



Wayne State University

Law Classroom Building
Joint Capital Outlay Subcommittee Presentation
Wednesday, May 3, 2023



Michigan's Only Urban Research University



Wayne State takes this distinction seriously and for over 150 years has been part of the fabric of Detroit and proudly serves a unique and diverse student body and community.



- More than **40 percent** of all students are **first generation**
- Roughly **half** of all students are **Pell Grant Eligible**
- We rank **#1 in social mobility** in Michigan
- Any student with **family income of \$70,000 or less can attend free of charge**



Key Values



Community Enrichment

Building relationships within the community to the benefit of our students and Detroit

Example: Collaborative projects through the Community Advocacy Clinic empower individuals through campaigns such as “Know Your Rights”



Diversity, Inclusion, Access

Creating programs of legal and interdisciplinary study and new approaches to the delivery of essential legal services founded in the need and desire to expand pathways and impacts for a diverse and engaged community



Workforce Development

Preparing undergraduate, professional, and JD students for a new legal and professional landscape through innovative, practical experiences

Developing programs to engage both JD and non-JD students in real world legal and policy problems

Providing Unparalleled Value to Students and the State



#58

in the country
for Best Law
School

#17

In Part-Time
Programs

#35

In Clinical Legal
Training

#4

Among public law
schools and

#14

In the country for
best ratio of debt
to starting salary

80%

Students
remain in
Michigan after
graduating

Building a Workforce that looks like Michigan



Master of Studies in
Law (MSL)

Master of Laws
(LL.M.)

Minor in Law
(MIL)

Bachelors of Art
in Law (BA Law)



1,500

Students enrolled annually by 2027

- Position graduates for workforce needs
- Fulfill community needs through service-oriented programming
- Recruit underserved and diverse students
- Expand access through increased collaboration between schools & colleges

Serving Regional Employers: Masters of Studies in Law (MSL)



- Launched Winter 2021
- Current Students: 52
- Anticipate 200+ students by 2027

Programming and Academic Growth for non-attorneys

- Launched a human resources concentration in the Winter 2021 for professionals with major regional employers
- 2-year part-time online program
- Attracting career enhancers (63%) and changers (37%)

Existing Industries Represented Include

- Automotive
- Insurance
- Non-profit
- Municipalities
- Retail
- Higher Education

Serving a Diverse Student Population

- Underrepresented Minorities: 62%
- Women: 77%
- Attrition Rate: 3%

Growth Plans Based on Workforce needs

- Health Law (Fall 2023/Winter 2024)
- Higher Education Compliance
- Compliance
- Graduate Certificates in Human Resources & Health Law

Collaboration and professional growth for undergraduate students: Minor in Law (MIL)



- Launched Winter 2020
- Current Students: 382
- Anticipate 800 students by 2027

Interdisciplinary program for undergraduate students serving Wayne State's unique student population and community and economic needs and the **only program of its kind in the Midwest**

Collaboration between Law School and WSU undergraduate schools and colleges of liberal arts & sciences; fine, performing and communications arts; business; and social work in which **undergraduate students study with law professors to gain knowledge that will help advance them in their fields**

Underrepresented minorities: 26%

Adding College of Engineering and School of Pharmacy & Health Sciences as partners next year based on **workforce-related demands in STEM fields**



Providing Access and Improving Social Mobility: Bachelor of Arts in Law (B.A. Law)



New undergraduate law degree in partnership with College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Only program of its kind in the Midwest and one of only six in the country

- Major differentiator for the State of Michigan
- Develops critical thinking, communication skills, and foundational understanding of law that **prepares students for a wide variety of careers and increases employability across multiple fields**
- A leg up and risk-free preview to those considering law school
- Simultaneously serves existing Michigan residents and attracts out-of-state students who will stay and contribute to growth of Michigan economy

- Launching Fall 2023
- Anticipate 100+ students by 2024
- Anticipate 430+ students by 2027

Enormous potential to **provide access to traditionally underserved student populations and improve social mobility.**

Advancing Legal Education, Social Justice and Community Engagement



A new facility means Wayne State can **change the future of legal education and the workforce** while also still living out its mission and vision to have a diverse student body that meaningfully engages in its urban community.

Wayne Law will be able to do this by housing community-facing programs that bring Detroiters and other residents to the area each day. The ground floor will serve as a social justice hub, providing a public corridor for community action and legal assistance through a unique legal navigator program.

- **Appeal and Post-Conviction Advocacy Clinic**
- **Asylum and Immigration Law Clinic**
- **Business and Community Law Clinic**
- **Community Advocacy Clinic**
- **Disability Law Clinic**
- **Immigration Appellate Advocacy Clinic**
- **Legal Advocacy for People with Cancer Clinic**

The Social Justice Hub

Damon J. Keith Center for Civil Rights

A center for civil rights teaching, research and action, the center fuels the next generation of civil rights through initiatives like the Detroit Equity Action Lab.

Warrior Housing Corps

A community of students addressing severe housing issues facing the city and residents that will provide direct services to tenants.

Levin Center for Oversight and Democracy

Named for former U.S. Senator Carl Levin, the center educates future attorneys, business leaders, legislators, and K-12 students on the role of public oversight and how to use oversight as an instrument of change.

Law Library

A world class library open to the community.



Working for the Residents and Students of Detroit and Michigan



Program Initiatives

- Warrior Housing Corps
- Legal Navigators
- Holistic Defense
- Policing Practices

Creating Legal Pathways

- High School Visits
- AP Day
- STEM Day
- C2 Pipeline Summer Camp
- Wayne Law Warrior Housing Corps Learning Community

Programs in Progress

- Expungement Fair (Fall 2024)
- Pop-Up Entertainment Law Clinic





Changing the face of our legal landscape

Existing Constraints

- Law Classroom building constructed in 1966 for an enrollment of 350 students
- Classrooms have fixed seating in a traditional lecture setting
- Lack of access to natural light
- No space allocated for study or collaboration
- Lack of space for the anticipated 1,500 daily visitors to the law complex
- Considerable deferred maintenance backlog on existing facilities leading to repeated and severe disruptions of student learning in the law complex

Building for the Future of Law

- Flexible classrooms will allow for changing teaching techniques and a variety of class sizes
- Collaboration and study spaces to foster coordination between all students
- Technology-based learning environments allow for future agility and growth
- New, energy-efficient building infrastructure will decrease operating expenses
- Removal of all accessibility and life safety deficiencies

Sustainability

- Designed to meet LEED Gold certification or higher
- Energy-efficient mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems
- Access to daylight and nature increases mental health and decreases energy usage



WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL

Thank You

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