The City University of New York (CUNY) seeks an engaged and innovative leader for the position of Dean of its School of Law. Reporting to the Chancellor, the Dean will have an extraordinary opportunity to lead a school that is a national and international leader in experiential legal education and recognized as one of the premier public interest law schools in the nation. CUNY School of Law is committed to enhancing the diversity of the legal profession and graduating outstanding attorneys intent on creating positive change in the world. CUNY Law prepares lawyers “who are ready to right the wrongs, stand up for the underserved and fight for social justice.”

CUNY Law pioneered the model of integrating a lawyering curriculum with traditional legal education, giving students hands-on practical clinical experience throughout their three years of study. The school has been praised in a study by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, “Educating Lawyers: Preparation for the Profession of Law,” for being one of the few law schools in the country to prepare students for practice through instruction in theory, skills, and ethics.

Founded in 1983, CUNY School of Law consistently ranks among the top 10 law schools in the country for clinical training. With a student-faculty ratio of 10 to 1, CUNY Law has been a model for other law schools for its clinical practice. All third-year students represent clients under the supervision of faculty and attorneys. The students who participate in the in-house clinics work at one of the largest law firms in Queens – Main Street Legal Services, Inc. – situated right on the Law School campus. According to the National Association for Law Placement Directory, CUNY Law sends a higher share of its students into public interest and public service law practice – 64 percent (class of 2014) – than any other law school in the nation. In the most recent New York State Bar Exam, the School achieved an 81.2 percent pass rate.

CUNY Law enrolls an exceptionally diverse student body. Among its 2015 entering class, approximately 52 percent are students of color. Additionally, instructional faculty are 37 percent of color. CUNY Law is a three-time recipient of the Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award from INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine (2013, 2014 and 2015). The Princeton Review recently ranked CUNY Law as having the seventh most diverse law faculty in the nation. It has also ranked the School as the #3 most welcoming law school in the nation to older students.

This is an unusual and exciting opportunity to join the nation’s leading urban public university, led by a strong executive team and a highly cohesive group of leaders of all CUNY institutions, allowing for a plethora of unique collaborative opportunities. CUNY Law has benefitted greatly from outgoing Dean Michelle Anderson’s strong leadership, as well as from the move to a new, state-of-the-art facility in 2012.

CUNY seeks a Dean of the School of Law who combines exemplary achievements in the field of law with strategic leadership ability; outstanding interpersonal and communication skills; collaborative and creative energy; and a demonstrated passionate commitment in her/his professional life to the unique missions of both the School and the University. In collaboration with the faculty of the School, s/he will articulate a vision and strategic plan that will advance the School’s national and international leadership in experiential legal education and in legal scholarship and Law in the Service of Human Needs.

The Dean will have the J.D. and academic and professional qualifications appropriate for appointment as a tenured full Professor at CUNY School of Law and a strong record of distinguished academic or professional accomplishments that exhibit a commitment to excellence and a dedication to social justice. Credential review begins immediately and will continue until the position is filled. Nominations, applications, expressions of interest, and requests for the complete leadership profile should be sent electronically to Werner Boel or Manny Berger, the Witt/Kieffer consultants for the CUNY Law Dean search, at CUNYLawDean@wittkieffer.com. A complete application will include a letter of interest, a current curriculum vitae, and contact information for five professional references. Submission of applications is encouraged by March 7. All inquiries will be kept strictly confidential.

CUNY encourages people with disabilities, minorities, veterans and women to apply. Applicants and employees will not be discriminated against on the basis of any legally protected category, including sexual orientation or gender identity. EEO/AAA/Vet/Disability Employer.