

## **SONALI BUSTAMANTE WILSON, Esq.**

Sonali currently serves as general counsel of Cleveland State University. She provides counsel to the University Board of Trustees and President on a wide variety of matters, including procurement and management contracts, educational partnership agreements, employment matters, student privacy issues, as well as real property and construction matters. She was instrumental in developing the new Office of University Compliance, which is part of her division that also oversees the Office of Institutional Equity and the Office of Internal Audit. She joined the University in 1996 as a lecturer in the College of Law and in 1997 became assistant university legal counsel. She served as secretary to the Board of Trustees from 2000 until 2011, and was named general counsel in 2004. Sonali has served as a three-year term as board member of the National Association of College and University Attorneys, as well as Chair of the NACUA Nominating Committee and Chair of the Board Advisory Council on Diversity and Inclusivity. She has served as a speaker locally and nationally on topics affecting in-house counsel in higher education settings. In 2013, she was elected to serve as the first Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion of the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association for an inaugural two-year term. She is also a supportive member of The Norman S. Minor Bar Association.

Sonali holds a bachelor's degree in history from Boston University, a master's degree in government studies from Harvard University, and a *juris doctorate* degree from Georgetown University Law Center. In 1986, she served as the first law clerk to Ohio Supreme Court Justice Herbert R. Brown, now retired. From 1988-1994, she was an appellate litigation associate with the Cleveland office of Arter & Hadden, specializing in civil appeals, products liability, construction, school and public law. Active in community service, she is currently a member of the Cleveland Institute of Music Board of Trustees, The United Way of Greater Cleveland Board of Directors, the University Hospitals' MacDonald Women's Health Leadership Council, the National Legal Committee of The Links, Inc., The Greater Cleveland Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and devotes time to several other charitable and service organizations.