



School of Law

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Gene R. Nichol

Gene Nichol was dean and professor of law at the University of Colorado from 1988 to 1995. He was James Gould Cutler Professor of Constitutional Law at the College of William & Mary, and Director of the Institute of Bill of Rights Law in Williamsburg, Virginia. He has taught at the universities of North Carolina, Florida, West Virginia and the University of Exeter in England. In 1973, Nichol earned his undergraduate degree in philosophy from Oklahoma State University while playing varsity football. He received his juris doctor at the University of Texas, graduating Order of the Coif in 1976. He is married and has three children.

Dean Nichol has written extensively on constitutional law and the federal court system. He has co-authored a leading federal courts book and has published articles in the Harvard, Yale, Chicago, Michigan, Pennsylvania, California and Virginia law reviews. His work is widely cited. He frequently lectures and appears on constitutional law panels, and has testified before Congressional and Colorado legislative committees.

While dean of the School of Law, Nichol took significant measures to diversify the faculty and student body. During this time, the academic productivity of the faculty increased significantly and the faculty is recognized by the Chicago-Kent Survey of Law Faculty as one of the ten best law faculty in the nation. The School of Law's outreach to the state of Colorado improved significantly during Nichol's deanship.

Nichol has contributed extensively to public affairs of the state of Colorado. He was chair of the Governor's Commission on Campaign Finance Reform in 1990; was named to the Colorado Reapportionment Commission in 1991; he was appointed special master in *Martinez v. Romer* in 1992; chaired the Colorado Supreme Court's 2020 Task Force on the quality of justice in Colorado; and, in 1994, Nichol played a substantial role in the campaign to defeat Amendment 12, a tax reform amendment. Nichol served as chairman of the University of Colorado's system-wide council of deans. He is a member of the American Law Institute and the American Bar Foundation Fellows.