

Mike Fitts

President at Tulane University

New Orleans, LA, US

Mike Fitts is an expert in cross-disciplinary education and research as well as leadership and higher education administration.

Biography

Michael Fitts is the 15th president of Tulane University. He arrived at Tulane in July 2014, bringing with him a strong emphasis on heightening cross-disciplinary education and research. President Fitts believes students and higher education institutions can set themselves apart in a fast-changing world and ever-shifting economy through the combining of different fields and skills. In his first year at Tulane, he launched task forces to lead the university in deepening its unique strengths for interdisciplinary collaboration. He sees powerful advantages in the university's manageable size, its wide selection of professional schools, the unified undergraduate college and multiple cross-disciplinary projects already in place. He aims to create the most engaged undergraduate experience in the country through this rethinking of academic options, residential living, extracurricular activities and more. In graduate education and research, he will foster intellectual cross-pollination that can produce solutions to some of the world's most fundamental problems. Previously, President Fitts served 14 years as dean of the Law School at the University of Pennsylvania, where he was recognized for greatly boosting that school's offerings in interdisciplinary education. He also presided over a quadrupling of Penn Law's endowment, a more than 40 percent increase in the size of the Law School faculty and a doubling of all forms of student financial aid.

Areas of Expertise

Higher Education Administration, Interdisciplinary Education, Law

Education

Harvard College

BA

Yale University School of Law

JD

Accomplishments

Council on Alcohol & Drug Abuse Excellence in Prevention Award (2018)

The organization empowers community members to build a safe and healthy future through prevention, treatment and recovery support services that foster resilience and well-being.

University of Pennsylvania Law School Distinguished Service Award (2015)

The award recognized his extraordinary service to the law school as a faculty member and dean for more than two decades. His leadership and vision transformed the Law School into the premier provider of a cross-disciplinary legal education that it is today, said Laura Christa, president of the law alumni society.

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