



**Valerie Simons**, Executive Director of the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance and the Title IX Coordinator at CU-Boulder.

Prior to joining CU-Boulder in July 2014, Simons served as a trial attorney in Washington, D.C. at the Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, Educational Opportunities Section. She was lead trial counsel on behalf of the United States in dozens of cases around the country involving a variety of civil rights laws. She also consulted routinely with the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights on federal compliance issues.

Upon returning to her native Colorado, Simons clerked for Chief Justice Michael L. Bender of the Colorado Supreme Court and then joined the law firm of Holland & Hart LLP. Following Holland & Hart, Simons served as the Associate Director of the Colorado Association of School Boards' Legal Services Program, where she provided direct representation to school districts in all areas of school law, including civil rights and employment-related matters. She continued to practice education and civil rights law on behalf of students and their parents from 2007-2011 with Choquette & Simons LLP and then from 2011 to 2014 for the firm she founded, Education Law Group, LLC. She was named a Colorado Super Lawyer in Schools and Education Law in 2010.

She received her bachelor's degree in political economy from UC-Berkeley and her law degree from Georgetown University.