Centers + Institutes

Business Law Center
To better prepare its students and future leaders with a thorough understanding of the business issues facing entrepreneurs, entities, and other clients, the School of Law created the Business Law Center. The center focuses on expanding curricular offerings and programs as well as engaging in opportunities for legal, empirical, and interdisciplinary research, assessing the role and impact of government in the regulation of business. The center will also host special lectures and symposia to highlight topics in business law and foster public debate and inquiry regarding business regulation.

Center for Professional Ethics
The center’s mission is to explore moral choices across professional lines in a variety of disciplines. It brings together practicing professionals, faculty, and students to exchange ideas on such topics as confidentiality, decision-making, lying and conflict of interest. The Center for Professional Ethics was founded in 1978 by Robert P. Lawry, who retired from the law faculty in 2007, and Robert W. Clarke, retired Director of Case Western Reserve University’s Christian Movement. The center is supported by the David and Katherine Ragone Endowment Fund. The center plans to continue to draw upon its founding principles to expand its interdisciplinary approach and put academic work into practice.

Coleman P. Burke Center for Environmental Law
Nearly a decade after endowing a professorship in honor of his law school mentor Leon Gabinet, alumnus Coleman P. Burke (LAW ’70) has committed $10 million to establish a center at the Case Western Reserve University School of Law that combines two of the driving passions of his life: the environment and the law.

The gift — the largest in the law school’s 126-year history — creates the Coleman P. Burke Center for Environmental Law. The Burke Center will dramatically expand students’ learning opportunities in environmental law, while also establishing the school as a leading intellectual hub of interdisciplinary research and thought leadership in this rapidly growing field.

Financial Integrity Institute
The mission of the Financial Integrity Institute is to advance financial integrity globally by conducting and promoting at the highest standards research, education, and professional excellence in anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism, targeted sanctions, anti-corruption, and international tax evasion policies and practices. The Institute has also recently launched a Master of Arts in Financial Integrity program at the School of Law.

Frederick K. Cox International Law Center
The Cox International Law Center serves as the stimulus for enhancing programs in international, comparative, and transnational law at the law school. It supports visiting scholars and visiting faculty at the law school to enrich the curriculum and research capacity of the resident faculty. It also supports the development of international information resources. Through a series of sister law school relationships, it seeks to attract foreign students to the law school and provide opportunities for Case Western Reserve law students to study abroad; it also provides opportunities for faculty to study and teach abroad.

Law-Medicine Center
The Law-Medicine Center at Case Western Reserve University has been in operation for over 50 years. It began with a focus on forensic medicine, but has broadened to include the whole range of legal, social, economic, scientific, and ethical issues in which law and medicine are interrelated. Besides the regular course offerings, the center frequently presents lectures, symposia, and workshops, and sponsors major conferences. It publishes a student-edited journal, Health Matrix: Journal of Law-Medicine. Participants in the center’s activities include not only university personnel, but also professionals from such institutions as University Hospitals of Cleveland and the Cleveland Clinic.

Social Justice Law Center
From our efforts to improve the county’s bail/bond system to our involvement in municipal police reform, from our international war crimes prosecution assistance to our research in Innocence Project cases, from our efforts to address human trafficking to our work to remedy the lead crisis in our city, Case Western Reserve University School of Law has been a leader in social justice. The Social Justice Law Center continues the tradition of exploring, teaching, and debating these critical issues in our contemporary society.

Spangenberg Center for Law, Technology and the Arts
The Spangenberg Center for Law, Technology, and the Arts was established as an internationally recognized forum for the interdisciplinary study of law, technology, and the arts. The Center focuses on teaching, research, and programs pertaining to intellectual property, technological innovation and technology transfer, the intersection of science, economics, philosophy, and the law, legal issues concerning biotechnology and computer technologies, and laws and cultural issues relating to the creative arts. Through the Center, the law school is able to offer students opportunities to address important, topical issues relating to law and technology and law and the arts through a variety of courses, lectures, events, and symposia.