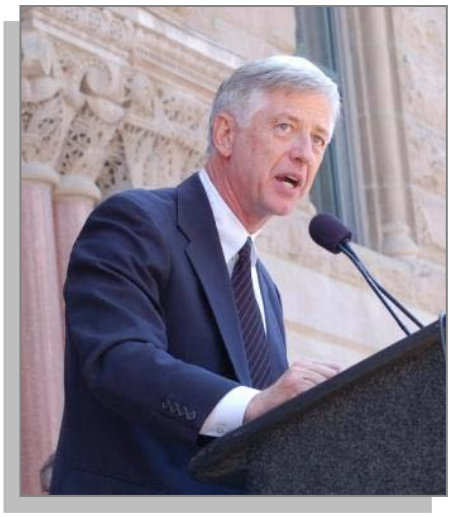
# Rocky Anderson



Rocky Anderson, founder of High Road for Human Rights, served as Mayor of Salt Lake City from 2000-2008. Before serving as Mayor, he practiced law for 21 years and was listed in *Best Lawyers in America*, served as Chair of the Utah State Bar Litigation Section, was Editor-in-Chief of *Voir Dire* legal journal, and, through his advocacy, expanded protections for consumers, investors, patients, and incarcerated people.

He served as President of the boards of the Utah affiliate of the American Civil Liberties Union, Citizens for Penal Reform (which he founded), and Guadalupe Education Programs, and as a board member of Planned Parenthood Association of Utah and Common Cause of Utah.

An outspoken human rights, government reform, and environmental advocate, Rocky was named by the Human Rights Campaign as one of the top ten straight advocates in the United States for GLBT equality and is the recipient of the Sierra Club Distinguished Service Award, the EPA Climate Protection Award, the Respect the Earth Planet Defender Award, the National Association of Hispanic Publications Presidential Award, The Drug Policy Alliance Richard J. Dennis Drugpeace Award, the Progressive Democrats of America Spine Award, the Air & Waste Management Association Richard Beatty Mellon Stewardship Award, the League of United Latin American Citizens Profile in Courage Award, and the World Leadership Award for environmental programs. Rocky was named by *Business Week* as one of the top twenty activists in the world on climate change and served on the *Newsweek* Global Environmental Leadership Advisory Committee.

Rocky's exercise of his free speech rights to articulate arguments against the current war and occupation of Iraq has endeared him to many Utah peace and justice activists and brought harsh criticism from supporters of our governments actions. This energetic leader reports that his elementary school years were influential in teaching him the golden rule, tolerance toward others who were different, and the importance of acting on one's moral convictions. His founding and directing of *High Road for Human Rights* is a manifestation of these convictions. A participant in the UVU's Oral History of Utah Peace Activists project, Rocky's interview will soon be available in the UVU Library Archives and the Utah History Archives.

Rocky Anderson's keynote address, *Voices of Conscience in Time of War*, will be at 11:00 AM January 14 in the Library Lecture Hall (Li 120). At 1:00 PM on the same day, Rocky will moderate a panel entitled *Civil Rights and the Role of Media.* UVU is honored to welcome Rocky to our first Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration since becoming a University.