Located in Newton, MA, about eight miles from downtown Boston, Boston College Law School is among the nation’s very best law schools. Our success is based on a tradition of educating lawyers through theory and practice, and shaping leaders prepared to grapple with society’s most important moral and ethical questions.

Our approach is grounded in the Jesuit traditions of academic rigor, service to others, and in personal and professional formation—helping our students discern the right path for them in their lives and careers. This approach creates a unique and supportive community where people care for and look out for one another, even as they challenge each other to grow as intellectuals and critical thinkers. We are particularly committed to growth in diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging, and in creating a community where people from all backgrounds are celebrated for their unique perspectives and lived experiences.

In the profession, our graduates lead by example and are known for their collaborative approach. They are in high demand among employers as “team players” with an excellent academic foundation, broad skills-based training, and high emotional intelligence. BC Law’s reputation helps our graduates find top jobs at leading law firms and in businesses, government, and nonprofits.
History

Founded in 1929, Boston College Law School held its opening classes in the 11-story Lawyer’s Building on Beacon Street in downtown Boston. It began with an enrollment of 54 ambitious students selected from an applicant pool of nearly 700, and quickly thrived despite the onset of the Great Depression that coincided with its early years. In 1932, just three years after its founding, the school received American Bar Association accreditation, joining Harvard, Yale, and Boston University as the only law schools in New England to attain that distinction. By the fall of 1937, the school’s enrollment had grown to 350 students. By 1940, its ranks included women.

With its reputation and enrollment soaring, BC Law moved to Chestnut Hill in 1954, occupying the newly constructed St. Thomas More Hall on the edge of the BC campus. It was not until the University’s acquisition of Newton College of the Sacred Heart in the early 1970s that the Law School found its home in what is now known as the Newton Campus.

Today, BC Law is situated on an idyllic 40-acre campus with new and expanded classrooms, conference space, and a state-of-the-art law library. Its 850+ students are taught by some of the nation’s best full-time law faculty.

Throughout its history, BC Law has provided a top-quality legal education grounded in Boston College’s Jesuit, Catholic tradition. With an impressive record of education, scholarship, and activity in social and racial justice and public service—through its work aiding immigrants and refugees and groundbreaking research in areas such as business law, environmental law, and juvenile justice—BC Law continues to prepare students not only to be good lawyers but to lead good lives.

Mission

Boston College Law School is committed to the highest quality integrated graduate and professional education, recognizing its obligations as a national law school both to the academic and professional worlds. Our commitment is to foster new insights through research and scholarship, to impart knowledge and analytical skills through instruction of the highest caliber, and to critically evaluate the role of law and legal institutions. We are also committed to developing those qualities and skills that our students will need to become successful practitioners; toward this end, we search for ways to combine theory and practice in our instruction, and for opportunities to instill in our students the moral and ethical values that underlie a rational and just application of law.

Boston College and its law school are rooted in the Jesuit tradition of service to God and others. In that tradition, we believe that the purpose of higher education is both the search for knowledge and the preparation of those who are moved to a constructive, responsible, and loving use of their knowledge. The Law School recognizes its commitment to social and economic justice, and strives to advance this commitment both through its curricular offerings and in the extracurricular projects that it supports.

We encourage our students to develop their own individual commitment to others and to explore those themes that are central to the Jesuit tradition: the dignity of the human person, the advancement of the common good, and compassion for the poor.

We stand out nationally among other law schools because we respect and are concerned for each individual. We strive to reflect the world’s rich diversity and work together to create a community of growth and learning. We believe that such a diverse, supportive community provides the best possible environment for instruction and learning. Just as importantly, it represents the model for the types of intellectual and professional interaction that we hope to instill in our alumni who are engaged in the practice of law.
BC Law teaches students to think like lawyers from the first day of classes. While studying constitutional and criminal law, civil procedure, contracts, property, and torts, first-year students may explore specific fields, choosing an experiential learning elective from among our extensive catalog. We also emphasize the importance of legal reasoning, research, and writing through our yearlong Law Practice Program. BC Law encourages first-year students to participate in ABA Negotiation and Client Counseling competitions. Co-curricular initiatives, such as the Rappaport Center for Law and Public Policy’s lecture series and fellows program, provide students with expanded opportunities to interact one-on-one and learn from dynamic leaders outside the classroom.

BC Law’s approach is interdisciplinary and collaborative. We partner with schools and departments across the University to offer dual degree programs and individual courses open to law students. Initiatives such as our Program on Innovation and Entrepreneurship (PIE), Leaders Entering and Advancing Public Service (LEAPS), Forum on Philanthropy and the Public Good, and Tax Policy Collaborative bring distinguished speakers to campus and help students network and discover their passions within the profession.

### Degree Programs

**JD Program**

Our JD Program is prestigious and cutting edge, combining traditional methods with experiential learning to graduate practice-ready lawyers. We offer over 200 courses, international externship opportunities through our [Dublin Program](#), and a number of dual degree programs: JD/MBA, JD/MSW, JD/MEd or MA in Education, JD/MA or JD/PhD in Philosophy, JD/MA in Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning, JD/MPH, and JD/MA in Environmental, Energy, or Food & Agriculture Law. We also offer a JD/LLM in partnership with the Sorbonne Law School of Université Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne, and a JD/LLM in partnership with the Bucerius Law School in Germany.

Although we offer a broad range of courses, we have particular strengths in business and corporate law, tax, criminal and civil litigation, human rights and international law, legal history and jurisprudence, and public policy. We also offer a Tax Concentration. Students who complete the requirements will have the designation of “Tax Concentration” on their transcript. To satisfy the requirements for the Tax Concentration, students must satisfactorily pass 17 credits from a menu of approved classes.

**LLM Program**

Our LLM Program offers a rigorous education by renowned faculty at a top U.S. university with personalized guidance and mentoring in a friendly and supportive environment. The program is composed of from 10 to 20 students, typically international lawyers looking to learn more about U.S. law and return to practice in their home country. LLM students learn alongside JD students in class, and have the opportunity to earn concentrations in Business & Commercial Law, Environmental Law, Human Rights, Intellectual Property, and Tax.

BC Law also offers visiting and exchange student programs as well as a [visiting scholar program](#).
International Programs and Global Engagement

Both the Law School and Boston College have greatly expanded global engagement efforts over the last decade. At the University level, the Office of Global Engagement supports global cooperation and research, and offers international learning opportunities to all students. The Law School likewise has dedicated administrative resources to support a comprehensive program in international and comparative law. The Associate Dean for Faculty and Global Programs oversees the school’s global engagement efforts and coordinates with various partners abroad. In addition, the school’s Director for Graduate Legal Education and Global Programs manages the International Visiting Scholars Program, the LLM Program, and international law student exchange relationships. The Law School’s Director of Externships also assists with externship placements abroad.

Over the last several years, the Law School has developed student exchanges in which law students study at partner schools. The Law School currently has agreements with Bucerius Law School Program (Germany), Pontificia Universidad Javeriana (Colombia), Trinity College School of Law (Ireland), and Renmin University Law School (China).

Centers and Special Initiatives

From policy debates to conferences and philanthropy forums, our programming pushes students to engage with experts and explore the legal profession outside the classroom.

Centers

Center for Experiential Learning (CEL)
Our CEL brings all our experiential learning programs under one roof and enables collaboration across legal disciplines through clinics, externships, advocacy programs, the Legal Services LAB, and other opportunities. BC Law students can select from among the Center’s 13 in-house clinical programs and nearly 20 clinical externship programs that typically place students in more than 100 locations in nearby Boston, throughout the United States, and around the world.

The school’s robust clinical programs include the Amicus Brief Clinic; BC Prosecutors and Defenders; the unique Innocence Program, which in 2020 alone helped free three people wrongly imprisoned; the Compassionate Release and Parole Clinic; Immigration Clinic and Advanced Immigration Clinic; International Human Rights Practicum; Juvenile Rights Advocacy Project; Project Entrepreneur; the new Civil Rights Clinic; and transactional clinics Community Enterprise and Entrepreneurship & Innovation Clinics.

BC Law’s Legal Services LAB, an operating law firm within the CEL, was one of the first of its kind in the country. For over 50 years, it has been widely recognized as a model for many other schools.

Rappaport Center for Law & Public Policy
The Rappaport Center, established at BC Law in 2015, hosts dynamic discussions on critical public policy issues and provides funded summer internships and mentoring for law students committed to public policy careers. The Center also brings in Distinguished Visiting Professors and Senior Fellows to teach classes in public policy and engage with the community.

Center for Human Rights & International Justice
Home to our Post-Deportation Human Rights Project, this University center addresses human rights work through training, applied research, and the interaction of scholars with practitioners. BC Law Professor Daniel Kanstroom is a co-director of the center.

The Clough Center for the Study of Constitutional Democracy
Ambitious and visionary, the Clough Center fosters research and dialogue on the promise and challenges of constitutional government. This University center was run for many years by BC Law Professor Vlad Perju, and traditionally hosts a number of events on the Law School campus as well as offers fellowships to BC Law students.
Special Initiatives

Faculty Colloquia Series
Scholars from the U.S. and foreign law schools come to BC to share their works-in-progress and engage in lively discussion of their drafts and the legal and policy issues underpinning their work.

Forum on Philanthropy & the Public Good
The Forum on Philanthropy & the Public Good is a think tank devoted to investigating whether rules governing the charitable sector advance the public good. Co-founded and directed by Professor Ray Madoff, the forum hosts major events, partners with large nonprofits and foundations, and engages in public policy work around philanthropy reform. Most recently, work by the forum and professor Madoff helped shape the bipartisan legislation Accelerating Charitable Efforts (ACE) Act, currently before Congress, to reform tax laws that cover charitable donations.

Foundations of U.S. Law and Practice
Intensive and interactive, this three-week introduction to U.S. law for international students considering an LLM or JD degree is guided by Boston College Law School faculty.

Leaders Entering & Advancing Public Service (LEAPS)
The LEAPS Program provides opportunities for students to discover and develop their talents for advancing the public good through their chosen legal path. LEAPS includes class concentrations, faculty and peer mentoring, and a capstone project during a student’s third year.

Legal History Roundtable
The Legal History Roundtable regularly convenes faculty, students, and members of the BC community for informal, collegial discussions of pre-circulated papers in legal history.

Program on Innovation & Entrepreneurship (PIE)
PIE draws upon the intellectual capital of its faculty and students to build strong bridges between BC Law and the innovation and entrepreneurship communities in Boston and beyond. PIE hosts events such as the annual International Intellectual Property Summit, co-sponsored by Ropes and Gray.

Regulation & Markets Workshop
Focused on the study of regulatory approaches to markets and business, this workshop explores how traditional approaches to regulation intersect with emerging methodologies.

Tax Policy Collaborative
The Tax Policy Collaborative brings together scholars, practitioners, and academics to focus ideas and evaluate tax policy proposals and analyses.
Our acclaimed faculty are passionate about the law, and about educating the principled leaders of tomorrow. Our rigorous curriculum and rich experiential opportunities challenge our students to expand their knowledge while understanding their impact on society.

Thorough, demanding, and inspiring, Boston College Law School faculty members are scholars, educators, and mentors who are widely recognized authorities on the legal, political, and social issues of our time. They specialize in areas that range from the innovation economy to immigration, environmental law to international trade, national security to health care, and philanthropy to mergers and acquisitions. Composed of approximately 65 full-time permanent and visiting faculty and approximately 90 part-time faculty, our most recently reported student-faculty ratio is 6.4-1.

BC Law faculty do more than impart knowledge and teach legal skills. Through mentoring relationships both inside and outside the classroom, they help students identify the issues they are most passionate about, and support those interests with advice on course selection, real world experiences, and professional networking.

A few examples of faculty leaders include:

» Boston College Founders Professor Mary Bilder, an internationally recognized legal historian and author of Madison’s Hand: Revising the Constitutional Convention, which was awarded the 2016 Bancroft Prize in American History and Diplomacy, the James C. Bradford Prize for Biography from the Society for Historians of the Early Republic, and was named a finalist for the George Washington Book Prize.

» Liberty Mutual Professor Patricia McCoy, a nationally prominent scholar in financial services regulation, who helped form the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau at the U.S. Department of the Treasury and oversaw the bureau’s mortgage policy initiatives.

» Dean Hashimoto, a lawyer, physician, and scholar who serves as the chief of occupational and environmental medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital and Brigham and Women’s Hospital, and was in charge of the hospital’s groundbreaking study on masking during the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, which led directly to changes in CDC guidelines.


» Rappaport Center Faculty Director and Center for Human Rights Co-Director Daniel Kanstroom, a prominent immigration and human rights scholar with numerous groundbreaking books and articles, including Aftermath: Deportation Law and the New American Diaspora and Deportation Nation.

» Associate Dean for Faculty and Global Programs Katharine Young, a comparative constitutional law, international human rights law, and law and gender scholar, whose work includes Constituting Economic and Social Rights and the casebook The Law of Contracts (with James Rogers).

» Renee Jones, frequent commentator on corporate governance and securities law issues, and a scholar focused on corporate governance and the federal-state relationship in corporate regulation. Professor Jones is a member of the Academic Advisory Board of the Institute for Law and Economic Policy (ILEP), the Governing Committee of the Massachusetts Medical Malpractice Reinsurance Plan, the American Law Institute, and has served as the Co-Chair of the Securities Law Committee of the Boston Bar Association.

These are just a few of the prominent scholars among the BC Law faculty. We are currently conducting searches for three full-time, tenure/tenure track faculty positions, and intend to continue to hire aggressively in the years ahead.

Our staff, a diverse group of approximately 60 full-time employees plus a number of University staff members who help support the Law School, are equally passionate and committed to supporting our students, faculty, and alumni, providing the very best academic and extracurricular experience.
STUDENT BODY, ACHIEVEMENTS, AND OUTCOMES

Boston College Law prepares students to lead with integrity and fight for global change and equal justice. Our students are committed to effecting positive change in all legal settings including but not limited to the private sector and nonprofit and government roles. Our approach is in high demand: we received nearly 6,400 applications for seats in the Class of 2024.

More than 850 students are currently enrolled at BC Law, with nearly 14,000 alumni around the world, and nearly 40 active student organizations such as the American Constitution Society, Black Law Students Association, Children’s Rights Group, Federalist Society, Intellectual Property and Technology Forum, Environmental Law Society, the Business Law Society, and more. We also have a vibrant LAHANAS umbrella organization (our term for diverse student organizations), which provides support for diverse students and coordinates closely with our Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Programs. Over the past several years, BC Law has recommitted itself to improving its support for DEI initiatives and students of color, bringing in consultants, establishing faculty and student working groups, holding town halls and focus groups, and introducing new 1L Orientation sessions around issues of diversity and new courses such as Native Americans and the Law; Law, Slavery and Race; Race Relations and the Law; and Restorative Justice in Courts. We have also created a new 1L-required Critical Perspectives course, which focuses on personal and professional identity and formation. The faculty continue to study further curricular changes in this area.

The law student population at BC is 47% male and 53% female, 28% students of color, and 1% international. BC Law students hail from 31 U.S. states and Washington, D.C., as well as 13 countries including Canada, China, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Iran, Italy, Kenya, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Uganda, and the United Kingdom. The entering Class of 2024 is 32% students of color, the highest in BC Law’s history, and has a median LSAT of 165 and GPA of 3.69, which makes it one of the strongest academic classes in school history.

In the past five years, 500 employers across 36 states, D.C., Guam, and six countries have hired recent BC Law graduates. Approximately 70% of the graduates typically go to work at law firms, most of which comprised of over 100+ lawyers, which makes BC Law one of the top 20 in the country for Big Law.

In spite of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Class of 2020 employment numbers remained strong. 90.2% of our graduates were employed within 10 months of graduating, 83.3% in full-time, long-term, bar-passage-required/ JD advantage positions. Sixty-seven percent went to law firms, 15% went into government/public interest careers, 11% business, and 7% clerkships. It should be noted that at least eight members of the Class of 2020 secured employment between 3/15/21 and 4/7/21. If these graduates had been counted, the percentage employed would have been 93.5%.

PLACEMENT, CLASS OF 2020

90.2%

Employed within 10 months of graduation

83.3%

Employed in full-time, long-term positions requiring bar passage or JD advantage

50%

Of Employed Graduates went to Big Law (firms w/100+ attorneys)
Public service and public interest are central to BC Law’s mission. The Law School strives to enhance its support for those students who wish to make public service their career path through the work of the Career Services Director of Public Interest and Pro Bono Programs, the voluntary pro bono pledge program, the Public Interest Annual Weekend Retreat, our Loan Repayment Assistance Program, and fellowships. Our Leaders Entering and Advancing Public Service Program offers students academic concentrations and additional structural support to build a stronger sense of community, infuse public interest and public service into the curriculum, and offer career-related programming, advising, and networking opportunities. A newly formed Dean’s Public Interest Working Group has brought together representatives from all areas of the school to further advance these goals.
At BC Law, firsthand experiences permeate our curriculum, beginning in the first year with our year-long Law Practice Program, and six credits dedicated to experiential learning in the spring.

Consistent with the mission of Boston College Law School to provide the highest quality integrated graduate and professional education, the Center for Experiential Learning provides a diverse set of experiential learning opportunities—in classroom, clinical, and other settings—designed to promote development of legal and ethical judgment and essential practice skills as students continue to expand their substantive knowledge base.

Students can choose from a wide range of experiential opportunities during their three years—from clinics that provide services ranging from civil litigation to overturning wrongful convictions; to externships at law firms, corporations, government agencies, and nonprofits; to our award-winning oral advocacy programs. First-year students can participate in American Bar Association client counseling and negotiation advocacy competitions. In their second year, students test their appellate skills through the Wendell F. Grimes Moot Court competition, which leads to placements on national moot court and mock trial teams during the 3L year.

The Boston College Legal Services LAB is an operating law firm and a model for clinics across the country. LAB is a central component of our center and includes six clinics working in areas such as civil litigation, housing, civil rights, immigration, juvenile rights, and corporate and intellectual property law.

In accord with the Jesuit, Catholic identity of Boston College, the LAB advances a commitment to social and economic justice. Thus, it is an essential pillar in the Law School’s mission to support Boston College Law School students not merely in becoming excellent lawyers but in living lives of excellence—seeking and finding meaningful work in service to others that will enrich their communities and the profession. The LAB catalyzes greater engagement with practice among Boston College law students and faculty and promotes wider recognition in the legal academy of the role of Boston College as a thought leader in all facets of experiential pedagogy.
Boston College Law School is ranked:

- #29 Best Law Schools by U.S. News & World Report
- #8 for “Best Professors” by Princeton Review
- #19 Top Law Schools for “Big Law” by National Law Journal
- #12 nationwide for producing the most Super Lawyers by preLaw
- #25 Top Law Reviews by Washington & Lee

VIDEOS:

Why BC Law
You Belong Here: Our Community
Our Academic Philosophy
Your Career: By the Numbers
Bringing Wilmer Home: The Fight for Justice
Faculty Spotlight: Ingrid Hillinger

#29
Best Law Schools, U.S. News & World Report

#12
Nationwide for producing the most Super Lawyers

#25
Top Law Reviews by Washington & Lee

NOTABLE ALUMNI

The BC Law alumni community, nearly 14,000 strong, is a particularly loyal and close-knit group, united by their love of the Law School and their fellow classmates. A few distinguished alumni include:

- United States Special Presidential Envoy for Climate and former U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry
- Yolanda Lyle, Vice President of Executive Operations and Chief of Staff to the chairman and CEO at Pfizer Inc.
- Ed Markey, United States Senator
- Raymond Mercedes, SVP Associate General Counsel - Chief of Staff of Corporate & Legal Affairs for Univision
- Brigida Benitez, Partner at Steptoe & Johnson and a past President of the DC Bar
- Bobby Scott, United States Congressman
- Hisao Kushi, Co-Founder of Peloton
- Debra Wong Yang, Partner at Gibson Dunn and former United States Attorney for the Central District of California
- David Simas, CEO, Obama Foundation and former Assistant to the President and Director of the White House Office of Political Strategy and Outreach
- Joan Lukey, Practice Group Leader in Complex Trial & Appellate Litigation at Choate and past President of the prestigious American College of Trial Lawyers, the first woman ever to hold this position
- Randall McMillan, Vice President of Business Affairs at BMI Music
- Aisha Jorge Massengill, Vice President & Managing Counsel at Under Armour
- John McHale, Jr., Executive Vice President, Administration, at Major League Baseball
BC Law has significantly increased its fundraising efforts in recent years, growing our reach beyond our own educational goals to impact the communities we live in. Growth in major gifts over the past three years has mirrored the University’s fundraising successes: the school has gone from raising $4–6 million annually to $10 and $14 million in the last two years.

In the last 10 years, we have seen the Law School’s endowment move from $36,740,037 to $73,147,838 in 2020. Major commitments have grown by 50 percent and cash gifts of 100K have tripled in the last three years. The number of endowed funds that support both financial aid and faculty research has grown from 107 to 179, and endowed professorships have grown from six to 10. In fiscal year 21, the Deanship was named and endowed.

We believe there is potential among our alumni base to double the amount of annual gifts. Our financial aid and fellowship needs are outpacing our philanthropic growth, and it will be important for the new Dean to partner with the University in attracting donors to give to BC Law.
Boston College is a private, Jesuit, Catholic university located on a 240-acre campus in Chestnut Hill, Mass. Founded in 1863 by the Society of Jesus to serve the sons of Boston’s Irish immigrants, it was the first institution of higher education to operate in the city of Boston. Today it is one of the nation’s foremost universities, with a coeducational enrollment of 14,500 undergraduate and graduate students from all 50 states and more than 100 countries.

Designated as an RI Research University by the Carnegie Foundation, Boston College is also ranked among the nation’s best national universities, placing 36th in the 2022 U.S. News Survey. This academic year, Boston College received a record 39,875 applications for the Class of 2025 and admitted just 19 percent of its applicants, making it one of the nation’s most select institutions.

The University is composed of eight schools and colleges:

**Undergraduate Programs**
- Carroll School of Management
- Connell School of Nursing
- Lynch School of Education and Human Development
- Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences
- Woods College of Advancing Studies

**Graduate/Professional Programs**
- Boston College Law School
- Boston College School of Social Work
- Boston College School of Theology and Ministry
- Carroll School of Management
- Connell School of Nursing
- Lynch School of Education and Human Development
- Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences
- Woods College of Advancing Studies

In addition to its undergraduate programs in the liberal arts, education, business, and nursing, Boston College offers top-ranked graduate programs in law, theology and ministry, social work, business/management, nursing, education, and arts and sciences.

BC’s eight schools and colleges are served by 882 full-time faculty—94 percent of whom hold doctoral degrees—and 497 part-time faculty. The University’s faculty/student ratio is 1:11. There are a total of 2,650 professional, administrative, and support staff.

Committed to formative education and preparing graduates who will use their gifts in the service of others, Boston College proudly lives up to its motto chosen by its founders in 1863: “Ever to Excel.”

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**Faculty/student ratio**

1:11

**Full-time faculty**

882

**Part-time faculty**

497

**Professional, administrative, and support staff**

2,650
University President William P. Leahy, S.J.

William P. Leahy, S.J., a member of the USA Midwest Province of the Society of Jesus, became the 25th President of Boston College in July 1996. He came to Boston College from Marquette University, where he served as a faculty member for six years and then as Executive Vice President. Father Leahy holds a Ph.D in history from Stanford University, an M.A. in U.S. history from Saint Louis University, and master's degrees in divinity and sacred theology from the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley, California. He is the author of Adapting to America: Catholics, Jesuits, and Higher Education in the Twentieth Century as well as scholarly articles on religious and educational history in the United States. Father Leahy is a Trustee of Santa Clara and Creighton Universities and the Ecclesiastical Faculty at Boston College.

Provost and Dean of Faculties
David Quigley

David Quigley is Provost and Dean of Faculties at Boston College, where he is also a Professor of History. A scholar of the nineteenth-century American city, Quigley received his B.A. in American studies from Amherst College and his M.A. and Ph.D. in history from New York University. Quigley’s research explores the history of race and democracy in the urban United States between the Revolution and Reconstruction with a particular focus on New York City. Among his works are Second Founding: New York City, Reconstruction, and the Making of American Democracy and Jim Crow New York: A Documentary History of Race and Citizenship, 1777–1877. Between Amherst and N.Y.U., Quigley taught high school social studies in the New York City Public Schools at John Jay High School in Brooklyn in the late 1980s and early 1990s. He joined the Boston College History Department in 1998, and earned the University’s Distinguished Teaching Award in 2007. Between 2008 and 2014, he served as Dean of the College and Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Boston College, during which time he oversaw the hiring of 160 new faculty colleagues, helped lead the design and construction of a new 180,000-square-foot humanities building, and initiated a multi-year Core Renewal project focused on the University’s extensive undergraduate Core Curriculum. As Provost, he has co-chaired the University Strategic Planning Initiative that resulted in Ever to Excel: Advancing Boston College’s Mission, a strategic plan for the next decade. He lives in Cambridge, Mass., with his wife Megan DeMott-Quigley, where they have raised their three sons.
# Boston College Board of Trustees | 2021–2022

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William P. Leahy, S.J.

**Trustees**

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Introduction

Since its founding in 1863, Boston College has changed dramatically in location, size, academic reputation, financial resources, and complexity. From its early years as a small, commuter, liberal arts college for men in the South End of Boston, it now is a coeducational, national, and increasingly international research university enrolling approximately 14,500 students on a main campus of 240 acres. While remaining focused on undergraduates, the liberal arts and sciences, and student formation, Boston College also offers select graduate and professional programs, and has more than 880 full-time faculty engaged not only in teaching but also in research and scholarship.

To thrive in the coming decades, Boston College must remain true to its intellectual and religious roots and seek to be the world’s leading Jesuit, Catholic university. This ambitious goal distinguishes Boston College from its peers in higher education worldwide, and reflects its desire to work for the transformation of the world.

Boston College is committed to being:

» a preeminent university, dedicated to serious intellectual inquiry and the pursuit of truth, the discovery and transmission of knowledge in ways appropriate to its mission and resources, and quality teaching, learning, and service;

» a Catholic university, called in a particular way to be a meeting place between faith and culture, especially between Catholicism and contemporary society; and

» a Jesuit university, heir to a spirituality based on the religious experiences of St. Ignatius Loyola that continues to influence Jesuit schools and Catholicism, and the 470-year educational tradition of the Society of Jesus, which stresses the liberal arts, character formation, a rigorous approach to learning, and striving for the greater glory of God.

These commitments reflect the University’s distinctive heritage and will continue to shape its mission and ethos in the future. Specifically, Boston College is an institution and community that welcomes and respects all; that prizes dialogue, exploration, faith, and religious practice; that appreciates the need to care for God’s creation through teaching, scholarship, and sustainable practices; that affirms the value of intercollegiate athletics to its campus community, alumni, and national reputation; and that intends to remain true to its Jesuit, Catholic educational and religious heritage.

Mindful of its traditions, current strengths, and future opportunities and challenges, Boston College will focus in the coming decade on four Strategic Directions.
Strategic Directions

Strategic Direction I
Re-envision liberal arts education at Boston College by sustained attention to the Core Curriculum, enhancing faculty quality and engagement, and leveraging the strengths of undergraduate programs in the Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences, Carroll School of Management, Connell School of Nursing, and Lynch School of Education.

Strategic Direction II
Enhance the University’s commitment to formation among students, faculty, and staff to further Boston College’s mission and strengthen its institutional culture.

Strategic Direction III
Expand support for scholarship and research in keeping with Boston College’s mission to help address complex societal problems and contribute to the common good, with a particular focus on the sciences.

Strategic Direction IV
Increase the University’s presence and impact in the city of Boston, the United States, and around the globe.

Ever to Excel
Boston College is well prepared to take the next steps in its growth and development. Financially strong, intellectually vital, secure in its understanding of its mission, and mindful of its particular responsibilities to students, society, and the Catholic Church, it is also animated by the commitment and loyalty of its alumni and supporters, whose gifts totaling $1.6 billion to the Light the World campaign set a record of generosity and support.

Certainly the University faces challenges and decisions which will require imagination, hard work, and the identification of new resources. Boston College’s central challenge, however, can best be expressed in a single question: How will the University change and grow so it can meet the demands of a world that needs its distinctive contributions?

These four Strategic Directions for “Ever to Excel: Advancing Boston College’s Mission” stand in the enduring Jesuit and Boston College tradition of turning in ever imaginative ways to respond to the needs of the day. New plans and ideas raise new challenges, but the University moves to meet them knowing that it has never been stronger: in its committed lay and Jesuit leadership; in its accomplished faculty; in its gifted students; in its engaged alumni; in its public reputation; and, critically, in its confidence that it will continue to live out its time-honored motto, “Ever to Excel.”
One hundred and fifty-eight years after its founding by the Society of Jesus to serve the sons of Boston’s immigrant community, Boston College remains committed to providing admission and support to underrepresented populations to enable them to benefit from the transformative effect of a Boston College education.

During the past 50 years, Boston College has devoted significant time and resources to enhance racial diversity among its students, faculty, and staff.

Today, Boston College is one of only 20 private universities in the United States that is need-blind in admissions and meets the full demonstrated need of all accepted students, offering access to families who could not otherwise afford an education at a highly selective private university.

This year, U.S. News reported that Boston College had the third-highest graduation rate (96 percent) of U.S. students who were eligible for a Federal Pell Grant—behind only Princeton University and the California Institute of Technology—an accomplishment that demonstrates the University’s success in educating high-need students.

Boston College was also named a First-gen Forward Institution in 2020–2021 by the Center for First-Generation Student Success, joining 77 colleges and universities nationwide with this distinction.

With the incoming Class of 2025, Boston College has accepted one of its best and most diverse undergraduate classes in University history. Seven percent are international students, 34 percent are AHANA (individuals of African, Hispanic, Asian, and Native American descent), and 6.5 percent are Black. The average SAT score of those who submitted standardized test scores is 1465, and the average ACT score is 33. The number of enrolled students from the top 5 percent of the applicant pool more than doubled, to 486.

The University has also had success in diversifying its workforce in the past two decades, with the percentage of AHANA faculty and staff more than doubling since 2000.

As stated in its Mission Statement of 1996 and Strategic Plan “Ever to Excel: Advancing Boston College’s Mission” approved by the Board of Trustees in 2017, the University continues to recognize the “important contribution a diverse student body, faculty, and staff can offer” and is committed to enhancing its “culture of care and welcome for all, including support for socio-economic and racial diversity within the campus community.”

Diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts at Boston College are a shared responsibility of the president, senior leadership, and the board of trustees. Specific programs dedicated to DEI can be found on the website of the Office of Institutional Diversity.
Boston College is located in Chestnut Hill, Mass., on a beautiful 240-acre campus featuring linked quadrangles, walking paths, and buildings constructed in the distinctive English Collegiate Gothic architectural style. Boston College Law school is located on the idyllic Newton Campus, just 1.5 miles from the main campus in Chestnut Hill. Located just six miles from downtown Boston, Boston College is a central feature in America’s college town—home to more than 50 colleges and universities.

The Greater Boston area is a vibrant and desirable place to live, with a diverse population supported by some of the world’s leading research centers, hospitals, and corporations in areas that include biotech, pharma, finance, insurance, and healthcare. The region features many of the nation’s top museums, theaters, shops, restaurants, and professional sports teams as well as historical attractions that make for a uniquely charming and accessible city that is open to all.

BC Law faculty live in both the city of Boston and its surrounding suburbs. The Law School’s proximity to Boston provides access to courts, law firms, government offices, and corporations, making it one of the most desired locations among law schools nationwide. BC Law students enjoy extensive internship and externship opportunities as well as unparalleled chances for experiential learning.
ROLE OF DEAN AT BOSTON COLLEGE LAW SCHOOL

Boston College Law School seeks talented, creative, and experienced candidates for the newly endowed Marianne D. Short, Esquire Law School Deanship. The individual selected will be an acknowledged leader and known for integrity, committed to enhancing the culture and academic standing of BC Law, and able to contribute to the mission and heritage of Boston College as a Jesuit, Catholic university.

The Dean of the Boston College Law School (BC Law) will embody the essential values of academic excellence, scholarly inquiry, a commitment to justice and the common good, service to others, integrity and civility in a collegial community of learners and scholars. As the School’s principal academic and administrative leader, the Dean will guide and collaborate with faculty in helping set priorities and future direction of BC Law.

The new Dean will work closely with BC Law’s faculty and administrative staff and will ensure that BC Law is aligned with the University’s distinctive mission and strategic priorities. The Dean will promote and encourage a model that advances creative collaborations with other BC schools. The Dean will continue to foster a community that is diverse in all aspects, in concert with the Jesuit, Catholic educational and religious heritage and tradition. Commitments to intellectual rigor, discernment, and serving the needs of all students will undergird the Dean’s efforts.

BC Law operates with six Associate Deans responsible for the following areas: Academic Affairs, Faculty, Strategy & Student Affairs, Experiential Learning, Library and Technology Services, and Finance & Administration. The School includes 61 full-time and 93 adjunct faculty members as well as 30 staff. Admissions, the registrar, the law library, and career services are independent units at BC Law. In addition, BC Law has its own alumni development and communications staff and works closely with Boston College’s financial aid office and the Office of University Advancement. The next Dean will oversee an annual budget of approximately $50,000,000. Governance and administration are shared between BC Law’s administrative group and the central University administration. The Dean serves with other deans on key committees and councils with the Provost and the President.

ASPIRATIONS AND EXPECTATIONS

Provide Leadership and Strategic Direction

The Dean will provide leadership, inspiration, and ambitious long-range strategic planning skills to build upon the strong foundation that exists at BC Law and help set the course for the coming years. As BC Law approaches its landmark 100th anniversary in 2029, the Dean has an exciting opportunity to highlight the legacy and current strengths of BC Law and harness the potential of this celebratory moment to enhance BC Law in reputation, resources, rankings, curriculum, and especially in regard to issues of religion, justice and the common good. The Dean will collaborate with the BC Law community and the greater Boston College community to determine specific goals and directions for the dynamic future of BC Law. There will be an opportunity to expand curricular offerings and strategically hire new faculty to build new and existing programs.

Increase Financial Resources

The Dean is BC Law’s chief fundraiser and ambassador and is expected to collaborate with BC’s Office of University Advancement to engage current and potential donors, including alumni, foundations, corporations, and community members, to set innovative strategic priorities, and to inspire financial support for the School’s ambitions. Whether focusing on annual alumni giving, cultivating prospects for major or planned gifts, securing grants, or initiating a future campaign of significance, BC Law’s next Dean will have a direct impact on generating new resources for the School. The next Dean will be a strong financial manager, aware of the legal education landscape, and capable of adjusting the business plan to maintain and improve the School’s financial security.
Champion Diversity and Access

BC Law is known for its supportive and inclusive community, where people from all backgrounds are celebrated for their unique perspectives and lived experiences. Building upon current efforts, the next Dean will be committed to “fostering a culture of care and welcome for all” and further developing a diverse, equitable, and inclusive environment at BC Law. The Dean will ensure that these values are purposefully guiding decisions around strategic priorities, curriculum development, recruitment and retention of community members, fundraising initiatives, and resource allocation.

Strengthen BC Law’s National and International Reputations

BC Law’s reputations on the national and global stage are very prestigious; however, they hold the promise of even greater prominence. The Dean will be an ardent champion for BC Law and will build connections in multiple arenas to forge strategic partnerships, attract outstanding faculty, staff, and students, and enhance the overall reputation of the School. In addition, improving measurable indicators such as rankings will be beneficial for BC Law; these include financial aid support, curricular programming, faculty research support, percentage of alumni donors, bar passage rate, and student placement rate.

Enhance Community and Connections

The Dean will have a positive, engaging, and influential presence within BC Law and in the greater Boston College community. The many constituents who comprise the BC Law community are engaged and invested in the future success of the School and will be the greatest asset to the Dean. Supporting and empowering faculty and staff and honoring their significant contributions to BC Law will be crucial. Collaboratively working with other BC deans and with the President, Provost, and their leadership teams will be essential. The Dean’s capacity to ask thoughtful questions, listen carefully, shape discourse, and foster collegiality is of great importance.

Guide Enrollment Management and Marketing Efforts

The next Dean will have a firm grasp of enrollment management matters as they relate to law schools, legal education, and national demographic trends. The Dean will take an innovative and entrepreneurial approach to ensuring continued robust enrollments, and strong academic programs. The Dean will ensure BC Law maintains its student-centered approach to learners and utilizes an appropriate variety of delivery modes to ensure the greatest potential for success. The Dean will work collaboratively with the College’s enrollment management team to optimize effectiveness. Additionally, the Dean will understand the value of a strong communication team that can advance the marketing efforts and brand awareness of BC Law.

Promote BC Law and Its Students, Faculty, and Staff

BC Law is known for its exceptionally collegial environment that supports students, faculty, and staff in reaching their intellectual, spiritual, and professional goals. The Dean will be committed to providing a holistic educational experience that is accessible and affordable, enhancing the overall quality and range of academic programs, increasing and retaining the diversity of the student, faculty, and staff bodies, maintaining an outstanding physical environment that is technologically sophisticated, and providing outstanding career preparation and services. The Dean will foster interdisciplinarity among BC Law and Boston College’s faculty and programs and facilitate professional development and mentoring opportunities for faculty and staff. The Dean will ensure that BC Law has a strong and mutually beneficial relationship between the campuses at Boston College. Additionally, the Dean will actively engage with BC Law’s strong and supportive alumni network to ensure their continued goodwill toward the School.
BC Law seeks a leader who is passionate about legal education and has a deep track record of managerial oversight, preferably within a complex academic institution. Candidates should possess a strong academic record that justifies the offer of a tenured appointment at the rank of Professor. A JD is required.

While the Committee understands that no single candidate will have all the ideal qualifications, it seeks candidates who have demonstrated the following qualities and characteristics:

» impressive academic credentials and scholarly record;
» the capacity to develop, articulate, advocate, and implement a fresh vision for the future of BC Law, in concert with BC’s broader strategic plan;
» deep respect and enthusiasm for the intellectual and religious mission, heritage, and values of Boston College;
» experience and creativity in recruiting, mentoring, and retaining the highest quality faculty and staff;
» aptitude for and history of success in securing philanthropic support;
» experience building and sustaining an equitable, inclusive, and diverse organization as evidenced through organizational change, curricular development, hiring and retention practices, and the active support of ongoing dialogue;
» an awareness of the trends in legal education today, both nationally and internationally, and a willingness to help lead discussions regarding the future of legal education;
» a leadership style that is accessible, engaged, and highly visible to the campus community;
» a student-centered approach;
» an awareness of the opportunities and challenges facing law school graduates and the profession;
» an appreciation for the many contributions of BC Law alumni, past and present, to the profession and to the community and the capacity to engage alumni in meaningful ways;
» the ability to work and communicate effectively with many diverse internal and external constituencies, including staff, students, faculty, administrators, alumni, donors, legal professionals, and community members;
» communication skills that reflect the values of collaboration, empathy, and transparency; demonstrated fiscal and personnel management skills; and
» the ability to set high standards and empower others.

The Search Committee will begin reviewing candidates in Fall 2021 and will continue until the position is filled. Nominations and applications should be submitted electronically as soon as possible. Applications should include a letter of candidacy that responds to the agenda for leadership and the desired attributes for the new Dean and a complete résumé or vita. All application materials will be considered in full confidence. Please send all nominations, inquiries, and applications, electronically to:

Julie E. Tea, Managing Director
Julie Williams-Krishnan, Senior Associate
Storbeck Search
BCLawDean@storbecksearch.com
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