

CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY
DALE E. FOWLER SCHOOL OF LAW
DEAN
POSITION DESCRIPTION



chapman.edu/law/dean-search



The Chapman University Fowler School of Law invites applications and nominations for the position of Dean of the School of Law.

ABOUT THE SCHOOL OF LAW

The Chapman University Fowler School of Law opened in 1995 and is located in the Historic Old Towne District in Orange, California. The School of Law is housed in Donald P. Kennedy Hall, a state-of-the-art facility completed in 1999. In August 2013, the law school received the second largest reported gift ever to a U.S. law school – a \$55 million donation from prominent real estate developer Dale E. Fowler and his wife, Sarah Ann. The school was renamed the Dale E. Fowler School of Law in September 2013.

The Fowler School of Law is fully accredited by the American Bar Association (ABA) and a member of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS). The law school celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2015, and is poised to continue its growth in American legal education by selecting a dean with a strategic vision that both takes account of the particular challenges facing the Fowler School of Law, and that makes the most of its special advantages and opportunities.

ABOUT CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY

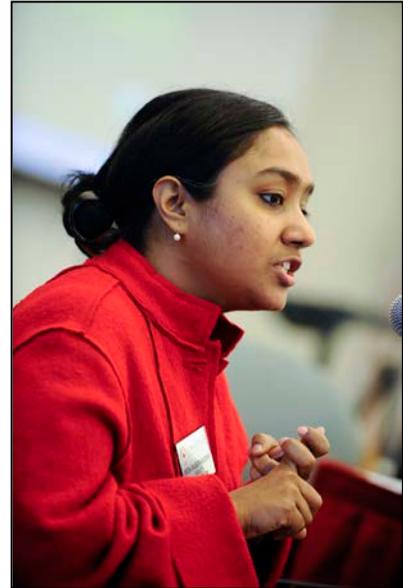


Chapman University encompasses nine schools and colleges: Wilkinson College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, George L. Argyros School of Business and Economics, Dodge College of Film and Media Arts, Schmid College of Science and Technology, Crean College of Health and Behavioral Sciences, College of Performing Arts, School of Pharmacy, Fowler School of Law, and College of Educational Studies. Named to the list of top universities in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report* and the *Princeton Review*, Chapman University enrolls more than 7,000 undergraduate, graduate and law students. The *U.S. News* annual peer assessment survey identified Chapman University as the #1 Up and Coming School in the West for making the most promising and

innovative changes in the areas of academics, faculty and student life. The University is fully aware of and committed to the Fowler School of Law's potential and has invested heavily in the school's development over its first two decades, building a sound base to support future development.

FOWLER'S OUTSTANDING FACULTY

The full-time faculty has grown in size to 55 full-time faculty members. The expansion of faculty has included high impact lateral appointments and top caliber entry-level, visiting and program faculty members. The student/faculty ratio for this prior academic year was 9.1:1. During the past five years, the Fowler School of Law engaged in a thoughtful and comprehensive curricular review. In addition, the school expanded its academic programs, particularly its LL.M. program, and added a clinical program in mediation that serves as a primary mediator for the Riverside County Superior Court.



Many of the Fowler School of Law's faculty hold advanced degrees, including Ph.D.s from Oxford, Chicago, Arizona, Virginia, Harvard, Minnesota and Claremont; LL.M.s or other advanced legal degrees from Yale, NYU, Pace and Michigan, and Masters Degrees in diverse subjects such as Business Administration, Social Work, Philosophy, Economics, International Service, Latin American Studies and Political Science. The faculty includes a Nobel Laureate and several former U.S. Supreme Court clerks.

Fowler professors excel as legal scholars, real world advocates and passionate educators, representing a wide range of specialty areas and ideological views. The full-time faculty includes numerous chairpersons and committee members for important ABA and AALS committees, three members of the American Law Institute (two elected and one life), a Fellow of the American Psychological Association, a Fellow of the American College of Tax Counsel, a member of the Advisory Board to LexisNexis Publishing, a member of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, a member of the Federal Reserve Board's Consumer Advisory Council, and several former partners in the *National Law Journal* "Top 250" law firms.

As a community of scholars, the Chapman University Dale E. Fowler School of Law faculty members serve the community of learning. The law faculty's commitment to producing high quality scholarship has resulted in the faculty ranking among the top 70 law schools as measured by scholarly impact in a recent major study and among the 18 schools that the study identified as "achiev[ing] Scholarly Impact Scores well above the rankings assigned by *U.S. News*." (Sisk et al., 2012). Fowler law professors include a full complement of leading scholars dedicated to impactful research across a wide range of specialty areas and methodological approaches, representing an even wider spectrum of ideological views. Their work appears in top law and inter-disciplinary journals, and the law faculty includes numerous nationally-recognized book and casebook authors. In the 2014-2015 academic year, the Fowler School of Law had 55 full time members of the faculty and 8 professional librarians dedicated to assisting faculty members in their research.

The Chapman University Fowler School of Law offers its law students the opportunity to complete emphasis programs in Business Law, Entertainment Law, Advocacy and Dispute Resolution, Environmental, Land Use & Real Estate (ENLURE), International Law and Tax Law. A joint JD/MBA is offered in conjunction with



Chapman University's acclaimed George L. Argyros School of Business and Economics, and a JD/MFA in Film & Television Producing provides additional opportunities for hands-on learning and participation in film production in conjunction with Chapman's Dodge College of Film and Media Arts.

Fowler's faculty also oversee a wide array of clinical opportunities, including the Center for Constitutional Jurisprudence; the Alona Cortese Elder Law Clinic; the Bette & Wylie Aitken Family Protection Clinic; the Tax Law Clinic; the Mediation Clinic; the Entertainment Contracts Law Clinic; and the Appellate Tax Advocacy Clinic.

EXCELLENT STUDENTS

The Fowler School of Law's admissions program is highly competitive. In 2014, the Fowler School of Law enrolled 169 J.D. and 76 LL.M. students. The median LSAT was 156 and the median G.P.A. was 3.41. According to the most current ABA data, this ranks the Fowler School of Law #87 in median LSAT and #79 in median G.P.A. among ABA-approved law schools.



The Fowler School of Law's students are increasingly successful on the California Bar Exam. First time takers passed at a rate of 75% on the July 2014 exam, earning a pass rate ranked 9th out of the 21 California ABA approved law schools (ahead of several top-tier law schools). Its pass rate on the February 2015 California Bar Exam ranked it 5th in the state. Fowler's bar passage rate on the July California Bar Exam for each of the prior three years was: 79% in 2011, 82% in 2012, and 77% in 2013.



Fowler's success on the nation's most difficult bar exam can be attributed to a combination of several factors: rigorous admissions standards, outstanding faculty throughout the curriculum, thorough coverage of bar-tested courses, and a unique and comprehensive in-house supplemental bar preparation program.

In the results of the *Princeton Review's* annual survey of law students reported in the "Best Law Schools," Chapman University's Fowler School of Law consistently ranks among the top ten law schools in the nation in:

- *Best Quality of Life*—#3 in 2015, #9 in 2014, #3 in 2010; #3 in 2009, and #1 in 2008.
- *Best Classroom Experience*—#2 in 2010, #3 in 2009, and #7 in 2008.
- *Best Professors*—#7 in 2010, #7 in 2009, and #5 in 2008.
- *Most Diverse Faculty*—#9 in 2009.

Of note, the Fowler School of Law has been in the top 10 for *Best Quality of Life* every year since 2005, which reflects the school's excellent facilities, desirable geographic location and, most importantly, the fostering of a culture among students that is highly collegial, professional and collaborative.

ABOUT THE LOCATION

Orange County offers one of the best places to live in the United States. It is the country's fifth largest county with more than 3 million people residing in many richly diverse ethnic, social, intellectual and environmental communities in 800 square miles. It boasts a diverse economy — so large that, if it were a nation, it would rate in the top 40 largest



GNP internationally. Orange County includes numerous major attractions, including the Segerstrom Performing Arts Center, Disneyland, Knott's Berry Farm, Angel Stadium (home of the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim) and the Honda Center (home of the Anaheim Ducks), as well as some of the most beautiful beaches in the country. Short drives lead to the beauty and recreational opportunities of the Pacific Ocean, the San Bernardino and San Gabriel Mountains, low and high deserts, Los Angeles, San Diego and several major and international airports.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The University seeks a dynamic and committed leader with the qualities and talents to lead the Fowler School of Law to a position of distinction in education, research and graduate placement. The successful candidate will have the vision, reputation, stature and credibility within the field to attract strong faculty and students and to garner resources to strengthen the Fowler School of Law and enable the achievement of its vision.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The eleven-member Dean Search Committee is chaired by Reginald H. Gilyard, Dean of the Argyros School of Business and Economics at Chapman University. The Committee invites applications, nominations and inquiries immediately. Applications should be received no later than **November 6, 2015**

to ensure full consideration. The Committee will conduct the search with confidentiality of all candidate information. References will not be contacted and candidacies will not be made public without the prior knowledge and approval of the candidate. The review of applications and nominations will continue until the position is filled, with an anticipated start date of July 1, 2016.

All nominations and applications (including a cover letter, resume/*curriculum vitae* and names of five references) should be sent via email to:

Chapman University Fowler School of Law Dean Search Committee
c/o Reginald H. Gilyard, Chair, by email to FowlerLaw@kornferry.com

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