

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Professor of Law – ALPSS Divisional Lead Tauranga

Reports to:	Head of School, Law, Politics, and Philosophy
Division:	Arts, Law, Psychology, and Social Sciences
Tenure:	Permanent
Location:	Tauranga
Date:	November 2025

Vision

Ko te tangata

A research-intensive university providing a globally connected, innovative and inclusive student experience in an environment characterised by a commitment to diversity, respect for Indigenous knowledge, and high levels of community engagement.

Values

Ko te mana o Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato ka herea ki tō tātou:

- Tū ngātahi me te Māori
- Mahi pono
- Whakanui i ngā huarahi hou
- Whakarewa i te hiringa i te mahara

The University of Waikato places a high value on:

- Partnership with Māori
- Acting with integrity
- Celebrating diversity
- Promoting creativity

1. GENERAL

Te Wānanga o Ngā Kete the Division of Arts, Law, Psychology and Social Sciences (ALPSS) is a large and dynamic Division that includes the School of Arts, the School of Psychological and Social Sciences, and the School of Law, Politics and Philosophy. The Division also has two research institutes: Te Ngira the Institute for Population Research and Te Puna Haumarū the New Zealand Institute for Security and Crime Science.

Te Piringa Faculty of Law sits within the School of Law, Politics, and Philosophy. Te Piringa is founded in the principles of biculturalism, professionalism, and the study of law in context. From these principles the Faculty works to provide cutting edge legal education in the areas of Māori Governance, Public Policy and Practice, Cyber and New Technology Law, and Environmental Law. A core function of the Faculty is to provide education for prospective lawyers in accordance

with the standards of the New Zealand Council of Legal Education through the accredited Bachelor of Laws programme. The Faculty offers a range of papers at undergraduate, postgraduate, and professional training levels.

2. POSITION PURPOSE

Professors provide academic leadership of the highest order through maintaining high standards of excellence in teaching, research, postgraduate supervision, administration and in the undertaking of professional/community/iwi service activities relevant to the profession or discipline. Professors are expected to participate in academic policy-making as an integral part of their role. It is also expected that they will set appropriate standards of scholarship, and ensure that, through their influence, the University's policies are guided by a proper regard for the promotion of scholarship and research-led teaching. Professors are also expected to undertake key academic leadership roles where appropriate.

A professor is expected to exercise academic leadership in the School/Faculty, the Division and the University as a whole by working alongside other senior colleagues in demonstrating excellence through example, as well as through persuasion, cooperation and collegial relationships with other staff. Professors are in a position to provide advice, encouragement and support to other academic staff in the pursuit of their academic objectives and the development of their professional careers.

The ALPSS Divisional Lead Tauranga carries the responsibility of representing the Pro Vice-Chancellor in Tauranga. This may include activities such as liaising with relevant businesses, governments and iwi/communities; being a focal point for academic affairs; reporting on Tauranga activities; providing advice on campus and other university policies, plans and operations that may affect learning and teaching, and/or research at Tauranga; and other activities as directed by the Pro Vice-Chancellor. The ALPSS Divisional Lead Tauranga role is for an initial term of three years.

3. ACCOUNTABILITY

The appointee is responsible to the Vice-Chancellor through their Head/Dean of School/Faculty, Director of Institute or equivalent who in turn is responsible to the Vice-Chancellor through the appropriate Pro Vice-Chancellor.

4. KEY RELATIONSHIPS:

Pro Vice-Chancellor
Head of School
Dean of Faculty
School Manager
Other School/Faculty staff
Students
Research Institutes
Research and Enterprise Office and external research organisations and funders
External Stakeholders

5. KEY TASKS

Having regard to the aims, objectives and long-term strategic goals of the School/Faculty, the Division and the University, the primary objectives required of a Professor include the following:

5.1 Academic Leadership and Administration – Tauranga

- Carry out key leadership and administrative functions including active and constructive participation in meetings and undertake administration, planning, policy development and/or committee work, where appropriate. This may include chairing or participating in a School/Faculty/Division or University committee.
- Initiate and actively encourage successful academic or industry/business/professional contacts outside the University, both nationally and internationally, in consultation with the School/Faculty, the Division and the University. This may involve representing the University externally from time to time.
- Undertake leadership roles as appropriate.
- Develop and maintain collegial relationships with non-professorial staff and be strongly supportive of the Head/Dean of School/Faculty. This includes a willingness to act in the role for temporary periods or to undertake specific administrative duties.

5.2 Research and Scholarship

- Maintain a research and scholarship record of sustained excellence and a recognised contribution to the academic field at a national and international level.
- Maintain an active research programme, conduct high quality research and contribute to knowledge development through scholarship and publication. This includes involvement in research projects and attendance and presentation at academic conferences, and may include leadership of a research team and/or obtaining internal or external research funding for specific projects.
- Act as a mentor to other staff and assist with the development of a successful and excellent research culture and research-led teaching programmes.
- Undertake successful professional/business and/or community/iwi activities relevant to the discipline.

5.3 Teaching

- Prepare and deliver high quality research-informed lectures and/or seminars and, as appropriate, conduct and/or coordinate tutorials, practical classes, demonstrations, or workshops.
- Contribute to or be responsible for paper coordination and delivery. This includes: paper administration; initiating and developing teaching material; appraisal, review and evaluation of programmes and papers; development of the curriculum; developing and delivering online papers, where appropriate; and updating teaching resources and paper materials.
- Supervise graduate and postgraduate students, including as Chief Supervisor.
- Carry out marking and assessment activities including the setting of examinations.
- Apply information and communication technologies to achieve desired outcomes.
- Be readily available to advise and meet with students including maintaining regular office hours.

5.4 General

- Participate in the maintenance of a safe and healthy work environment for self and others including students. Comply with and undertake responsibilities set out in the University's Health and Safety Policy.
- Other duties as may be required by the Head/Dean and/or Pro Vice-Chancellor.

6. PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

The Professor will be performing satisfactorily when:

- A significant contribution is made to School/Faculty and Division leadership and administration, as appropriate to the Professor level.
- Personal and/or team research and scholarship activities yield demonstrable outcomes evidenced by both continued publications in books and refereed journals and presentation or publication of conference papers and/or performance/works of art/other non-print media outcomes, where appropriate. A research and publication record (or the equivalent within the field) of sustained excellence is achieved with a recognised contribution to the academic field, at national and international levels.
- Teaching and associated duties are fulfilled to a high level of competency at all levels, defined by Department and School/Faculty norms and expectations including paper appraisal and teaching evaluation. This includes contributions to pedagogical and educational developments within the subject area. Sustained excellence in research-led teaching is demonstrated at all levels so as to provide academic leadership and set appropriate standards of scholarship.
- Student learning, at all levels, is appropriately facilitated in accordance with the Department/Programme, Faculty/School and University's goals and objectives.
- Regular contributions are made to appropriate professional/business and/or community/iwi groups and/or in a public service or University or national/international representation capacity.
- A significant contribution is made to a culture of openness, flexibility and co-operation to achieve excellence in academic programmes, research and service.
- Safe and healthy work practices are followed that comply with University policies and procedures, relevant work standards and statutory obligations.

NOTE: Newly appointed professors of the University are required to give a public lecture within approximately 18 months of taking up the appointment.

NOTE: Staff have annual objectives, development and reflection (ODR) meetings with their manager. New staff normally attend such a meeting approximately three months after taking up their appointment.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Essential

- A PhD in Law

TRAINING, SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

Essential

- A research and scholarship record of sustained excellence and a recognised contribution to the academic field at a national and international level.
- Ability to provide high levels of academic leadership and act as a mentor to other staff.
- Demonstrated sustained excellence in undergraduate teaching, including the ability to lecture to large numbers and conduct small group seminars and tutorials effectively.
- Demonstrated ability to provide a major contribution to the graduate and postgraduate programme including the supervision of Honours, Masters and PhD students.
- Proven contributions to pedagogical and educational developments in the subject more widely.
- Demonstrated commitment to using innovative teaching methods and materials e.g. distance delivery techniques, team teaching, online delivery. Ability to apply ICT to achieve desired outcomes and to maintain and update those skills.
- Demonstrated success in attracting and supervising high quality postgraduate research students.
- Demonstrated ability to make a significant contribution to Faculty/School administration, where appropriate.
- Demonstrated success in attracting external research funding and in completing grant applications.
- Proven ability to communicate and work effectively with staff and students.

PERSONAL QUALITIES

- Self-motivation and a pro-active approach including a demonstrated commitment to innovation.
- Demonstrated capacity to work effectively as a member of a team and, where relevant, to act as a leader of a research team.
- Commitment to a culture of openness, flexibility and co-operation to achieve excellence in academic programmes, research and service.
- Proven ability to maintain a professional approach while under pressure.
- Ability to relate effectively and sensitively to students and staff from a variety of backgrounds and cultures.
- A commitment to equal opportunity and to the University's partnership with Māori as intended by the Treaty of Waitangi.