law School.

The Law School attracts highly qualified students from prestigious undergraduate institutions. The alumni network of more than 23,000 graduates extends worldwide.
Recent Accolades

- “Go-To Law School” for recent graduates placed at the nation’s largest 100 law firms, National Law Journal, 2018
- One of the nation’s top law schools for alumni promoted to partner, National Law Journal, 2016 & 2017
- #14 in the nation for part-time J.D. program, U.S. News & World Report, 2018
- #1 in the nation for Public Defenders and Prosecutors, Pre-Law Magazine, 201

Renowned Faculty:

- #30 top law faculty for scholarly excellence, 2017, Brian Leiter’s Law School Reports
- #44 top law faculty based on scholarly impact, 2018, Brian Leiter’s Law School Reports
- #26 in faculty among the most cited in their field, 2016, Brian Leiter’s Law School Reports

Experiential Learning:

- National Jurist ranked Brooklyn Law School among the best law schools for practical training, 2017

Public Service/Public Interest Law:

- Pre-Law Magazine listed Brooklyn Law School 5th in the nation for public interest law, 2018

Legal Writing Program:

- Ranked 27th in the nation, U.S. News & World Report, 2018

Entertainment Law:

- Billboard Magazine listed Brooklyn Law School in the Top Schools of the Top Music Lawyers, 2016-2018
- Vanity Fair featured Brooklyn Law School alumni among top music industry lawyers, 2017

Business and Corporate Law:

- Pre-Law Magazine gave Brooklyn Law School an A+ for its offerings in business, corporate, and banking law, 2017

LL.M. Program:

- International Jurist awarded Brooklyn Law School an A+ for student experience and an A for academics, 2017
- #2 Best General LL.M. Program, New York Law Journal, 2018
The diverse and motivated student body is the lifeblood of the Law School. In the last academic year, the Law School was home to 1,081 students—955 full-time students and 126 part-time students. In recent years, about half the student body has come from outside the New York area, from approximately 35 states and 8 countries. The gender balance over the last several years has been close to 50/50, and 31 percent of the Law School students represent minority groups.

Students’ capabilities can be measured not just by their academic success, but also by their community involvement at the Law School and beyond. This group of outstanding students drives more than 40 student organizations—outlets for creative, social, civic, and cultural expression, as well as professional advancement and pro bono work. On any given day, students may be advocating for human rights as part of the ACLU; representing at-risk youth facing high school suspension; and hosting environmental scientists, animal rights activists, or experts on Holocaust art restitution.

Students at Brooklyn Law School are particularly passionate about their pro bono work, which allows them to help members of the community while gaining real-world experience. They participate in a wide range of projects, including nationwide programs such as the National Lawyers Guild’s Legal Observation at Protests, citywide initiatives such as the Suspension Representation Project, and projects unique to the Law School such as the Foreclosure Legal Assistance Group. Pro bono undertakings span a range of practice areas and populations, including working with alleged debtors, domestic violence survivors, entrepreneurs, immigrants, public benefits recipients, students, and veterans.
Faculty

Brooklyn Law School is home to a dynamic group of 65 full-time professors and an impressive cadre of adjunct faculty members. The full-time professors are leading authorities in their respective fields and have recently published books on subjects as diverse as domestic violence and feminist lawmaking, social enterprise law, animus in constitutional law, introverted lawyers, fiduciary theory, democracy and regulation, law and linguistics, and the history of intellectual property. They include eighteen elected members of the American Law Institute, the President of the ACLU, a Research Director for the Uniform Laws Commission, and the President of Demos. Just a few months ago, a faculty member was appointed to the Israeli Supreme Court. ALI members include reporters and associate reporters on various Restatements of the Law, including those on products liability, suretyship and guaranty, property, and compliance. In the past three years, members of the faculty have published in the main law reviews of Harvard, Yale, Columbia, NYU, University of Pennsylvania, University of California, Virginia, Michigan, Northwestern, Georgetown, Texas, UCLA, Vanderbilt, and Notre Dame, among many others. Faculty members are also active in the media, providing thought-provoking commentary and critical analyses on leading issues of the day. They have been cited by courts, including the U.S. Supreme Court, and have appeared before state legislatures and the U.S. Congress. In short, the faculty has a substantial impact on the legal community.

The faculty prides itself on its commitment to strong scholarly values. The culture is supportive while also being intellectually rigorous, with numerous formal and informal opportunities for scholarly interchange. Professors have multiple opportunities to present their work within a collegial environment. The wide range of symposia and panel discussions hosted by the school fosters intellectual engagement among students and scholars alike. Faculty members are also advantaged by the school’s New York City location, which provides almost endless resources and opportunities for scholarly inquiry extending well beyond the walls of the Law School.

For more than a century, Brooklyn Law School has been widely recognized as a great teaching law school. This reputation is rooted, in part, in a tradition of faculty members who spend time with their students and make a point of always being available and accessible. Faculty members are significantly involved with student organizations, participate in programs, judge moot court teams, and spend time working with and mentoring students to foster their professional growth. They are also recognized teachers in the classroom and are often invited to share their expertise as teachers and scholars by other leading institutions.
The Law School’s location in an urban center of tech, commerce, finance, real estate, and entertainment, along with its proximity to major federal and state courts, enables the school to draw on an extremely talented group of adjunct professors who teach from their real-world experience. These experts help make the law come alive when teaching specialized courses such as trial advocacy, antitrust law, arbitration, business crimes and corporate litigation, entertainment law, fashion law, real estate finance and national security. The expertise of adjunct faculty members is vast, and they serve as valuable resources for the full-time faculty.

Academics

The curriculum offers more than 200 courses in a broad range of subjects, allowing students to pursue any field of interest to them. It is a rigorous, academic approach that blends doctrinal and experiential instruction. The goal is to equip students with the knowledge and critical-thinking skills that will be required of them as successful, practicing lawyers.

- Legal Writing Program
  Recognized by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the best in the nation, Brooklyn Law School’s prestigious Legal Writing Program provides students with the essential writing, research, and advocacy skills that they will need to succeed in today’s legal world.

- Clinical Program
  Brooklyn Law School’s clinical program is regarded as one of the finest and most comprehensive. The program offers students invaluable opportunities to work with real clients on real cases and develop an extraordinary skill set in the process. Clinics and externships extend the campus to hundreds of state and federal courthouses, government agencies, law offices, and businesses throughout New York City.

- Sparer Public Interest Law Fellowship
  The Edward V. Sparer Public Interest Law Fellowship Program offers highly qualified students opportunities to explore the practice of public interest law. Sparer Fellows are inspired by the program to work for justice, to provide legal services to under-represented constituencies, and to foster the Law School’s strong public interest community.
- **Moot Court Honor Society**

  Brooklyn Law School is home to one of the most distinguished and accomplished moot court programs in the country, and annually hosts the prestigious Prince Evidence Competition.

- **Alternative Dispute Resolution Honor Society**

  The Alternative Dispute Resolution Honor Society is Brooklyn Law School’s accredited honors organization that prepares students for success in this growing field of legal practice.

- **International Opportunities**

  Brooklyn Law School offers exciting opportunities for students to take their legal studies abroad and experience the law from an entirely different perspective, through semester-long exchange programs with partnering universities, summer abroad programs, and international fellowships.

- **Degree Options**

  Prospective students can choose from a variety of flexible options, including 2-, 2.5-, 3-, 3.5-, 4-, or 4.5-year J.D. programs. In partnership with several schools in Europe and Asia, Brooklyn Law School also offers a joint J.D. and LL.M. degree for Brooklyn Law School students interested in international law and giving students the opportunity to spend two semesters abroad. Brooklyn Law School also offers several joint domestic degrees, and for foreign-trained lawyers, a growing LL.M. degree program.
Brooklyn Law School continues to build on its reputation as a leader in legal education through various centers including the following:

- **Block Center for International Business Law**
  
The Dennis J. Block Center for the Study of International Business Law's mission is to study and shape international business law and policy, and it hosts a rich variety of programs to address issues of concern to the global financial markets.

- **Center for Criminal Justice**
  
The Center for Criminal Justice was launched by Brooklyn Law School in 2016 and places the Law School at the center of critical conversations, education, and sharing of expertise on the most vital issues and topics in criminal justice law and policy today.

- **Center for Health, Science & Public Policy**
  
Building upon New York City’s world-class science and healthcare communities, the Center has forged a dynamic environment for outstanding legal education, policy innovation, and scholarship. It provides students with the substantive knowledge and practical skills necessary to become excellent lawyers in these rapidly growing fields.

- **Center for Law, Language & Cognition**
  
The Center for Law, Language & Cognition is devoted to exploring how developments in the cognitive sciences—including psychology, neuroscience and linguistics—have dramatic implications for the law at both theoretical and practical levels. The Center is the only one of its kind in the nation.
- **Center for the Study of Business Law & Regulation**
  The Center for the Study of Business Law & Regulation unites the Law School’s existing diverse business and commercial law programs by providing a forum for scholarship that offers new perspectives on, and solutions to, real world business law and regulatory issues.

- **CUBE: Center for Urban Business Entrepreneurship**
  The Center for Urban Business Entrepreneurship, or CUBE, is the hub for exploring legal issues surrounding entrepreneurship, and for providing effective legal representation and support for new businesses while also training the next generation of business lawyers.

- **Public Service Law Center**
  The Public Service Law Center serves as a hub of resources and information related to public service programs, initiatives, and activities. The center advances the Law School’s dynamic tradition of service, offering myriad ways to engage in public service.

- **Law Journals**
  The Law School publishes four student-edited law journals: the *Brooklyn Law Review*, *Brooklyn Journal of Corporate, Financial and Commercial Law*, *Brooklyn Journal of International Law*, and *Journal of Law and Policy*. These scholarly publications contribute to the intellectual backbone of the nation’s legal profession and are widely read by jurists, practitioners and scholars.

**Alumni**

Brooklyn Law School has an extensive network of more than 23,000 alumni residing and working in 49 U.S. States, the District of Columbia, 4 U.S. territories, and 50 foreign countries. The Law School’s alumni excel and lead in a wide range of fields of the law and beyond, including business and finance, private practice, government and public interest, non-profits, and entrepreneurial ventures. Alumni are deeply engaged with the life of the school, serving in large numbers as mentors to students, teaching as adjuncts and as guest lecturers, and returning regularly to the Law School for panel discussions and career events.

For more information on Brooklyn Law School please visit [www.brooklaw.edu](http://www.brooklaw.edu).
The Role of the Dean and President

The Dean and President serves as academic leader, external face, primary fundraiser, and chief executive of Brooklyn Law School. Because Brooklyn Law School is a stand-alone law school, the Dean and President occupies a rare role within legal academia: as an empowered leader at the head of institutional strategy, reporting to an engaged and supportive Board of Trustees rather than operating within the constraints of a larger university bureaucracy. In addition to fundraising, the Dean and President provides leadership for faculty, staff, and students to promote Brooklyn Law School's goals.

The Dean and President's senior administrative team includes the following direct reports:

- Vice Dean
- Chief of Staff and Chief Operating Officer
- Chief Financial Officer
- Dean of Admissions
- Director of Financial Aid
- Dean of Career and Professional Development
- Center for Urban Business Entrepreneurship (CUBE) CEO
- Chief Advancement Officer
- Dean of Students
- Library Director
- Director of Graduate Programs
- Associate Dean of Professional Legal Education
- General Counsel

The Dean and President has primary responsibility to:

- Collaborate with faculty, staff, and the Board of Trustees to develop and implement strategic steps which promote and advance Brooklyn Law School's national and international reputation, especially its scholarly reputation;
- Secure additional resources through active fundraising and steward Brooklyn Law School’s already substantial endowment;
- Provide inspiring leadership and responsible oversight for Brooklyn Law School to ensure that all aspects of the institution effectively serve the teaching, research, and service missions of the Law School;
- Provide stewardship in developing and managing the structural, financial, and human resources of the Law School;
- Work collaboratively with faculty, staff, and the Board of Trustees to align and further crystalize and implement the Law School's strategic direction and priorities; and
- Enhance Brooklyn Law School's relationships with alumni, members of the legal profession, community members, state and local government, and other external constituencies.
Opportunities and Expectations for Leadership

The new Dean and President of Brooklyn Law School will be asked to address the following critical leadership issues, among others:

**Enhance Brooklyn Law School's Stature, Reputation, and Visibility**

Brooklyn Law School enjoys a national reputation as a modern law school, boasting a strong faculty, a rich history, and a secure endowment. It is located in Brooklyn, a diverse home for culture, innovative technology, entrepreneurship, and vibrant legal and civic communities, and its curriculum is among the broadest offered in the nation. The Dean and President will be expected to bring vision, creativity, and energy—and to leverage Brooklyn Law Schools’ existing strengths—to develop an ambitious agenda for enhancing the school’s stature, reputation, and visibility.

**Think Strategically**

In 2017, Brooklyn Law School embarked on a broadly inclusive strategic planning process and an initiative to review its curriculum. The Law School has long recognized and anticipated the changing trends in legal education, and its curriculum addresses these trends. Its ongoing strategic planning process has begun to address questions about the future of Brooklyn Law School and its role in a changing legal education environment. The next Dean and President will have the opportunity to take the reins of the process and engage with the Brooklyn Law School community to craft and implement a plan of action for future success.

**Build Brooklyn Law School's Fundraising Program**

Brooklyn Law School sits in one of the world's most dynamic cities, in a hub of innovative enterprise and at the heart of a metropolitan area that leads the nation in the growth of private sector jobs. The school’s research and education programs have the potential to attract the attention of major philanthropists. Brooklyn Law School has graduated thousands of individuals who have enjoyed distinguished and successful careers. Following the conclusion of the strategic planning process, the Dean and President will spearhead efforts to implement new institutional goals. The Dean and President will act as an ambassador for the research, programs and initiatives, and educational achievements of the Law School. Working closely with the school's advancement office, the Dean and President will develop new prospects and cultivate relationships with high-net-worth individuals and organizational donors, with the goal of significantly building the school’s financial resources.

**Continue to Nurture and Support a Diverse and Inclusive Community**

Brooklyn Law School is characterized by a student-centered culture and a strong commitment to excellence in teaching, research, and service. The new Dean and President is expected to promote and model these values while enhancing the school’s commitment to serve a diverse community. The Law School's success in recruiting and retaining a diverse faculty, student body, and staff requires continued diligent effort and dedicated resources.
Maintain Brooklyn Law School's Commitment to Student Success

Brooklyn Law School is committed to ensuring student success and to fostering a sense of community among its students. Brooklyn Law School is also committed to assisting students as they pursue careers and forging connections with employers to improve employment opportunities for students. As the face of the Law School, the Dean and President will play a role in both of these endeavors.

Lead a Strong Faculty and Staff

Brooklyn Law School boasts an outstanding faculty supported by a dedicated and highly accomplished cadre of staff members. Over the years, Brooklyn Law School has been able to recruit a talented cohort of faculty who are well-recognized for their outstanding scholarship. The Dean and President will continue to attract, mentor, develop, and retain top-tier faculty talent, and will inspire and motivate scholarly productivity and teaching excellence within the school's collegial culture.

Secure a Sustainable Funding Model for the Future

Brooklyn Law School has successfully weathered legal education’s post-recession downturn in applications for admission and a challenging job market for graduates. The Dean and President must ensure that financial resources are adequate and prudently managed through the development of an effective annual operating budget and long-term financial planning, while also being committed to developing the funds necessary to enhance and preserve the Law School’s reputation and quality in the years to come.
Personal Qualifications and Personal Qualities

The Dean and President of Brooklyn Law School will be a visionary, an accomplished scholar and leader, and a legal professional with a clear vision for enhancing the excellence of Brooklyn Law School. The Dean and President will also be a capable executive with skills in financial and human resources management, a talent for fundraising, and the aptitude for external relationship management that is critical for running an independent law school. The Dean and President must have the commitment to inclusiveness and authentic personal leadership style necessary to advance Brooklyn Law School and inspire its stakeholders. The ideal candidate will have proven experience as a leader and a successful track record as a legal scholar, educator, manager, fundraiser, and communicator. The Dean and President will possess a J.D. or equivalent degree and an academic record to qualify for tenure.

In addition, the candidate will:

- Provide creative and distinguished academic leadership to Brooklyn Law School and its programs, constantly seeking opportunities to advance the school’s scholarly reputation, academic excellence, and innovation in teaching;
- Project a strong public presence and image for Brooklyn Law School, promoting the accomplishments of its faculty and students to enhance its reputation in the legal community;
- Be committed to cultivating a student-centered environment, including administrative resources to ensure student success, such as academic support services and professional career development;
- Work collaboratively with faculty, supporting and encouraging their efforts in scholarship, teaching, and service, with an informed understanding of the unique requirements that professional schools have in these areas;
- Demonstrate strong and effective administrative skills, with a capacity to build and develop working teams at all levels, including administrative staff and faculty;
- Show deep respect for and commitment to diversity, as demonstrated by a record of promoting diversity within a student body, faculty, and administrative team;
- Connect with alumni, with leaders in the region’s bench and bar, and with a broad range of external constituencies, to advance the visibility and success of Brooklyn Law School and to lead sophisticated and effective alumni development and fundraising activities;
- Possess the intellectual leadership to provide guidance to a program of scholarship in and for a vibrant community of scholars;
- Bring a deep understanding of the changes taking place in legal education and the legal profession, including programs to monitor and assess learning outcomes of students;
- Continue to integrate new technologies into Brooklyn Law School’s administration, teaching, and support of faculty and student scholarship; and
- Possess experience in managing growth and change, resolving conflict, and building consensus.
The Community

Brooklyn, New York

Brooklyn has something for everyone. Home of Brooklyn Law School since 1901, New York City’s most populous borough today is a mosaic of many cultures and a dynamic global center for business, innovation, and culture.

Brooklyn Law School is located at the juncture of bustling Downtown Brooklyn and charming Brooklyn Heights. Downtown Brooklyn is the borough’s financial, commercial, and governmental center and includes Brooklyn’s Tech Triangle, which comprises more than 500 innovative companies and startups. Brooklyn Heights, the first New York City neighborhood to be designated a historic district, features graceful, tree-lined streets, 19th-century townhouses, brownstone mansions, carriage houses, churches, and public buildings. Nearby neighborhoods—Carroll Gardens, Cobble Hill, Park Slope, Williamsburg, and DUMBO (Down Under the Manhattan Bridge Overpass)—offer a profusion of bistros, boutiques, galleries and clubs, all contributing to Brooklyn's growing reputation as the beating heart of New York City.

From young families lured by quality schools and dazzling waterfront playgrounds, to trendy youth in search of independent music and vanguard artists, to sophisticated foodies craving the city’s most acclaimed fare, the borough that was once best known for its storied Dodgers has become a mecca for chefs, artisans, musicians, writers, performers, and artists. Thanks to Brooklyn Law School, it is also a center for law and legal education.

For more information, please visit:

https://www.nycgo.com/boroughs-neighborhoods/brooklyn
http://downtownbrooklyn.com/
https://brokelyn.com/
https://explorebk.com/blog/
Procedure for Candidacy

Applications, inquiries, and nominations are invited. Electronic submissions are strongly encouraged. A complete application will include a letter of interest, curriculum vitae, and contact information for five professional references. This search will be conducted with respect for the confidentiality of candidates; references will not be contacted without prior knowledge and approval of candidates. The anticipated starting date for the new Dean and President is July 1, 2019. This position is open until filled.

Communication concerning this search may be sent via email to Werner Boel, LL.M. and Veena Abraham, J.D., the Witt/Kieffer consultants assisting Brooklyn Law School with this search, at BrooklynLawPresident@wittkieffer.com

Materials that cannot be sent via email may be mailed to:

Brooklyn Law School – Dean and President
 c/o Witt/Kieffer
 3414 Peachtree Road, Ste 352
 Atlanta, GA 30326
 Tel: (404) 233-1370
 Fax: (404) 261-1371

*It is the policy of Brooklyn Law School not to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, genetic information, disability, veteran status, or any other legally protected status under federal, state, or local law. It is also the policy of Brooklyn Law School to take affirmative action to employ and to advance in employment, all persons regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, genetic information, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, or any other legally protected status and to base all employment decisions on legitimate job requirements.*

The material presented in this leadership profile should be relied on for informational purposes only. This material has been copied, compiled, or quoted in part from Brooklyn Law School documents and personal interviews and is believed to be reliable. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information, the original source documents and factual situations govern.

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