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BC Law, Tufts Launch JD/MPH Dual Degree Program

Boston College Law School

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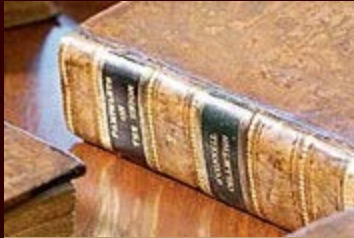


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- Center for Experiential Learning
- The Rappaport Center
- Faculty & Administration
- News, Events & Calendars**
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2015-News Archive

- 2014-News Archive
- 2013-News Archive
- 2012-News Archive
- 2011-News Archive
- 2010-News Archive
- 2009-News Archive
- 2008-News Archive
- 2007-News Archive
- 2006-News Archive
- 2005-News Archive
- 2004-News Archive
- 2003-News Archive
- 2002-News Archive
- 2001-News Archive
- 2000-News Archive
- Events
- Services & Departments
- Law Reviews
- Alumni and Friends

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BC Law, Tufts Launch JD/MPH Dual Degree Program

2014 NEWS ARCHIVE

12/18/14



Prof. Hashimoto, JD/MPH Program Co-Director

Newton, MA-- Boston College Law School has launched a JD/MPH dual degree program in partnership with Tufts University School of Medicine. The new program gives students the flexibility to pursue a wide range of career opportunities in the legal and public health fields, while completing their degrees in four years instead of five.

"There are a number of challenges facing the public health field today," said program co-director and BC Law professor Dean Hashimoto, who holds JD, MD and MPH degrees and is currently Chief of Occupational Health and Safety at Mass General and Brigham & Womens hospitals. "Improving access and quality of care while lowering costs, controlling international epidemics such as Ebola, climate change, implementing the Affordable Care Act, and managing Medicaid expansion and Medicare reform are just a few examples. Difficult questions arise around new technologies and intellectual property rights, respect

for individual privacy, and bioethical concerns as well. Issues like these at the intersection of health law and policy call for expertise that our joint JD/MPH program offers--the kind of important and critically needed interdisciplinary training that begins in the classroom and extends into the real world."

JD/MPH students take the regular course of law study at BC during their first year, followed by MPH course work at Tufts in the second year. The MPH is completed with course work at BC in years three and four that counts toward both degrees.

The JD/MPH degree is intended to better prepare graduates to meet the needs of clients whose activities are increasingly complex and global in scale. The demand for health care law and policy expertise is growing at small and large law firms, in government agencies, public interest and advocacy organizations, hospitals and other institutional health care providers, international human rights organizations, and in-house counsel departments.

The JD/MPH dual degree is helpful for students seeking to:

- Study the finance and delivery of health care at the systemic or individual level
 - Engage in issues of global health, including balancing the needs of public health with the right to personal autonomy
- Focus more specifically on:
- Environmental regulation
 - Domestic and comparative health care law, policy, and equity
 - Maternal and child health care

- Human rights, including gender identity and the right to health care
- Interpersonal violence
- Regulation of emerging technologies or of medical drug, devices and food safety
- Global and transnational harmonization of laws and regulations

[More on the BC Law JD/MPH](#)