

David L. Faigman

Chancellor & Dean | John F. Digardi Distinguished Professor of Law at UC Hastings College of the Law

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Biography

Chancellor & Dean David Faigman is the John F. Digardi Distinguished Professor of Law at the University of California Hastings College of the Law and holds an appointment as Professor in the School of Medicine (Dept. of Psychiatry) at the University of California, San Francisco. He received both his M.A. (Psychology) and J.D. from the University of Virginia. Professor Faigman clerked for the Honorable Thomas M. Reavley, Senior Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. He is the author of over 50 articles and essays, and has published in a variety of outlets, including the Chicago, Virginia, Pennsylvania and Northwestern law reviews, Science, Sociological Methods & Research and Nature Reviews Neuroscience. He is also the author of three books, Constitutional Fictions: A Unified Theory of Constitutional Facts (Oxford, 2008), Laboratory of Justice: The Supreme Court's 200-Year Struggle to Integrate Science and the Law (Henry Holt & Co. 2004) and Legal Alchemy: The Use and Misuse of Science in the Law (W.H. Freeman, 1999). In addition, Professor Faigman is a co-author/co-editor of the five-volume treatise Modern Scientific Evidence: The Law and Science of Expert Testimony (with Cheng, Mnookin, Murphy Sanders & Slobogin). The treatise has been cited widely by courts, including several times by the U.S. Supreme Court. Professor Faigman was a member of the National Academies of Science panel that investigated the scientific validity of polygraphs, is a member of the MacArthur Law and Neuroscience Network and served as a Senior Advisor to the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology's Report, "Forensic Science in Criminal Courts: Ensuring Scientific Validity of Feature-Comparison Methods."

Expertise

Legal Services, Education/Learning

Areas of Expertise

Scientific Evidence, Peer Review; Expert Testimony, Constitutional Law, Scientific Methods for Lawyers, Science Policy

Affiliations

California State Bar : Member (Since 1992), MacArthur Foundation Law and Neuroscience Network : Member (Since 2011), MacArthur Foundation G2i Committee (A Subcommittee of the MacArthur Foundation Law and Neuroscience Network) : Principal Investigator (Since 2011), Institute for Linguistic Evidence : Advisory Council (Law) (Since 2010), American Law Institute : Member (Since 2006), American Judicature Society : National Commission on Forensic Science and Public Policy, Member (Since 2005), Encyclopedia of Forensic and Legal Medicine : Member, Editorial Advisory Board (Since 2002)

Education

University of Virginia, School of Law
J.D. Law

University of Virginia
M.A. Psychology

State University of New York, College of Oswego
B.A. Psychology and History

Accomplishments

Honorary Distinguished Member
Awarded by the American Psychology-Law Society.

Honorable Mention (2nd Place)
Awarded in The Annual AALS Call for Scholarly Papers.

Roger and Madeline Traynor Prize
Awarded by the University of Virginia, School of Law to acknowledge the best written work by a graduating student, University of Virginia, School of Law.

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