



Dean of the James E. Rogers College of Law

Leadership Profile

October 2025



WittKieffer

Executive Summary

The [University of Arizona](#) (U of A) invites nominations and applications for the position of Dean of the James E. Rogers College of Law (College of Law). This is a pivotal opportunity for a visionary and strategic leader to guide one of the nation's most innovative public law schools into its next era of excellence and impact.

A Carnegie R1 institution and member of the Association of American Universities (AAU), the University of Arizona is recognized as a top-tier public research university, serving more than 56,000 students across a vibrant academic community. Located in Tucson, a culturally rich and dynamic city, the university fosters cutting-edge scholarship, interdisciplinary collaboration, and artistic expression.

The College of Law is a cornerstone of the university's academic excellence, with a legacy spanning more than 100 years. Its rigorous and forward-looking JD program prepares students for success across a broad spectrum of legal careers. The curriculum emphasizes experiential learning, personalized instruction, and strong employment outcomes, all while maintaining a commitment to affordability, resulting in significantly lower graduate debt compared to many peer institutions.

The College of Law is home to nationally recognized programs in Indigenous Peoples Law and Policy, Environmental Law, Constitutional Law, and Legal Writing. It offers flexible degree pathways, from an undergraduate law program in partnership with the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences to a doctoral-level education. The College of Law's faculty are nationally recognized scholars. Their research and insights extend well beyond the classroom, ensuring that students receive an education that is both current and grounded in enduring legal principles. The JD program's low student-to-faculty ratio (4.5:1) ensures that professors have the time and capacity to serve as true mentors. Faculty work closely with students outside of class, collaborate on research and projects, and provide personalized guidance on academic and career development.

The College of Law fosters a collaborative and inclusive culture, where students from all backgrounds learn to engage constructively across differences. As one of just two law schools across Arizona, the College of Law also enjoys a deep connection to the bench and bar. Graduates become leaders in the legal profession throughout Arizona, one of the most rapidly growing states, and beyond. The College of Law's alumni, comprising more than 7,000 graduates living in every state and more than 40 countries, go on to become leaders in law practice, government, public interest, and business. Whether their title is governor, CEO, judge, trial attorney, or anything else, the College of Law's alumni have made a habit of using the law to profoundly influence their communities and their profession.

The next Dean will be charged with articulating a bold and compelling vision for the College of Law's future, strengthening the JD program, fostering vibrant intellectual life and scholarly productivity, enhancing academic excellence, improving bar passage results, and expanding external partnerships. The Dean will work closely with faculty, staff, students, alumni, and external constituents to elevate the College of Law's national profile and deepen its contributions to the legal academy and society. This is a moment of opportunity for a leader who is passionate about shaping the future of legal education and committed to stewarding a vibrant academic community toward its next chapter of distinction.

Candidates must hold a JD and possess a distinguished record of scholarship, professional accomplishment, teaching, and service that qualifies them for appointment as a tenured full professor. Leadership experience in legal education is strongly preferred, along with demonstrated success in fundraising, strategic and financial planning and oversight, management, and community engagement.

To submit a nomination or express personal interest in this position, please see "[Procedure for Candidacy](#)" at the end of this document.

Role of the Dean of the James E. Rogers College of Law

Reporting directly to the Provost and Chief Academic Officer and working closely with the University's senior leadership, the Dean will have overall responsibility for the College of Law's academic programs, fundraising, operating budget, human resources, and external relations. The Dean is also the College of Law's principal representative in University governance and the legal community.

The College of Law's key strengths include:

- A strategic location that positions the College of Law as a hub for legal innovation and public service.
- Completion of the "[A New Day in Court](#)" renovation project which introduced state-of-the-art courtroom and classroom spaces.
- Nationally recognized clinical and experiential learning programs, including the expansion of the Veterans' Advocacy Law Clinic through a major gift, increasing capacity and student training opportunities, and a \$1.5 million DOJ grant supporting the Arizona Innocence Project, focusing on wrongful convictions and forensic collaboration.
- A collaborative and engaged faculty committed to teaching and scholarship.
- An innovative law library team committed to robust legal research support and instruction.
- Deep connection to the legal community.
- Global leadership in tribal and indigenous law.
- Strong alignment with the University's land-grant mission, preparing graduates to serve in tribal courts, border towns, and rural communities across Arizona.
- Being part of an R1 institution with cutting-edge research and interdisciplinary initiatives that address pressing legal and societal challenges.

The role of the Dean is highly demanding and requires a collaborative partnership with a distinguished leadership team. The Dean will lead, support, and nurture this team, bringing together individuals with broad experiences and perspectives. The current Dean's success in this work is supported by a team of associate deans and faculty directors, including the following:

- Associate Dean, Administration
- Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
- Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs
- Assistant Dean for Finance
- Associate Dean, Legal Information Innovation; Director Law Library
- Faculty Director, BA in Law and Master of Legal Studies Program
- Faculty Director, Advocacy Program
- Faculty Director, Legal Writing
- Faculty Director, Clinical Program

Opportunities and Expectations for Leadership

In addition to overseeing the management and administration of the College of Law, the new Dean will be expected to address the following strategic priorities:

Academic Leadership

The next Dean will serve as the chief academic leader of the College of Law, championing excellence in faculty scholarship, teaching, and service while reinforcing the JD program as the College of Law's core mission. This includes prioritizing faculty implementing strategies to attract and retain top-tier faculty to further strengthen the school's scholarly reputation, while supporting the full complement of tenured and continuing-status faculty.

Equally important is cultivating a collaborative environment. The Dean should empower faculty and staff to innovate thoughtfully, ensuring that new programs and initiatives align with the College of Law's strategic priorities and its overarching mission to educate lawyers for Arizona and beyond. Supporting faculty development through mentorship, increased research visibility – internally, across campus, and around the nation and world – and professional growth opportunities will be essential to sustaining academic excellence. The Dean must also be a visible, engaged leader who builds trust, communicates transparently, and advocates for faculty needs within the University and to external constituents.

Priority Setting and Administrative Planning

The Dean will be a strategic and forward-thinking leader who, in alignment with the institution's longstanding commitment to shared governance, will set the benchmark for achievement and intellectual engagement by articulating a compelling vision and strategic plan to guide the College of Law into its next era of success in close collaboration with the law faculty. While the College of Law has a history of innovation, the Dean must ensure that further innovation is purposeful, aligned with the core mission of educating lawyers for Arizona and beyond, and balanced with strengthening the JD program. The Dean will ensure that plans and resource allocations align with College of Law priorities and the University of Arizona's [strategic imperatives for Delivering on Our Promise as Arizona's keystone institution](#).

The next Dean will be charged with strengthening the JD program to ensure it remains rigorous, relevant, and responsive to the evolving legal landscape. It is essential that the Dean supports vigorous and robust student support services, especially bar passage and career planning programs that facilitate the students' ability to meet their professional objectives in an increasingly challenging employment market. This includes strengthening academic support, aligning the curriculum with bar competencies, and expanding experiential learning opportunities that reinforce core legal skills. Improving bar performance will be central to enhancing the overall student experience and ensuring graduates are fully prepared for professional practice. Additionally, the Dean will work with faculty to further develop the College of Law's artificial intelligence (AI) policies and procedures to ensure that graduates are fully prepared for the legal practice of the modern era.

Focus on Student Success

The Dean will champion initiatives that prepare every student to thrive academically and professionally. The College of Law is deeply committed to student success, from admission through graduation and into professional practice. This commitment is reflected in a holistic approach that integrates academic support, career development, and well-being resources. Students benefit from individualized advising, bar preparation, and faculty mentorship that promote retention and progression. Experiential learning opportunities, including clinics, externships, and pro bono work, enable students to apply classroom knowledge in real-world settings while building practical skills. The College of Law also leverages its strong alumni network and deep ties to the Arizona bench and bar to provide mentorship, networking, and employment pathways.

The Dean will build on these core strengths to raise bar passage rates beyond current levels and foster a culture of success across advising, experiential learning, and career development.

Resources Management

The next Dean will play a critical role in ensuring the financial health and long-term sustainability of the College of Law. This includes prioritizing budgetary goals, navigating a new budget model, and exercising strong financial acumen to manage limited resources effectively. The Dean must be proactive and entrepreneurial in identifying new revenue streams, advocating for resources with university leadership using data-driven strategies, and ensuring transparency around financial decisions. Ultimately, the Dean will need to balance priorities, ensuring that the College of Law remains financially stable, competitive, and well-resourced for the future.

Advancement and External Engagement

Fundraising will be a critical priority as the College of Law enters the final year of its \$60 million Fuel Wonder campaign, advancing transformative goals for students, faculty, and key initiatives. The Dean will lead a comprehensive strategy to secure philanthropic support for scholarships, endowed faculty positions, and innovative programmatic initiatives, while cultivating and strengthening relationships with alumni and donors. Building a culture of engagement among alumni, many of whom hold influential roles and maintain deep ties to the College of Law and the state, will be essential to sustaining the College of Law's reputation and advancing its mission.

Equally important, the Dean must serve as a visible and persuasive ambassador for the College of Law, elevating its profile and goodwill within legal education, the profession, and the business community at local, state, and national levels. This includes leveraging the College of Law's strong connections to the Arizona bench and bar to position the school as a leader in legal education and a trusted partner in shaping the future of law in the state. Working closely with the Provost, the Dean will act as a facilitator and advocate for the College of Law, seeking collaborative opportunities with other University of Arizona colleges, schools, and departments to build innovative programs and expand approaches to teaching and research. The Dean will also maintain active engagement with the College of Law Advisory Boards, the Arizona Board of Regents, alumni, Arizona Supreme Court Justices, state and federal officials, and philanthropic partners.

Commitment to Fostering a Collaborative Community

The next Dean will have the opportunity to lead a law school with a strong culture, where students and faculty have long maintained a collaborative and respectful environment. Preserving this culture as the College navigates necessary changes to respond to a rapidly evolving legal field will be essential.

The Dean will bring a demonstrated record of leadership and engagement in advancing the University of Arizona's core values—integrity, inclusion, excellence, and innovation—recognizing their essential role in a professional school environment. This commitment will shape every aspect of the College of Law, from its mission and strategic priorities to faculty and staff recruitment, student support, curriculum development, scholarly activity, and partnerships across the University and broader community.

Professional Qualifications and Personal Qualities

The Dean will be an inspiring leader with a clear vision for maintaining and enhancing the excellence of the College of Law. The Dean will also be a capable executive with skills in fiscal and human-resource management as well as the external relationship management that is critical for fundraising success. The Dean must have the political acumen, power of persuasion, commitment to inclusiveness, and authentic personal leadership style necessary to advance the College of Law and inspire its multiple constituencies.

The ideal candidate will be a collaborative leader with a distinguished record of academic achievement and outstanding professional accomplishments. Additionally, the successful candidate will possess a keen appreciation for innovative, impactful, and interdisciplinary legal scholarship; the ability to inspire and lead an accomplished faculty toward further excellence; and a commitment to the College of Law's central role in a flagship public land grant research university. Candidates must hold a JD and possess a distinguished record of scholarship, professional accomplishment, teaching, and service that qualifies them for appointment as a tenured full professor.

In addition, the ideal candidate will manifest most of the following qualities:

Focus on Students' Success

A commitment to understanding student needs and concerns and to providing students with a legal education suited to the evolving nature of the legal profession. A genuine passion for student development, with a commitment to providing an enriching educational experience that prepares graduates for a broad range of law-related careers and for leadership roles in their workplaces and communities. An advocate for comprehensive support services that promote retention and timely progression toward graduation, while preparing students for the demands of professional practice including strengthening academic advising, enhancing bar-focused programming, and expanding career development opportunities.

Credibility, Stature, and Commitment to Excellence

A reputation for maintaining the highest standards for excellence in administration, scholarship, teaching, and legal practice. A broad intellect. An ability to articulate the value of the College of Law and each of its programmatic areas. An ability to mentor and advocate for students, staff, and faculty. A commitment to advancing the research mission of the College of Law by promoting and supporting the faculty's research, writing, and other scholarly achievements. A commitment to increasing the national and international impact of scholarship produced by the College of Law's faculty.

Successful Fundraising Experience or Demonstrable Potential for Successful Fundraising

A capacity to lead an effective fundraising effort that inspires others to strengthen and support the College of Law and its mission. A track record of developing and articulating a compelling case for support that aligns with the organization's goals and mission. The ability to collaborate with the University of Arizona Foundation, the Law College Association, as well as the College of Law Advisory Boards, faculty, and other constituents to align fundraising efforts with institutional priorities.

Ethics and Integrity

Excellent ethical judgment and the highest integrity, both in public settings and behind closed doors. A reputation for fair, even-tempered, and praiseworthy treatment of allies and non-allies alike that enables collaboration with people of all backgrounds, political affiliations, and interest areas.

Strategic and Collaborative Leadership

The ability to articulate a clear and compelling vision and to unite a community around it; an equivalent capacity for building consensus around implementing strategic plans and initiatives. Ability to facilitate broad

constituencies' input, as well as the ability to take decisive action and make difficult decisions. Willingness and ability to communicate openly and transparently about strategic and policy decisions.

Attention and Responsiveness to the Demands of Legal Practice

A deep understanding of the needs of the legal marketplace and responsiveness to the demands of the practicing bar in law firms, corporate legal departments, the judiciary and other branches of government, and the non-profit sector.

Operational and Resource Management

Demonstrated ability to thrive in a large, complex environment while effectively managing faculty, staff, centers, programs, and organizational change. Proven capacity to foster excellence, engagement, and a sense of community across all areas of the College of Law. Strong experience in budgeting, financial planning, market analysis, and strategic resource allocation. Skilled at identifying opportunities rooted in institutional strengths and driving the agility needed to capitalize on them. Adept at navigating the cultural, political, and procedural realities of a public university with efficiency, pragmatism, and sound judgment.

Emotional Intelligence

The empathy, skills, and capacity to relate to others, see other points of view, and build broad support for decisions.

Relationship Building and Communication

Exceptional relationship building and communication skills, with a proven ability to steward connections across public and private sectors, facilitate interdisciplinary collaborations, and engage meaningfully with all constituent groups. A persuasive and empathetic communicator, adept at promoting the College of Law's mission and values across and beyond the University. Demonstrated clarity, strategic insight, and a natural ease in connecting with audiences of all sizes, building trust, fostering collaboration, and advancing institutional goals.



About The University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law

Founded in 1915, the [University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law](#) is one of the nation's leading law schools, known for its innovative spirit, academic excellence, and commitment to justice. With a century-long legacy of producing successful lawyers and leaders, the College of Law offers [legal education](#) at every level from Master of Professional Studies, Master of Legal Studies, Doctor of Juridical Science, Master of Laws, JD for Non-US Lawyers, and the core JD degree. The College of Law also participates in the BA Law program with the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Set within the University of Arizona, a top-tier research institution, the College of Law benefits from a rich intellectual

environment. Faculty include nationally recognized scholars, thought leaders, and practitioners who shape legal fields and contribute to major policy debates. Their work is interdisciplinary, impactful, and deeply invested in student success.

The College of Law is rooted in tradition but not bound by convention. It fosters a culture of continuous improvement, asking how legal education can evolve to better serve students and society in a rapidly changing legal market. The College of Law recognizes that wherever a legal education may lead, qualities such as open-mindedness, critical thinking, interpersonal skills, and cultural awareness are essential and highly valued. Preparing students for a global legal landscape requires reflecting the societies they will serve.

Located in Tucson, Arizona, the law school is surrounded by the stunning Sonoran Desert and a multicultural community. With 350 days of sunshine annually, the setting enhances the student experience and supports a close-knit, collaborative community.

Students at the College of Law consistently highlight the accessibility of faculty as one of the school's defining strengths. The relationships they build with professors are often cited as among the most meaningful aspects of their law school experience. The College of Law's faculty are nationally recognized scholars, many of whom have authored foundational texts in their fields. Their research and insights extend well beyond the classroom, ensuring that students receive an education that is both current and grounded in enduring legal principles. The numbers reflect the depth of faculty expertise: 23 members hold endowed chairs or professorships; 14 have been elected to the prestigious American Law Institute; and five have earned the title of Regents' Professor, the highest faculty honor at the University of Arizona. The JD program's low student-to-faculty ratio (4.5:1) ensures that professors have the time and capacity to serve as true mentors. Faculty work closely with students outside of class, collaborate on research and projects, and provide personalized guidance on academic and career development.

The College of Law is one of just two law schools in Arizona, a fast-growing state. The College enjoys a deep connection to the bench and bar and is proud to train generations of lawyers in Arizona and beyond.

The College of Law's alumni, comprising more than 7,000 graduates living in every state and more than 40 countries, go on to become leaders in law practice, government, public interest, and business. Whether their title is governor, CEO, judge, trial attorney, or anything else, the College of Law's alumni have made a habit of using the law to profoundly influence their communities and their profession.

Programs and Areas of Study

The College of Law offers a wide range of academic programs that draw on deep faculty expertise, strong employment outcomes, and interdisciplinary collaboration across one of the nation's leading research universities. These programs are designed to equip students with the knowledge, skills, and practical experience necessary for meaningful careers in law and related fields, careers where they can make a difference while building a sustainable professional life.

- **Advocacy:** Led by nationally respected trial experts, this program focuses on hands-on advocacy classes that ensure students are confident and equipped to rule in the courtroom. The program is built around experiential learning, with students acting as trial counsel in simulated civil and criminal cases presided over by guest judges. Courses are taught in small sections to ensure individualized instruction and mentorship.
- **Business Law:** The program equips students with a comprehensive foundation in finance and economics, integrated with core legal disciplines such as corporate law, commercial law, tax law, antitrust law, and intellectual property law. Designed to prepare students for the complexities of modern business practice, the program offers pathways for both litigation and transactional careers. This program is also a close partner with the UA Eller College of Management.
- **Clinical Programs:** The College of Law offers one of the most dynamic and impactful clinical programs in the country, providing students with hands-on legal experience while serving diverse communities across Arizona and beyond. With over 18 clinics and placement programs, the Arizona Law Clinics engage more than 130 students each semester from J.D., B.A. in Law, and M.L.S. programs. Students develop essential lawyering skills; interviewing, advocacy, negotiation, and legal drafting, under the guidance of expert faculty. The clinics address a wide range of legal issues, from immigration and intellectual property to veterans' rights and Indigenous human rights.
- **Criminal Law and Policy:** The program prepares students for a career in criminal prosecution, defense or policy through a comprehensive curriculum that includes foundation sources such as Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Evidence, and Trial Advocacy, alongside advanced offerings in areas like Capital Punishment, White Collar Crime, and DNA and Criminal Justice. Students gain practical experience through participation in a range of criminal law clinics, including the Attorney General Clinic, Criminal Defense Clinic, Criminal Prosecution Clinic, Civil Rights Restoration Clinic, and the University of Arizona Innocence Project.
- **Environmental Law, Science, and Policy:** Few fields are as engaging as that of environmental law, compliance and policy. Together with the outstanding environmental science, economics and policy departments at the University of Arizona, the College of Law provides rich and rigorous training to those interested in matters of environmental law. Areas include pollution law, water law, natural resources law, energy law, and ecosystem management.
- **Family and Juvenile Law:** The majority of civil cases filed in Arizona state courts are related to family and juvenile law, including custody, child protection, and guardianship. The College of Law is dedicated to training skilled legal advocates who can effectively assist children and families during their most critical times. Through clinical offerings, the College of Law equips students to represent children in the child welfare system, students with disabilities in special education proceedings and related matters, and refugees and immigrants who have faced gender-based violence and discrimination because of their lack of status.
- **Global Mining Law:** The University of Arizona is an authoritative expert in issues related to global mining and natural resources. The global mining law program builds on this expertise, training both lawyers and non-lawyers through classes taught by 44 faculty in 23 different disciplines across 10 colleges.



- **Health Law:** Healthcare is one of the fastest growing and most highly regulated industries, and legal expertise is in high demand. The College of Law's Health Law program prepares students to work in this expanding field, including bioethics, medical malpractice, and public health regulation. The courses are created in collaboration with academics in other disciplines as well as leaders in the field.
- **Immigration Law and Policy:** The Bacon Immigration Law & Policy Program generates immigration policy research, expands opportunities for students to gain exposure to immigration issues, encourages the interdisciplinary engagement with immigration issues, and provides services to immigrants in Southern Arizona. The Program serves as an umbrella for all the College of Law's immigration-related offerings, including its Immigration Law and Workers' Rights Clinics, doctrinal courses, internships, and opportunities to undertake supervised research on immigration issues.
- **Indigenous Peoples Law and Policy:** For over three decades, the Indigenous Peoples Law and Policy (IPLP) Program at the College of Law has been a national and international leader in legal education and advocacy for Indigenous communities. The program offers a unique blend of rigorous academic training and real-world experience, preparing students to work effectively in tribal, federal, and international legal contexts. Faculty members are distinguished scholars and practitioners in federal Indian law, tribal law, and Indigenous human rights, and they mentor students both in the classroom and through hands-on legal work. The IPLP Program consistently attracts one of the largest cohorts of Native and Indigenous law students in the country and provides robust support through the Native and Indigenous Law Students Association and a strong alumni network.
- **Innovation for Justice:** The Innovation for Justice (i4J) Program at the College of Law is a pioneering social justice innovation lab that designs and tests scalable solutions to address systemic inequities in the civil legal system. As the nation's first cross-disciplinary, cross-institutional, and cross-jurisdictional legal innovation lab jointly housed at the College of Law and the University of Utah David Eccles School of Business – i4J applies design thinking and systems thinking to reimagine how legal services are delivered.
- **Intellectual Property Law:** The Intellectual Property Law Program is a dynamic and comprehensive offering that prepares students to navigate one of the fastest-growing areas of legal practice. Focused on the legal foundations of innovation and creative expression, the program supports students interested in protecting and managing intellectual assets from scientific breakthroughs and technological inventions to artistic works and brand identities.
- **International Trade and Business Law:** This program provides theoretical and practical knowledge in the international law of trade, investment, currency and financial transactions and intellectual property. The curriculum includes courses in international trade law, investment law, arbitration, human rights and business, and regional trade agreements, among others. The program collaborates closely with the Indigenous Peoples Law and Policy Program to explore how international law can address global challenges.
- **Legal Research:** The College of Law legal research classes prepare students for 21st century law practice, infusing legal technologies and artificial intelligence with traditional legal research methods. Recognized nationally as an innovative library that also trains the next generation of law librarians, the team also provides individualized research support to faculty, students, and the larger Arizona community in keeping with the mission of the university's land-grant mission.
- **Legal Writing:** The College of Law legal writing classes are laboratories for innovative teaching techniques, including peer editing, live drafting, and realistic simulations. Small class sizes allow for individualized and comprehensive feedback for each student. Recognized among the top legal-writing programs in the country by U.S. News and World Report and led by award-winning faculty, University of Arizona College of Law's Legal Writing Program nimbly adapts to train students for the ever-changing and truly global world of law practice.

- **Quant Law:** The College of Law is a leader in the emerging field of law and data. Students learn and work with a cadre of nationally recognized scholars who are tackling the most difficult and interesting data problems in the world.
- **Regulatory Science:** The program exists to identify and pioneer smart forms of regulation and to train the next generation of advocates, regulators, scientists, and clinicians about how to navigate the complexities of bringing new drugs, devices, and diagnostics to market.
- **Tax Law and Policy:** This program offers a distinctive cross-disciplinary experience that brings together law students and master's students in taxation. This collaborative environment allows students to gain insights into both legal and accounting perspectives, fostering a deeper understanding of tax practice that typically takes years to develop in the field.



Faculty and Research

The College of Law is home to a [distinguished faculty whose research](#) spans a wide range of legal disciplines and contributes meaningfully to academic scholarship, public policy, and legal practice. Faculty members are nationally recognized experts, many of whom have authored foundational texts in their fields and regularly publish in top law journals. Their work addresses pressing legal and societal issues, from environmental law and Indigenous rights to cybersecurity, health law, and international trade.

The College of Law fosters a collaborative and intellectually vibrant environment where faculty actively engage in interdisciplinary research, often partnering with other departments across the University of Arizona, a leading research institution. The law school supports faculty scholarship through endowed chairs, fellowships, and research grants, and encourages public engagement through conferences, lectures, and policy initiatives.

Students benefit directly from this scholarly excellence, as faculty integrate cutting-edge research into their teaching and mentor students in academic and professional development. The College of Law's commitment to faculty research ensures that its legal education remains current, relevant, and deeply connected to the evolving demands of the legal profession.

The College of Law Facts and Figures

The College of Law, as the oldest law school in Arizona, combines a century of tradition with a forward-looking approach to legal education. Its commitment to excellence is reflected not only in its mission and values, but also in the measurable outcomes and institutional strengths that define the College of Law experience. The following facts and figures offer a snapshot of the College of Law's academic profile, faculty distinction, student success, and national impact.

General:

- Founded in 1915
- 58 full-time faculty
- 55 part-time professors of practice
- 504 students from 32 states and 37 countries
- 7,200+ alumni living in 40+ countries
- [15 in-house clinics](#)
- [12 dual-degree programs](#)
- 15 concentrations and certificate programs
- [6 legal skills competition teams](#)
- [3 student-edited journals](#)
- [4 academic and research centers](#)

Rankings:

- #59 Best Law School - [U.S. News and World Report](#)
- #8 Legal Writing - [U.S. News and World Report](#)
- #30 Environmental Law - [U.S. News and World Report](#)
- #37 Constitutional Law - [U.S. News and World Report](#)
- #46 Health Care Law - [U.S. News and World Report](#)
- #7 Practical Training - [PreLaw magazine](#)
- #17 Scholarly Impact among Public Law Schools - [Scholarly Impact Ranking](#) (Leiter Score)

Careers:

- Arizona is a [Uniform Bar Exam](#) state, meaning when you take the bar here, you earn a portable score that can be transferred to seek admission in more than 40 other UBE jurisdictions, including New York, Washington, D.C., New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, and Washington.
- 2 opportunities to take [the bar exam](#) as a 3L: February and July
- 98% percent summer placement rate for 1Ls in 2022
- 92.98 percent overall employment rate for JD Class of 2023 (those who were employed 10 months after graduation). To learn more about employment outcomes, click [here](#).



About University of Arizona

Overview

As Arizona's land-grant university, we are driven to do great things. It's our passion to transform the lives of our student Wildcats and to solve some of the biggest challenges facing our state and the world.

But what makes us unique is *how* we do it. We live our purpose, mission and values every day. And we do this in one of the most incredible places on Earth, surrounded by majestic mountains and Saguaro forests, and under a sky that ignites imaginations with cotton candy sunsets and diamond-filled nights. At the University of Arizona, everywhere you look is filled with wonder.



Purpose

Working together to expand human potential, explore new horizons and enrich life for all.

Mission

We will continuously improve how we educate and innovate so we can lead the way in developing adaptive problem solvers capable of tackling our greatest challenges.

Leadership



Suresh Garimella, President

Suresh Garimella serves as the 23rd president of the University of Arizona and University Distinguished Professor in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, positions he assumed on October 1, 2024. He was unanimously appointed by the Arizona Board of Regents following a robust national search. On selecting Garimella to lead the university, Board Chair Cecilia Mata praised his collaborative leadership, experience, and vision, calling him a “tireless champion for students” who is well suited to lead the university into a bright future.

Previously, he was president of the University of Vermont (UVM) from 2019 to 2024. Under his leadership, the university underscored its reputation as a premier flagship research university dedicated to providing a world-class student experience and committed to fulfilling its land-grant mission, a focus he brings to the U of A as well.

Throughout his career, Garimella has emphasized the importance of access and affordability for students, and he has worked to promote excellence in the student learning experience. A professor of mechanical engineering, he is both a highly cited scholar and researcher and a passionate educator, mentoring over 90 graduate students and 50 post-doctoral scholars, 29 of whom were placed in prestigious faculty positions across the world. During his tenure as UVM's president, he led an annual undergraduate seminar class devoted to engaging students in civil discourse on multifaceted contemporary issues.

As a researcher, Garimella has made seminal contributions to the field of electronics thermal management and energy efficiency at micro and nano scales, and in sustainable energy systems technology and policy. He is co-author of over 625 refereed publications and 16 issued patents, and he has been recognized as an elected Fellow

of the National Academy of Inventors, the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

Garimella also has made important contributions in national and international policy matters. He serves as a member of the National Science Board, which oversees the National Science Foundation and acts as an independent body of advisers to both the President and Congress on policy matters related to science and engineering. He also chairs the research advisory board of Sandia National Laboratories, is a member of the board of directors at Modine and the executive committee for the Council on Competitiveness and previously served as a Jefferson Science Fellow at the U.S. Department of State and as Senior Fellow for Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas.

Prior to his time leading the University of Vermont, President Garimella served at Purdue University as the Goodson Distinguished Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Executive Vice President for Research and Partnerships. Under his leadership of Purdue's \$660 million research enterprise, the university achieved five consecutive record years in sponsored funding and seeded approximately 50 startups annually. He developed strategic and comprehensive partnerships with major corporations, NGOs, and national governments in Colombia, India, and the Middle East, conceived and implemented ambitious campuswide initiatives in life sciences and integrative data science, and oversaw Purdue's Discovery Park, a unique set of facilities and institutes where the convergence of disciplines helped solve global challenges related to health and life sciences, sustainability, food, energy, and defense and security.

His educational background includes a Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley, an M.S. from The Ohio State University, and a bachelor's degree from the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras.



Patricia Prelock, Provost and Chief Academic Officer

Dr. Patricia A. Prelock is the Provost and Chief Academic Officer at the University of Arizona. Provost Prelock oversees all colleges and academic programs; faculty affairs; student affairs; libraries; Arizona International; Online Initiatives; assessment, teaching and learning; enrollment management; and student support services.

Prior to joining the U of A in May 2025, Dr. Prelock served as Interim President at the University of Vermont during the 2024-2025 academic year. Her extensive leadership experience includes over five years as Provost and Senior Vice President, ten years as

Dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, and over seven years chairing the Communication Sciences and Disorders department.

Dr. Prelock is a highly accomplished leader, scientist, scholar, and clinical speech-language pathologist. She is an internationally recognized expert in the nature and treatment of autism in children, interprofessional education (IPE) and collaborative practice, and family-centered care. She has authored over 220 publications and over 600 peer-reviewed and invited presentations/keynotes in the areas of autism and other neurodevelopmental disabilities, collaboration, IPE, leadership, and language learning disabilities. As a PI or Co-PI she has garnered more than \$25 million in university, state, and federal funding to develop innovations in interdisciplinary training supporting children and youth with neurodevelopmental disabilities and their families, to facilitate training in speech-language pathology and to support her intervention work in autism spectrum disorders (ASD).

Dr. Prelock received her B.S. in speech pathology & audiology and a M.A. in speech pathology from Kent State University and her Ph.D. in speech-language pathology from the University of Pittsburgh. She is also an Emerita Professor of Communication Sciences & Disorders and former Professor of Pediatrics in the College of Medicine at the University of Vermont.

Tucson, Arizona

Tucson is a vibrant multicultural city located in the southwest of the United States. The city is known for exceptional opportunities for year-round outdoor activities, and exciting cultural offerings.

Tucson has been continuously settled for more than 12,000 years, and is the ancestral home to the Tohono O'odham and Pascua Yaqui peoples. It is one of the "Mega-Trend" cities of the 21st century known for its Optics Valley, premier health services center for the Southwest, the astronomy center of the world, home to a premier research institution, U of A, and a tourism destination.



Historically, the state economy was based on five key industries; cattle, cotton, copper, citrus and climate. While each of these industries remains central to the economy of Arizona, growth in Tucson is now centered on aerospace, transportation and logistics, manufacturing, health care, and leisure and hospitality.

The greater Tucson area serves 35 million people within a 500-mile radius. Its geographic proximity to Phoenix, Mexico, California and other major markets on the West Coast has made it an economic epicenter. Approximately 35% of Tucson's population is Hispanic and the Tucson Hispanic Chamber of Commerce serves a primary role in ushering trade on both sides of the border, recognizing the Hispanic market is the fastest growing ethnic segment in the country.

Tucson was rated a "mini-mecca for the arts" by the *Wall Street Journal*. Tucson is one of a select few cities of its size that boasts its own ballet company, professional theater, symphony, and opera company. The city's natural history and cultural heritage are also on display in more than 30 regional museums.

Tucson is situated in the Sonoran Desert and is surrounded by five mountain ranges. A trip from the valley floor to the 9,157-foot Mt. Lemmon summit traverses seven of the world's nine life zones. The city lies between Catalina State Park to the North, Coronado National Forest to the Northwest, Saguaro National Park to the East and West and the Tohono O'odham Nation to the South.

Tucson is the perfect place for the outdoor enthusiast. With more than 800 miles of bike paths, Tucson has been ranked by *Bicycling* magazine as one of the top cycling cities in the U.S. for several years running and is home to internationally known bicycling events such as El Tour de Tucson. Golf is another popular activity with dozens of regional golf courses.

All the exercise options are a great advantage considering that Tucson is a "foodie" destination. It was recently dubbed our nation's first City of Gastronomy by the U.N.'s Educational Scientific and Cultural Organizations (UNESCO) as part of its Creative Cities Network.

Additional information on Tucson is available [here](#).

Procedure for Candidacy

All applications, nominations, and inquiries are invited. Applications should include, as separate documents, a CV or resume and a letter of interest addressing the themes in this profile.

For fullest consideration, candidate materials should be received by January 9, 2026.

WittKieffer is assisting the University of Arizona in this search. Application materials should be submitted through WittKieffer's [candidate portal](#).

Nominations and inquiries can be directed to:

Werner Boel, LL.M., Jen Meyers Pickard, Ph.D., and Ashlee Musser

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