COLORADO LAW
Annual Report 2015-16

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Dean’s Letter
Dean Phil Weiser

This annual report captures the ongoing progress at Colorado Law, reflecting a range of new initiatives, leadership from faculty, staff, students, alumni, and community members, and powerful evidence that the Colorado Law Action Plan continues to establish Colorado Law as the regional leader and a national innovator.

On the faculty and staff front, we continue to build a team committed to cutting edge scholarship, first rate teaching, and innovative programs. During a time when some law schools are retrenching, Colorado Law continues to attract and retain excellent professionals.

On the student front, we are proud of an overall experience that enables our students to build a powerful portfolio of competencies, learn in a highly collaborative environment, and launch successful careers. For the Class of 2015, we placed #16 in employment outcomes and Business Insider recently placed us in the top 10 in helping our students find a job.

On the community front, the level of engagement and generosity in paying it forward is making a real difference for our students. Over the last five years, we have held tuition constant and doubled our scholarship budget. To support that effort, we managed a $50 million Campaign for Colorado Law’s Future that established an almost $7 million endowed Loan Repayment Assistance fund, 54 new endowed scholarships, five new endowed faculty distinctions, and funding for a range of innovative programs.

The energy at Colorado Law is catching. During the last two years, we saw our largest 1L class ever for the class of 2018 (at 203 students) and set our all-time applications record for the class of 2019 (almost 3,300). We also conducted a Dean’s search that attracted a tremendous set of highly qualified candidates eager to continue our tradition of excellence. I am delighted that we landed Jim Anaya from the University of Arizona to lead Colorado Law in the years ahead.

On a personal note, I appreciate all I learned from our students, faculty, staff, and community over the last five years. It is a challenging time for legal education, particularly for those institutions unable or unwilling to change. For Colorado Law, the wind is at our back, as we have developed relevant educational offerings, impressive scholars, and community engagement that matters. I look forward to my continuing involvement with this special community.
University of Colorado Boulder Provost Russell L. Moore recently announced the appointment of James (Jim) Anaya, a Regents' Professor and James J. Lenoir Professor of Human Rights Law and Policy at the University of Arizona, as dean of the law school. Anaya began his duties on July 18, 2016.

Anaya’s teaching and writing focus on international human rights and issues concerning indigenous peoples.

“As a legal scholar and practitioner, Jim Anaya for decades has not only contributed distinctive quality, character, and importance to legal theory, but he also has advanced protections for indigenous peoples around the globe,” said Moore. “His devotion to the development and application of the legal canon and his thoughtful approach as a leader epitomize the desired attributes of a dean, and we are delighted that he’s joining CU Boulder.”


In addition to his academic, field, and literary work, Anaya has litigated major indigenous rights and human rights cases in domestic and international tribunals including the U.S. Supreme Court, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, and the Caribbean Court of Justice.

“I’m excited to join a law school that is at the leading edge of innovation in legal education and scholarship,” said Anaya. “I look forward to becoming part of Colorado Law’s vibrant community of students, alumni, faculty, and staff who are dedicated to excellence, and to working with the larger legal community in Colorado and beyond in ways that can build on what Colorado Law is already doing to serve our profession and the public.”

For his work from 2008 to 2014 as the United Nations Human Rights Council’s Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, Anaya was nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize. In his role as the special rapporteur, Anaya examined and reported on conditions of indigenous peoples worldwide and responded to allegations of human rights violations against them. His work was conducted through in-country visits and direct contacts with governments.

Among his noteworthy activities, Anaya participated in the drafting of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and was the lead counsel for the indigenous parties in the case of *Awas Tingni v. Nicaragua*. The case represents the first time the Inter-American Court of Human Rights upheld indigenous land rights as a matter of international law.
Colorado Law Action Plan

The world of legal education faces a series of disruptive changes. Challenges to law schools include increasing student debt and, in recent years and likely for the near future, a more difficult employment environment for newly minted law school graduates.

Colorado Law is well positioned to continue to provide its students with a high-value experience at a reasonable cost. Notably, we benefit from very talented students, faculty, and staff, a desirable location, and a relatively lean cost structure (including minimal reliance on already limited and disappearing state support).

For Colorado Law to thrive, we must, at a minimum, continue to attract outstanding applicants, offer a high-value and affordable education to our students, and place graduates into satisfying jobs. Our initial efforts focused principally on career placement are already bearing important and encouraging results; these results underscore that a team effort and well-executed strategy can enable us to adapt to a changing environment.
Provide our students with an **excellent return on their investment**—educating them and training them to be outstanding legal professionals who can find, and thrive in, satisfying and gainful employment.

Maintain an **engaged, diverse, and inclusive community** of outstanding students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends who help and support one another as well as serve our varied communities.

Develop a **sustainable financial model** that weather the continued falloff in state support while minimizing any future tuition increases.

**Produce top scholarship** and provide thought leadership that engages a variety of audiences and addresses the contemporary issues of the profession and our community.

Communicate that we are doing something special.

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**Strategic Goals**

Achieving our vision and mission.
Class of 2018

Applications 2,383
Class size 203
LSAT score (median) 161
Cumulative GPA (median) 3.60
Diverse students 17%
Undergraduate colleges 138
States 40
Women 47%

0% increase in Colorado Law's tuition in the past four years
101% increase in scholarship funding to students in the past four years
“I came to law school because I was interested in helping the most vulnerable populations in Denver. I was intrigued by how a law degree could help me advance social justice and try to help the community where I live.”

— Cinque McKinney ('12)
Assistant City Attorney for Human Legal Services
Denver City Attorney’s Office

Public Service

Incoming law students may volunteer to pledge to complete at least 50 hours of law-related public service. Students have volunteered more than 70,478 hours, or 32 years of full-time work, since the program’s inception.

Our Loan Repayment Assistance Program (LRAP) awards $6,500 per year, for up to five years, to graduates who choose qualifying public service employment.
The Colorado Law Experience

Colorado Law provides a first-rate education in legal theory, doctrine, and societal context. We help students develop a range of other competencies, including practical legal skills (e.g., drafting a contract), relevant substantive expertise (e.g., accounting), and professional skills (e.g., interpersonal skills, such as listening).

Legal Theory, Doctrine, and Societal Context

At Colorado Law, we develop leading thinkers with powerful analytical abilities and the ability to place issues in a conceptual or theoretical framework as well as within societal context. Building on a demanding first-year curriculum and upper-level courses that provide opportunities to specialize, we leverage our enviable student-to-faculty ratio—of 9.9:1—to support student engagement, faculty mentoring, and an inquisitive spirit.

Practical Legal Skills

We provide our students with abundant opportunities to develop the practical skills necessary for success, supported by our nine leading clinics, a range of practicum courses (such as the Poverty, Law, and Health Practicum), experiential courses (such as Legal Negotiation), legal writing and research courses, and the Schaden experiential learning program (i.e., our externship, competition, and public service pledge programs). Such programs train effective and ethical legal professionals.
Relevant, Substantive Expertise

Developing substantive expertise can make an extraordinary difference. Colorado Law’s leading centers and programs provide students with connections and opportunities to go deep into a particular field. That depth of engagement, coupled with technical knowledge from courses at the law school and around the university, distinguish our graduates and give them a decided advantage.

Professional Skills

Professional skills are essential to developing successful legal professionals. Such skills include the ability to work in teams, communicate effectively with others, empathize with and listen to clients and colleagues, manage conflicts effectively, and have a creative problem-solving attitude. Moreover, underlying everything we do is an enduring commitment to reinforcing students’ integrity, decency, and commitment to ethical behavior.
New Faculty

Sloan Speck
Associate Professor
JD, University of Chicago Law School

Sloan Speck’s research is focused on tax law and policy, with an emphasis on corporate and international tax, legal and business history, and the ways in which taxation informs and structures the relationship between state and society.

Courses
Business Law Colloquium, Income Taxation

2016 Clifford Calhoun Public Service Award

This year’s Clifford Calhoun Public Service Award recognizes Professor William Boyd for his commitment to public service and ongoing contributions to the legal community. Boyd is active in the legislative and regulatory debates on energy and climate change at state, national, and international levels, and serves as senior advisor and project lead for the Governors’ Climate and Forests Task Force (GCF).

Awarded annually to a faculty or staff member who contributes to the public service of the law school in the spirit and tradition of the contributions made by Professor Emeritus Clifford Calhoun during his 29-year law school career.

2016-17 Endowed Chairs, Professorships, and Fellowships

S. James Anaya: Charles Inglis Thomson Professorship
Fred Bloom, Erik Gerding: Wolf-Nichol Fellowship
William Boyd: John H. Schultz Energy Law Fellowship
Kristen Carpenter: Council Tree Professorship
Melissa Hart: Schaden Chair for Experiential Learning
Peter Huang: DeMuth Chair of Business Law
Sarah Krakoff: Raphael J. Moses Professorship
Mark Loewenstein: Monfort Professor of Commercial Law
Chris Mueller: Henry S. Lindsley Professor of Procedure and Advocacy
Helen Norton: Ira C. Rothgerber Jr. Chair in Constitutional Law
Scott Peppet: Getches-Wolf Fellowship
Pierre Schlag: Byron R. White Professor of Constitutional Law
Phil Weiser: Dale Hatfield Technology Law Professorship
Ahmed White: Nicholas Rosenbaum Professorship
Charles Wilkinson: Moses Lasky Professorship
Faculty Publications

We ranked 29th in a recent study that updated Brian Leiter’s Law School Rankings of law faculties in scholarly impact for the period of 2010 to 2014.

Dayna Bowen Matthew

*Just Medicine: A Cure for Racial Inequality in American Health Care*

NYU Press, 2015

Incorporating medical, neuroscience, psychology, and sociology research, the book navigates the racial and socioeconomic health disparities entrenched in the American health care system and offers a plan to regulate implicit biases and eliminate the inequalities they cause.

William Boyd

*The Slain Wood: Papermaking and its Environmental Consequences in the American South*

Johns Hopkins University Press, 2015

A look inside the dramatic growth of the pulp and paper industry in the American South during the 20th century and the accompanying social and environmental changes.

Harold H. Bruff

*Untrodden Ground: How Presidents Interpret the Constitution*

University of Chicago Press, 2015

Tracing the evolution and expansion of presidential power over the last 200+ years, the book reveals how all 44 presidents have responded to pressing matters by setting new legal precedents, which often developed into standard practices.

Ahmed White

*The Last Great Strike: Little Steel, the CIO, and the Struggle for Labor Rights in New Deal America*

University of California Press, 2016

Drawing from union and company records, government documents, and oral histories, the book documents the political and legal history of the Little Steel Strike and examines its impact on the American labor movement.
Master of Studies in Law Degree

In 2015, Colorado Law introduced its Master of Studies in Law (MSL) degree, a one-year program that enables students who hold at least an undergraduate degree to obtain legal training short of a full Juris Doctor (JD). Colorado Law created the MSL degree program to prepare students and professionals interested in legal-related fields, but who are not seeking to become practicing lawyers.

MSL students are admitted into one of two specialty tracks, patent law or ethics and compliance, each with a menu of courses tailored to prepare MSL graduates for a range of employment opportunities.

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**Patent Law**

Students in the patent law track learn to combine their engineering and science backgrounds with relevant legal expertise to help companies with all aspects of the patent process, ranging from invention disclosure to patent prosecution and defense.

**Ethics and Compliance**

The ethics and compliance track trains students to become ethics and compliance professionals, who commonly work within large for-profit and not-for-profit organizations, as well as for federal and state regulators and examiners.
New Programs in 2015

Korey Wise Innocence Project

In 2015, Korey Wise, a man exonerated in a high-profile case in which five New York City teenagers were wrongly convicted, pledged $190,000 to support the Innocence Project at the University of Colorado Law School. Now renamed for the donor, the Korey Wise Innocence Project (KWIP) at Colorado Law is a student-led volunteer program that investigates claims of wrongful convictions after traditional methods of appealing a conviction have failed.

Led by a full-time director, Kristy Martinez, the program receives an average of 25 letters each week from those seeking help with appeals and has approximately 200 applications in review.

Students assist volunteer lawyers with investigations of cases, which may include reviewing transcripts, reading investigative reports, and determining if new forensic technology could help.

Daniels Fund Ethics Initiative at Colorado Law

In January 2015, the Daniels Fund selected Colorado Law as the first law school participant in the Daniels Fund Ethics Initiative, a consortium of 11 business and law schools that promotes principle-based ethics education and building a foundation for personal and organizational ethical decision-making and leadership.

Programming in 2015-16 included:

- Professionalism and extern training series
- New Legal Ethics and Creative Problem-Solving course
- Ethics town hall
- Additional Master of Studies in Law track in ethics and compliance
- Summer Employment Transition program
- Ethics writing competition
- Participation in the Daniels Fund Ethics Consortium Case Competition
- Lecture featuring Larissa Herda, former CEO and president of TW Telecom Inc.
National Competitions

Colorado Law named national Telecom and Transactional Law champions for the third consecutive year.

National Telecommunications Moot Court Champions 2016

Cole Woodward (’16), Colin Oldberg (’17), and Spencer Rubin (’16) (left to right) won the competition in Washington, D.C., hosted by the Federal Communications Bar Association and Catholic University of America School of Law. The coaches were Bill Levis and Ken Fellman. They defeated the University of Baltimore team in the final round.

National Transactional LawMeet Champions 2016

Parker Steel (’17), Stephanie Drumm (’17), and Josh Kohler (’17) (left to right) took first place in the finals in New York City, where they were tasked with negotiating a merger of two emerging technology companies. The team also received “Best Draft” honors for their drafting of proposed agreements and marking up their opposing teams’ drafts, making Colorado Law the only team to win awards for both written and spoken word.
American Indian Law

In September 2015, Professors Kristen Carpenter and Carla Fredericks and American Indian Law Clinic alumni Christina Warner (‘15) and Kate Finn (‘16) attended the 30th regular session of the Human Rights Council at the United Nations Office in Geneva, Switzerland. They presented case studies of the clinic’s work to the Human Rights Council, emphasizing their efforts bringing provisions of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples into tribal law as models for indigenous groups throughout the world.

Criminal Defense Trials

In 2015-16, the Criminal Defense Clinic represented more than 40 clients in municipal and misdemeanor cases in the city of Boulder and in Boulder County, including assisting with legal matters related to changing the city’s camping laws that target the homeless. The clinic also hosted a voir dire conference for death penalty defenders from around the nation.

Sustainable Community Development

Taught by Clinical Professor Deborah Cantrell, this new clinic engages students in economic development projects on behalf of both clients and the public interest, with a goal of increasing social justice in a range of substantive areas including land use, housing, local food, and healthy communities.

Technology Law and Policy Clinic

A joint project between the Samuelson-Glushko Technology Law & Policy Clinic (TLPC) and the University of California Irvine School of Law earned a 2016 California Lawyer magazine Attorneys of the Year award. Serving as co-counsel for the nonprofit Authors Alliance, TLPC students and Clinical Professor Blake Reid (‘10) successfully recommended an exemption to the Digital Millennium Copyright Act that facilitates the inclusion of high-definition film clips in multimedia e-books and protects the fair use rights of e-book authors.
Employment

Colorado Law’s Career Development Office (CDO) specializes in connecting law students with employers during the academic year, the summer, and beyond. Starting with 1L orientation, where career development is a central theme, we encourage students to take a purposeful and creative approach to planning their careers.

Our CDO supports students by offering individualized career advising and a range of services and programs to help refine and achieve career goals.

Reflecting our investment in this important goal, the CDO team includes four dedicated professionals to help students and alumni succeed in the current employment climate.
Ninety-seven percent of Colorado Law students had substantive legal or law-related employment during the summer of 2015.

Colorado Law ranked 10th in the nation for helping law students network and find a job (Business Insider, 2015).

Of the 159 graduates in the Colorado Law class of 2015, 96 percent (152 graduates) reported employment 10 months after graduation (March 15, 2016), which ranks 16th nationally.

The class of 2015 ranked 18th in the nation for full-time, long-term judicial clerkships with federal, state, and local judges.

Ninety-seven percent of Colorado Law students had substantive legal or law-related employment during the summer of 2015.

Percentage change in full-time, long-term, JD-required or JD-advantage jobs between the class of 2011 (64.2%) and the class of 2015 (83.6%).

Colorado Law ranked 31st in the nation for Class of 2015 graduates employed in full-time, long-term JD-required or JD-advantage positions.
This unique partnership among the Colorado Department of Higher Education, the Colorado District Attorneys’ Council, the University of Colorado Law School, and the University of Denver Sturm College of Law seeks to encourage recent law school graduates to consider careers as prosecutors in rural areas of Colorado.

Three Colorado Law graduates are selected annually to serve yearlong fellowships at rural district attorneys’ offices in the state. Fellows receive a five-day training prior to beginning work.

“The DA’s Office of the 11th Judicial District wanted to participate in the Fellowship program to promote the field of prosecution to law students at CU, and also to promote the idea of a legal career in a rural area of Colorado,” said Thom LeDoux (‘02).

“We firmly believe that criminal prosecution is an exciting legal career field in which lawyers can feel good about the work that they are doing for their community. If new lawyers will give rural prosecution a chance, I believe that they will find a rewarding career and a high quality of life,” said LeDoux.
In its third year, this innovative collaboration among Colorado Law’s Silicon Flatirons Center and technology companies trains future leaders in the tech law arena. A select group of entrepreneurially-minded law students participate in paid internships with tech companies ranging from 10 weeks to seven months. Before the internship, the students complete an intense four-week bootcamp, learning the fundamentals of the technology industry, business, and how to be an effective professional.

In January 2016, Colorado Law partnered with early-stage tech company Fathym, Inc. and global law firm Bryan Cave LLP to make legal services more accessible to early-stage companies while modernizing legal training. A Colorado Law student intern who has completed the Tech Lawyer Accelerator program will spend the summer working with executives from both companies, gaining both traditional legal skills and a complementary knowledge of process and technology.

2016 Tech Lawyer Accelerator participants Diane Sung (’18), Shazad Sahak (’17), and Tyler Park (’17). Sung will intern at CoreSite in Denver, Sahak will work at Cisco in the San Francisco Bay area for seven months, including the fall semester, and Park will intern at Hogan Lovells’ practice in Mexico City.
In its 124 years, the University of Colorado Law School has conferred more than 8,500 law degrees. Currently, Colorado Law’s 7,000+ alumni live and work around the world, and work in every area of the law.

- Alumni events
- Primary residence of at least one alum (not to scale)
Milestones and Events

Best Ever Alumni Awards
Banquet and Reunions

With nearly 650 attendees, the 35th Annual Colorado Law Alumni Awards Banquet broke the all-time attendance record and raised more than $100,000 for Colorado Law.

Ten classes celebrated their reunions on October 16-17, 2015. The 2015 reunions—the most successful to date—raised more than $400,000. The class of 1985 (pictured with Dean Weiser) set an all-time class gift record of $146,420.

19 Firms Reach 100% in Law Firm Challenge

The Law Firm Challenge is a friendly competition designed to strengthen ties and foster pride among Colorado Law and its alumni at law firms. In 2016, 19 law firms had all of their Colorado Law alumni donate to the school.

Alumnus Establishes Mentorship Professorship

Steve Hillard (’76) pledged $1.5 million to endow the Council Tree Professorship, to be awarded to a law faculty member who contributes to student success through active mentorship, hands-on engagement, and a commitment to supporting diversity. In 2016, Kristen Carpenter was named the first Council Tree Professor.
Entrepreneurial Law Clinic Turns 15

On March 28, 2016, nearly 100 students, alumni, faculty, employers, and friends of the law school celebrated the clinic’s 15th year of providing free legal services to local startups.

Boulder Summer Conferences

National leaders in academia and practice will descend on Boulder this summer for our annual conferences on international law; business law; and natural resources, energy, and the environment in a climate changed world.

U.S. Secretaries of Labor and Energy Visit

In February 2016, the Silicon Flatirons Center hosted U.S. Labor Secretary Tom Perez, who spoke on the importance of valuing employees in business.

The Getches-Wilkinson Center brought U.S. Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz to Colorado Law in August 2015 to deliver a lecture about the role of the Department of Energy in nuclear security and nonproliferation.
Getches-Wilkinson Center for Natural Resources, Energy, and the Environment

As the nexus of Colorado Law’s efforts to solve the most pressing natural resource problems, the center serves the people of the American West, the nation, and the world through creative, interdisciplinary research; bold, inclusive teaching; and innovative problem-solving to further true sustainability for our lands, waters, and environment.

Named for two giants in the field, David Getches and Charles Wilkinson, the Getches-Wilkinson Center convenes thought leaders on diverse and increasingly interwoven topics ranging from environmental justice to climate change, public lands management to energy development, and the governance of the Colorado River to tribal resource management.

New Executive Director

Alice Madden (‘89) is the new executive director of the Getches-Wilkinson Center. She is the former principal deputy assistant secretary for intergovernmental and external affairs at the U.S. Department of Energy. “It is hard to put into words how honored I am to be running a center named after two of my personal heroes, David Getches and Charles Wilkinson. I look forward to helping guide the GWC into the future,” Madden said.
Acequia Assistance Project

A joint effort by the Getches-Wilkinson Center, Colorado Open Lands, and the Sangre de Cristo Acequia Association, the Acequia Assistance Project held four free trainings for law students interested in providing low- or no-cost legal assistance and educational materials to Colorado’s acequia communities. Five students attended the annual Congreso de las Acequias in October, and the project accepted four new cases in the San Luis Valley in spring 2016. One of the project's water rights clients recently received notice of his final decree, just in time for the 2016 irrigation season.

Farmers show student volunteer Gunnar Paulsen (‘18) where the San Antonio River flows into the El Codo Ditch.

Getches-Green Clinic Impacts Policies

The Getches-Green Natural Resources and Environmental Law Clinic is one of the nation’s oldest environmental law clinics. This year, the clinic drafted two petitions to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service requesting that two separate species of bumblebees be listed as threatened or endangered; undertook significant legal analysis regarding potential challenges to inadequate Clean Air Act rules regulation hazardous air pollutants; and analyzed legal issues around compliance by the U.S. Forest Service with regulations that protect the habitat, ecosystem, and environment in national forests.

Programs and Projects

Governor Hickenlooper Delivers Energy Lecture

Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper outlined his vision for a path to cleaner, more efficient forms and systems of energy at the John H. and Cynthia H. Schultz Lecture at Colorado Law in November 2015. In its eighth year, this annual lecture features scholars in the fields of oil and gas, energy, or natural resources law.

Symposium Honors Charles Wilkinson

The 2016 Martz Winter Symposium celebrated the work of Distinguished Professor Charles Wilkinson, featuring readings and tributes from colleagues, friends, and family that honored his impact across the people and places of the West.
Silicon Flatirons

The Silicon Flatirons Center for Law, Technology, and Entrepreneurship is a center for innovation at Colorado Law serving students, entrepreneurs, and professionals at the intersection of law, policy, and technology. We create productive collisions and spark tomorrow’s thinking with intellectually honest programming and community engagement. We accomplish this through papers, roundtables, conferences, and a series of other events, along with providing valuable opportunities for students.

Entrepreneurship Initiative

Silicon Flatirons catalyzes connections across the CU Boulder campus and the Front Range startup community to provide opportunities for students, entrepreneurs, and legal and business professionals to convene, exchange ideas, and learn. To do so, Silicon Flatirons leads and sponsors a wide range of popular programs, such as the Entrepreneurs Unplugged and Crash Course speaking series, as well as the celebrated New Venture Challenge, which awarded $20,000 for innovative ideas from campus teams this year. Recognized as a convener for startups, Silicon Flatirons is at the dynamic epicenter of Colorado’s entrepreneurial scene, including offering legal services to local entrepreneurs through the Entrepreneurial Law Clinic.
Law Innovation Initiative
Recognizing the need for transforming legal education and training to adapt to the New Normal of the legal profession’s changing environment, Silicon Flatirons helps law students develop interdisciplinary expertise, whether in technology, business, or both, that complements their traditional legal training. Not only is Silicon Flatirons offering these opportunities—through the innovative Tech Lawyer Accelerator, a program loosely modeled after the successful Hatfield Scholars program now celebrating 10 years of helping law students find technology-related jobs—it also provides valuable thought leadership through roundtables and reports that support and help to guide others developing similar innovative approaches.

Technology Policy Initiative
As a thought leader on technological developments and their effect on policy and regulations, Silicon Flatirons engages a range of stakeholders to debate these important issues and provides recommendations for advancement through annual events such as the Digital Broadband Migration and Content conferences. Through an annual conference, papers, and other efforts, Silicon Flatirons is now leading our nation’s discussion on how technology shapes spectrum policy decisions.
The Constitution sits at the heart of the American legal system and has always formed a key component of legal education. The Byron R. White Center for the Study of American Constitutional Law at Colorado Law seeks to help students and citizens engage with relevant constitutional questions in and beyond the law school. The center is a hub for connecting law students, lawyers, judges, high school students, public school teachers, and interested citizens to our nation’s constitutional conversation.

Formed in 1990, the center has stayed true to its mission to support excellence in constitutional legal scholarship, to offer opportunities for Colorado Law students to serve the community, and to expand public knowledge and informed discussion about the Constitution. Students have the opportunity to participate in annual programming or work as research fellows to more deeply engage in the center’s mission and projects.
2015-16 Programs and Projects

Colorado Law Constitution Day Project

In 2015, dozens of volunteers visited more than 80 classrooms across Colorado, offering an interactive lesson about the relationship between the First Amendment and Colorado’s law prohibiting discrimination in public accommodations. Since the Constitution Day Project’s inception in 2011, the White Center has sent more than 290 law students, alumni, and local attorneys to more than 300 state high school classrooms in honor of Constitution Day.

Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project Moot Court Competition

On January 23, 2016, more than 60 high school students from the Denver metro area participated in the fifth Colorado Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project Moot Court Competition, where they showcased their oral advocacy skills and learned about careers in the law.

Rothgerber Conferences


On April 8, 2016, the 24th Annual Rothgerber Conference recognized the contributions of Colorado Law Professor Robert Nagel to constitutional scholarship over the course of his career.

Supreme Court Term Preview

This year’s preview of U.S. Supreme Court cases in the new session featured Professors Melissa Hart and Robert Nagel. Sessions were held in Denver on October 7, 2015, and in Boulder on October 8, 2015.

Thanks to you, we raised $51,344,688!

During our campaign, we
- added 54 endowed scholarships
- permanently dedicated $6.8 million to loan repayment assistance
- increased the number of individuals with Colorado Law in their estate plans by 200%, documenting nearly $20 million in planned gifts
- established five new faculty distinctions
- engaged 40% of our alumni in giving.

A special thank you goes to the Campaign Committee.

Betty Arkell (’75), Tri-chair
Carl (Spike) Eklund (’71), Tri-chair
Bob Hill (’70), Tri-chair
Tom Brown (’64)  Greg Kanan (’75)
Marco Chayet (’97)  Phyllis Gottesfeld Knight (’69)
Kelly Cooper (’02)  Bill Leone (’81)
Darla Daniel (’01)  Brian Meegan (’97)
Mimi Goodman (’86)  Sarah Morris (’14)
John Howard (’87)  Laurie Rust (’06)
Roxanne Jensen (’85)  Erica Tarpey (’96)
Colorado Law is a nationally recognized innovator and the regional leader in the changing legal landscape based on the quality of our scholarship, teaching, and curriculum, all of which deliver a high value to our students and serve our communities.

law.colorado.edu