

AMBITION STATEMENT

We strive to be a premier public law school—a student-centered, diverse, inclusive community that educates skilled lawyers, trains tomorrow's leaders, cultivates big ideas, and advances justice.

Goal Area Initiatives

Future-Looking Teaching and Learning

Build on our strong foundation of legal education by continuing to innovate in teaching and expanding experiential learning to prepare students as leaders in law

- 1. Enhance opportunities for students to develop client-focused communication, critical thinking, cultural competency, technology, global awareness, and leadership skills.
- 2. Expand and tailor course offerings to equip students with concepts and skills to navigate a complex, diverse, and global profession and afford them a wider range of experiential learning opportunities.
- 3. Deepen and grow collaborations within the university community to enhance opportunities for students and offer a wider variety of perspectives, joint programming, and multidisciplinary education.
- 4. Optimize our facilities for effective teaching and learning.
- 5. Continue to bolster our culture of innovation in teaching.

Student Opportunity and Success

Prepare students for professional success in a complex and diverse world through professional preparation and support for individual growth

- 1. Expand professional development and academic support opportunities for all students, including students from diverse backgrounds and first-generation students.
- 2. Increase access for students of diverse backgrounds through enhanced efforts to limit student debt, promote affordability, and grow financial literacy.
- 3. Assess networking and mentorship opportunities to ensure students' professional goals are supported.
- 4. Increase access to mental health resources for the college community.

Scholarship, Recognition, and National Voice

Lead conversations on big ideas in law and society to solve problems by elevating our collective passion for the pursuit of knowledge

- 1. Intentionally build a vibrant scholarly community through collaboration, engagement, and mentorship to serve the public and lead nationally and internationally.
- 2. Increase individual scholarly contributions and create a robust scholarly culture, including by addressing structural barriers faced by women and underrepresented minorities.
- 3. Grow scholarly output and impact by leveraging strong programs and field leaders, pursuing interdisciplinary and international opportunities, and prioritizing faculty recruitment in areas of excellence.
- 4. Promote our scholarship by training faculty and staff on best practices, encouraging and facilitating dissemination, and celebrating successes.
- 5. Improve research by connecting students to scholarly activities to deepen the connection between learning and scholarship.

Public Service and Engagement

Use our legal skill and passion to contribute to the public good

- 1. Increase awareness of public service careers and opportunities and enrich our public service community through expanded internal and external communications, including a public service orientation.
- 2. Increase the impact of our faculty, student, and staff expertise, including by partnering with community organizations and state and local government.
- 3. Build on the existing strength of our Public Service Law Center to expand the public service programming and opportunities available to students.
- 4. Leverage funding sources and scholarship opportunities to decrease barriers to public service careers and summer jobs.

Dynamic Program Innovation

Use our expertise and program strength to provide life-long learning and engage with the role of law in society

- 1. Leverage the strength of our existing programs and faculty expertise to strengthen and expand subject-specific centers and programs, including through collaboration with external partners.
- 2. Expand the availability of our MSL degree by aligning our offerings with market needs and by creating support structures to ensure the program's success.
- 3. Create flexible non-degree programming such as certificates (which might combine towards an MSL), modules, CLE programming, summer programming, and undergraduate courses or programs, including through collaboration with university partners.

Culture & Community

Foster an inclusive and welcoming environment that values our entire community and advances excellence in our mission

- 1. Promote a culture of trust and transparency among students, faculty, and staff through ongoing communication, meaningful interactions, and holistic feedback.
- 2. Advance cultural competence and understanding to enhance belonging and to develop effective professionals for global practice.
- 3. Develop programming, policies, and physical spaces that foster a community-wide culture of holistic wellbeing.
- 4. Enhance environment for staff members and for faculty members across all ranks, including through recognition and opportunities for professional development.