

DEDMAN SCHOOL OF LAW

SMU Dedman School of Law enjoys a national and international reputation of distinction. Founded in 1925 and named Dedman School of Law in 2001 for its benefactors – Robert H. Dedman, Sr. '53 and his wife, Nancy McMillan Dedman '50, and their family – it is among the top 25 most competitive law schools for admission in the country. Dedman Law boasts of entering student credentials that are at an all-time high in both the day and evening programs. In addition, the school has some of the nation's top faculty serving as department chairs and full professors, as well as an extremely impressive junior faculty that is published in top law journals across the country. Dedman Law has produced successful leaders living in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, throughout Texas, across the United States and in more than 70 countries.

CENTENNIAL DECADE PRIORITIES

STUDENT QUALITY

INCREASE SCHOLARSHIPS TO RECRUIT AND RETAIN THE MOST PROMISING SCHOLARS

- Increase the amount of endowed scholarship funds for:
 - J.D. students – day and evening, both full and partial scholarships
 - LL.M. candidates – International, Tax and General
 - S.J.D. candidates

FACULTY AND ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

ATTRACT OUTSTANDING TEACHERS AND RESEARCHERS AND ENHANCE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS, FACILITIES AND RESOURCES

- Increase the number of endowed chairs, professorships and visiting professorships for areas of interest and specialty, including Intellectual Property/Technology, International Law, Environmental Law, Tax, Estate Planning, Corporate/Business Law, Health Law and Bankruptcy
- Endow the deanship
- Increase grant funds available for faculty research and productivity awards
- Renovate and increase the number of faculty offices
- Add a state-of-the-art conference room with video conferencing
- Improve Underwood Law Library technology capacity and capability
- Enhance academic programs, centers and institutes such as Rule of Law Forum; International LL.M. Program; Institute on Business/International/Intellectual Property; Institute on the Environment and Energy, Law and Philanthropy; Institute for International Leadership and Latino Studies; and the Institute on Judicial Education

CAMPUS EXPERIENCE

IMPROVE AND EXPAND STUDENT SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

- Renovate student service facilities, including the admission office
- Enhance and endow community outreach programs, including the Child Advocacy Clinic and Consumer Rights Clinic
- Provide students with even more opportunities for community interaction by enhancing the public service program and externships

DEDMAN SCHOOL OF LAW AT A GLANCE

Dedman School of Law seeks to give each student a legal educational experience of the highest order through a deliberately controlled student body size, highly competitive entering student credentials, a faculty with outstanding academic backgrounds and excellent facilities and technology.

DEDMAN LAW PROFESSIONAL DEGREES

- Juris Doctor (J.D.) (day and evening programs)
- Juris Doctor/Master of Business Administration (J.D./M.B.A.)
- Juris Doctor/Master of Applied Economics (J.D./M.A.)
- Master of Laws in Comparative and International Law (LL.M. – Comparative and International Law)
- Master of Laws in Taxation (LL.M. – Taxation)
- Master of Laws (LL.M.)
- Doctor of the Science of Law (S.J.D.)

SUPERIOR CURRICULAR PROGRAM

The curriculum is traditionally strong in the areas of corporate, commercial and tax law; litigation and dispute resolution; and international law (public and private). Dedman Law offers a broad range of specialized legal coursework in the areas of antitrust, bankruptcy, commercial, corporate and securities, employment, environmental, estate planning, health care, financial institutions, intellectual property, international, litigation (including alternative dispute resolution), real estate and tax.

OUTSTANDING STUDENT BODY

Dedman Law is among the top 25 most competitive law schools for admission. The entering student credentials are at an all-time high in both the day and evening programs. Day students have an entering median LSAT of 164 and a median GPA of 3.78. Evening students, which include many working professionals, have an impressive median LSAT of 159 and a median undergraduate GPA of 3.57.

FACULTY COMMITMENT TO SCHOLARSHIP AND TEACHING

Dedman Law enjoys a long-standing reputation of strong classroom teaching and remains committed to superior scholarship. Dedman Law has some of the top faculty in the country among its chaired and full professors, and its talented junior faculty, having been published in some of the top law reviews across the country.

EXTENSIVE CLINICAL AND EXTERNSHIP PROGRAMS

Students have experiential learning opportunities through the public service program, externships and clinical programs, which provide students with an opportunity to earn academic credit while engaging in the actual practice of law. All students are required to complete at least 30 hours of law-related public service. Clinic cases include, but are not limited to, matters involving domestic violence, poverty law, child advocacy, criminal prosecution, criminal defense, civil litigation (including consumer and civil rights litigation), nursing home advocacy, federal taxpayer advocacy, small business and political asylum. More than 100 students participate in clinics annually.

ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- 5 respected law journals
- An outstanding placement and career counseling center
- Extensive moot court, mock trial and alternative dispute resolution competitions
- A summer program in Oxford, England, celebrating its 26th anniversary in 2009

EXCELLENT LIBRARY FACILITIES

For well over half a century, Dedman Law has maintained one of the nation's largest and finest legal collections. The Underwood Law Library houses more than 620,000 printed volumes.

JOIN US

Be a part of defining the next 100 years of unbridled achievement at SMU. To get involved in The Second Century Campaign, call 214-768-4198 or e-mail dedmanlawgiving@smu.edu.