



Dear Members of the Denver Law Community:

As previously shared by the University of Denver, Professor Federico ("Fred") Cheever passed away on June 10 while on a rafting trip with his family on the Green River in northwestern Colorado. As a law school community, we are heartbroken by this tragic loss, and our thoughts are with Fred's wife, Mary, and his daughters, Elizabeth and Laurel, at this difficult time.

A nationally-recognized expert in environmental law, wildlife law, conservation, public lands, and property, and co-director of the law school's nationally-ranked program in Environmental and Natural Resources Law, Fred joined the University of Denver faculty in 1993, having previously earned his B.A and M.A. from Stanford University and his J.D. from the UCLA School of Law. After graduating from law school, Fred clerked for The Honorable Harry Pregerson of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. He moved to Denver in 1987, first working for the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund (now Earthjustice) and later for Faegre & Benson LLP.

During his 24 years on the University of Denver faculty, Fred contributed his immense talents and energies across the University's entire enterprise. As a law professor, he was an innovative interdisciplinary scholar, a brilliant and revered teacher, and a treasured colleague and friend. Despite his prodigious work ethic and staggering scholarly productivity, Fred gave greatly and generously of himself—to his students, his university and his community. He was a respected and influential mentor, particularly to students and alumni in the environmental and natural resources area. As the law school's Associate Dean for Academic Affairs from 2009-2013, he played a vital role in implementing the law school's strategic plan and in developing our pioneering and highly successful experiential learning initiative. He also made significant and enduring contributions at the university level, co-founding (and later chairing) the University's Sustainability Council, in which capacity he promoted campus energy efficiency, environmentally-sound transportation, and other methods to incorporate sustainability into all aspects of university operations. More recently, Fred served as a member of the Chancellor's Enhancing Sustainability Task Force, which seeks to advance DU to a position of national leadership in campus sustainability. In the broader community, Fred served on many nonprofit boards, including most recently the ABA Standing Committee on Environmental Law, the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, the Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute, and Transportation Solutions, and he represented environmental groups in cases under the Endangered Species Act, the National Forest Management Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, and the Wilderness Act, among other environmental laws.

A **memorial service** honoring Fred's life and legacy will be held on Sunday, July 2, at 10:30 a.m. in the Humanities Garden on the University of Denver campus, near the Evans Memorial Chapel. Colleagues and friends are invited to join Fred's family and friends to come together in a setting that faces west—to the Rocky Mountains that Fred loved. In lieu of flowers, the Cheever family has requested that donations in Fred's memory be made to the University of Denver Environmental Law Clinic.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce P. Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bruce" being the most prominent.

Bruce P. Smith
Dean
University of Denver Sturm College of Law