Ryerson University

Founding Dean, Faculty of Law

Ryerson University welcomes those who have demonstrated a commitment to upholding the values of equity, diversity, and inclusion and will assist us to expand our capacity for diversity in the broadest sense. In addition, to correct the conditions of disadvantage in employment in Canada, we encourage applications from members of groups that have been historically disadvantaged and marginalized, including First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples, Indigenous peoples of North America, racialized persons, persons with disabilities, and those who identify as women and/or 2SLGBTQ+. Please note that all qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, applications from Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority.

Ryerson University invites nominations and applications for the position of Founding Dean, Faculty of Law, with the appointment to ideally be effective by September 2019. This is an outstanding opportunity to lead a new law school with a unique and innovative approach to legal education and curriculum design.

Located in the heart of Toronto, one of the world's most culturally and linguistically diverse cities, Ryerson University continues to build Canada's innovation ecosystem and to drive economic development. Ryerson is on a transformative path to become Canada's leading comprehensive innovation university, with high quality programmes and scholarly, research, and creative activities that extend beyond its walls. With a mission to serve societal need, and a long-standing commitment to engaging its community, Ryerson offers more than 100 undergraduate and graduate programmes. Distinctly urban, culturally diverse and inclusive, the University has more than 45,000 students, including 2,600 master's and PhD students, over 3,000 faculty and staff, and more than 170,000 alumni worldwide. For more information, please visit www.ryerson.ca.

Ryerson's Faculty of Law will offer a bold new approach to legal education designed to increase career readiness of graduates, enhance diversity in the profession, and improve access to justice. Enrolling 150 students in the fall of 2020, the Faculty's three-year Juris Doctor (JD) will include a four-month professional placement in year three and a variety of intensive courses. Ryerson's innovative approach to curriculum design and delivery will place an emphasis on team learning and collaborative co-teaching between faculty and practitioners to better reflect future career experiences.

Reporting to the Provost and Vice-President, Academic and part of Ryerson's senior administration, the Founding Dean, Faculty of Law will be responsible for all academic, administrative, and external activities of Ontario's newest law school. The successful candidate will share and promote Ryerson's revolutionary vision for legal education and will support Ryerson's commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion in scholarship, pedagogy, and in administrative and leadership activities. The new Dean of Ryerson Law should provide dynamic, thoughtful leadership, vision, and strategic acumen to shape the new school's mission of being a model for future legal education. The new Dean of Law will be tasked with leading the development of an entirely new university faculty, all the while fostering and supporting a strong culture of collegial governance, and healthy collective labour relations, in a complex, unionized academic environment. Candidates should have at least a JD or LLB degree, strong accomplishments in research and scholarship and/or a history of professional and intellectual leadership, and a record of outstanding service to the community. The successful candidate will be appointed as a tenured professor in the Faculty of Law. The ability to promote and serve as an advocate for the Faculty of Law's mission, goals, and ongoing accomplishments will be essential.

The search committee will begin to consider potential candidates immediately and will continue until the position is filled. Applications, including a letter of introduction, curriculum vitae, and the names of three references (who will not be contacted without consent of the applicant), should be submitted in confidence, electronically, to:

Laverne Smith & Associates Inc.
RyersonLaw@lavernesmith.com

Laverne Smith & Associates Inc.   LAVERNE SMITH   www.lavernesmith.com