

Law School Committee Charges 2025-26

August 29, 2025

Committees will meet as necessary to carry out their charges. Each committee will deliver progress reports on its charge at one or more scheduled faculty meetings, in accordance with the accompanying reporting schedule and as-needed adjustments.

Academic Affairs

Consider potential changes to Law School Rules and other policies regarding academics and grading to align rules with University policies and current practices and to address recurring issues under current rules.

Academic Planning Council

Advise the Dean on Law School programs, including program reviews, the future development or contraction of academic programs, program decisions likely to affect promotion and tenure or nonrenewal of probationary faculty appointments, and strategic, long term, and budgetary planning. Consider and propose any necessary changes to governance rules and policies.

Admissions and Financial Aid

Work with the Associate Dean for Admissions & Financial Aid to develop and oversee admissions priorities to ensure that the admissions process meets the Law School's goals for the incoming class. Consult with the Associate Dean for Admissions & Financial Aid about any issues that arise and about regular presentations to the faculty about admissions and financial aid policies, practices, outcomes, and concerns.

Clinical and Teaching Professor Appointments and Promotions

Review applications for clinical and teaching faculty promotions and for placement in the Teaching Professor title series. Report on those applications to the Executive Committee and the Dean. Conduct any searches for open clinical, teaching or other skills faculty positions, upon direction from the Dean. For limited-term Clinical Instructor hires, consult with the clinic director, the Dean, and the Associate Dean for Experiential Learning about committee involvement in the hiring process.

Faculty Senate

Attend Faculty Senate meetings and report to the faculty at a faculty meeting at least once per semester.

Faculty and Staff Awards

Research and explore honors and awards for which Law School faculty and staff might be strong candidates. Publicize opportunities, solicit nominations, and recommend appropriate nominees to the Dean for honors and awards. Where appropriate or requested by the Dean, assist in preparing materials for nominations and applications for honors and awards. Consider the adoption of additional annual teaching awards.

Graduate and International Programs

Work with the Assistant Dean for Graduate Programs and Associate Dean for Admissions and Financial Aid to explore the potential for expanding the Law School's graduate programs and offerings, including the LLM program and others that align with the Law School's teaching strengths and have the capacity to generate additional revenue. Explore avenues for LLM students to engage in experiential learning. Develop guidance for faculty in grading LLM students. Oversee existing programs and recommend changes that advance our goal of strengthening teaching, research, and service that crosses national boundaries.

Hastie Fellowship

Lead the recruitment and selection of Hastie Fellows, including via the first AALS Faculty Appointments Register distribution. Incorporate Hastie alums into the recruitment process, as well as any other potential changes to Hastie policies and processes. Support Hastie Fellows during their time at the Law School.

JD Grants

Review applications from student organizations, co-curricular activities, and individual students for funding academically related activities. Consult with the Dean about acceptable annual funding levels and budgets, and allot funding in a fair, transparent, and consistent way, based on published criteria, in a manner that advances the Law School's strategic priorities. Ensure that students account for the proper stewardship of Law School funds. Work with the Business Office on appropriate funding forms, reporting procedures, and compliance with university rules and processes.

Judicial Clerkships

Develop plans, resources, and events to identify, encourage, assist, and prepare students who are strong candidates for judicial clerkships and other selective opportunities, with particular emphasis on outreach to students from less advantaged and underrepresented backgrounds.

Outcomes and Assessment

Review new Outcomes and Assessment requirements adopted by the ABA and make recommendations for any necessary changes to current practices. Continue to implement the Law School's ongoing assessment plan approved by faculty in May 2021. Encourage and monitor faculty participation in the annual assessment of institutional learning outcomes scheduled for the current academic year. Continue to educate instructors about the need for, and benefits of, formative assessment in all courses, as well as overall institutional assessment. Report on the results of the annual assessment to the faculty, and engage the faculty in discussion about ways to improve teaching and institutional learning outcomes in regular faculty teaching retreats.

Petitions and Retentions

Review and decide any student petition that requests an exception or relief from a Law School rule based on allegations of unusual hardship. Consult with, or request assistance or information as needed from, the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs and the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. Additionally, review and decide requests for permission under the Law School Rules to continue studies at the Law School from any student otherwise ineligible to do so under those rules. Consult with, or request assistance or information as needed from,

the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs and the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

Strategic Planning

Develop a five-year strategic plan for the Law School, in consultation with the Dean's Office, that aligns with the University's strategic priorities. Seek the perspectives of Law School stakeholders, including faculty, staff, students, and alumni, in developing this plan.

Student Awards

Select recipients of student awards, following a fair and reasonably transparent process.

Student Success and Inclusive Excellence

Advise and consult with Associate Deans for Academic Affairs and Student Success & Inclusive Excellence on implementation of Law School Rule 3.03. In collaboration with Associate Dean for Student Success & Inclusive Excellence, oversee implementation of strategic-plan goals on student success and inclusive excellence, regularly communicating with students and student groups on progress toward those goals and on students' concerns. Work with student representatives from student groups to provide support to students and respond to their needs and concerns.

Student Wellness

In consultation and cooperation with the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, the Law School's Counselor, and the SBA's Vice President of Student Wellbeing, promote and engage in programming responsive to current student wellness needs. This could include: (1) hosting listening sessions, (2) conducting tabling events, (3) participating in community-building activities, and/or (4) reviewing and recommending articles on best practices for student wellbeing.

Tenure

Conduct an annual evaluation of each untenured faculty member and prepare individualized written reports summarizing each one's progress toward tenure. Review and evaluate the merits of any candidates for tenure by compiling tenure dossiers and making recommendations to the Executive Committee regarding the dossiers.

Tenured Faculty: Promotions & Reviews

Review and make recommendations to the Executive Committee on applications for promotion to full professor. In subcommittees, review the research, teaching and service records of faculty members up for five-year review, and report subcommittee findings in accordance with Law School rules and policies.

Chairs/Professorships Subcommittee

Consult with and make recommendations to the Dean on appointments to open named chairs and professorships. Review the performance of existing named chair and professorship holders at the end of any five-year appointment period and make recommendations to the Dean on chair and professorship renewals.

Tenure-Track/Tenured Appointments

Conduct any searches for tenure-track hiring following direction from Dean. Manage inquiries to the Law School regarding tenure-track hiring.