



June 21, 2017

To: DU community

From: Gregg Kvistad, Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor

Over the past week, I know many of you heard the tragic news that Professor Federico ("Fred") Cheever passed away due to a massive heart attack while on a whitewater rafting trip with his family. Fred was a professor of law in DU's Sturm College of Law, and had been with the University since 1993. Fred had many connections across the University, and those of us who had the honor to know him and work with him directly will miss him dearly.

There will be a memorial service on the DU campus on Sunday, July 2, at 10:30 a.m., in the Humanities Garden near the Evans Chapel. We will gather to remember Fred in a setting facing west, towards the chapel and the mountains, with deep respect for his commitment to the environment. Parking will be available in [lot E](#) (Evans parking structure) on the southeast corner of Evans Avenue and High Street. A reception will begin immediately following the service, in the [Joy Burns Center](#), which houses the Fritz Knoebel School of Hospitality Management. Updates to this information, if needed, will be posted on the Sturm College of Law [website](#).

Fred distinguished himself in the areas of environmental law, property law and public land law. Many of you know him through his tireless work as one of the architects of the sustainability movement on campus. He was instrumental in founding the Sustainability Council about a decade ago. With care and passion, he helped us define its structure and membership, and as co-chair of the council continued to push the University forward on the sustainability front.

Fred repeatedly stepped up to any challenge in service to the University. When Marty Katz became dean, he turned to Fred to serve as associate dean, which he did from 2009 to 2013. Fred stepped into the role and helped the University enormously through his work.

Fred's loss is felt beyond the University, as he was a leading voice in environmental law through his work as co-director of Denver Law's nationally ranked Environmental and Natural Resources Law program. Over the years, Professor Cheever represented environmental groups in cases under the Endangered Species Act, the National Forest Management Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, the Wilderness Act and a number of other environmental laws.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Fred's family and friends at this difficult time. He is survived by his wife Mary and daughters Elizabeth and Laurel. In lieu of flowers, the family has requested donations in Fred's memory be made to the [DU Environmental Law Clinic](#).

Please remember that during times like this, it is important that we come together to support one another. We urge anyone who feels the need to do so to use the University resources available as follows:

- The [Health & Counseling Center \(HCC\)](#) provides many medical and mental health services, including crisis and after-hours support. All University of Denver students have access to crisis services at the HCC, regardless of insurance coverage (phone: 303-871-2205; Ritchie Center, 2240 E. Buechel Blvd., Suite 3N)
- [Employee Assistance Program](#): The HCC provides counseling and support for all University of Denver employees, including crisis and after-hours support. Please call

303-871-2205 to access services, or make an appointment online through My Health, which can be accessed through the [website](#).

- [Chaplain Gary Brower](#) works with all members of the DU community on issues ranging from interfaith dialogue to spiritual care and counseling. (phone: 303-871-4488; Driscoll Student Center, South, 2050 E. Evans Ave.)
- [Pioneers CARE](#) (Communicate, Assess, Refer, Educate) outreach program helps find solutions for students experiencing academic, social and crisis situations including mental health concerns. (phone: 303-871-2400)

Sincerely,

Gregg Kvistad
Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor