



Strategic Plan

UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON
SCHOOL OF LAW



VISION

Teaching students to think critically about the law, developing professional skills, advancing legal knowledge, and promoting justice and equality.

MISSION

Following our Catholic and Marianist traditions, we are committed to providing a legal education that blends theory, practice, and service for the common good. We augment a traditional legal education with training in professional skills and community service that will distinguish our students as lawyers and leaders and prepare them to work effectively with people from diverse backgrounds. As a community of scholars, we advance legal knowledge by producing scholarship and educating the broader public on important legal issues.

CORE BELIEFS AND VALUES

- **Teaching the whole student:** We cultivate critical thinking, inclusion, collaboration, legal understanding, and professional values and skills.
- **Advancing legal knowledge:** We engage in legal scholarship, promote life-long student learning, and educate the broader public.
- **Serving the community:** We serve the community through our clinical programs, student externships, collaboration with the Human Rights Center, and non-traditional educational programs.

GOAL

ONE

Affirm and enhance the School of Law’s core function of preparing students for servant-leadership roles in the legal and larger communities.

The School of Law is committed to combining traditional legal pedagogy with innovative methods of instruction and assessment to prepare a diverse group of students for the bar examination and the practice of law. We will use technology and innovative programming to reduce costs and expand access.

KEY INITIATIVES

1. Provide students with a sound foundation in professional skills and values, including intensive education in critical thinking, legal writing, and professional values of competence, service, and responsibility.
2. Combine traditional legal pedagogy with innovative teaching methods, including the use of technology in the classroom, multiple student assessments, skills exercises, and partnerships with academic success.
3. Enhance the affordability and accessibility of educational programs with the further development of the Leadership Honors Program, accelerated J.D. programs for students enrolled in partner institutions, and outreach to marginalized and low-income populations of potential students.
4. Continue and expand curricular development and other program components devoted to preparing graduates for “the law practice of the future,” including programmatic collaboration with Lexis/Nexis, Wilmer Hale, and other external partners.
5. Continue and expand the Program in Law and Technology (PILT) and the development of interdisciplinary studies and programs, especially in areas relevant to social justice and sustainability, through collaboration with other units of the University and with external constituencies.





Expand the School of Law's programs in intercultural and global education for servant-leadership.

The School of Law will expand its international programming, increase the diversity of its faculty and student body, and offer enhanced opportunities for intercultural education.

KEY INITIATIVES:

1. Expand program components directed to engagement with marginalized communities and with issues of social justice through clinical programs, externships, colloquia, and enhanced collaboration with the University's Human Rights Center.
2. Expand efforts to recruit international and traditionally underrepresented minority students to the J.D. and Master of Laws (LL.M.) programs.
3. Recruit diverse faculty members who have experience mentoring underrepresented minority students.
4. Develop new programs and colloquia directed to addressing international and intercultural issues, including exploration of the development of a Global Accountability Center.
5. Expand core program components to enhance intercultural education and awareness through enhanced curricular offerings and development of co-curricular programming.

Support faculty scholarship and advocacy.

The School of Law is committed to supporting and promoting legal scholarship and advocacy that enriches the community. Our faculty regularly publishes in nationally-recognized journals, appears in the media to enhance the public's understanding of legal issues, and directly serves the community through clinical work.

KEY INITIATIVES

1. Encourage and support professors to advance legal knowledge by producing scholarship, attending conferences, speaking at other events, and educating the public through media appearances and blog posts.
2. Serve the Dayton community through clinical and externship programs.
3. Host and partner with the Human Rights Center, which supplements the University's Human Rights Studies Program, uses education and dialog to promote the dignity of every human being, and solves real-world problems through interdisciplinary research and advocacy.
4. Highlight professors' work and their ability to educate the community as public intellectuals, such as providing online access to professors' scholarship.
5. Facilitate relationships between law school faculty and faculty in the arts and sciences through The Learning Center, which provides research tools and builds a community among scholars.



GOAL

FOUR



Expand programming beyond the traditional Juris Doctorate degree.

The School of Law is aggressively pursuing alternative graduate programs. These programs will generate revenue that can be invested in the J.D. program, provide previously unserved students with access to legal education, and reduce costs for legal professionals who do not require a J.D.

KEY INITIATIVES

1. Develop and launch a hybrid program that allows students who reside outside the Dayton area to obtain a J.D.
2. Serve the community at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base by delivering a program in government contracting and procurement as part of our Master's Degree in the Study of Law (M.S.L.) program.
3. Expand and strengthen our LL.M. program for international students and students who have already earned a J.D.
4. Explore possibilities for additional programming for international students, including non-degree overseas programs that prepare students for a U.S. bar examination.
5. Continue to explore and pursue innovative new programming.

GOAL

FIVE



Empower faculty and staff to better serve students, the university community, and beyond.

The School of Law is committed to providing faculty and staff the resources they need to best serve students and perform their roles. Faculty success at the School of Law will be tied to excellence in service, teaching, and scholarship.

KEY INITIATIVES

1. Provide first-class technological equipment for classrooms and host platforms for communicating with students. Provide technological support to ensure that teaching tools are readily accessible to students and staff and to facilitate communications within the law school.
2. Provide professors with the opportunity to teach interdisciplinary elective courses that harmonize with their research and advocacy areas.
3. Align tenure and promotion decisions with the School of Law's commitments to service to the community, classroom excellence, and scholarly contributions.

UNIVERSITY of



DAYTON

School of Law

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