

NICHOLAS J. NUGENT

Winston College of Law, University of Tennessee
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EMPLOYMENT

Winston College of Law, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN

Assistant Professor of Law

2023–present

University of Virginia School of Law, Charlottesville, VA

Karsh Fellow

Program Director, Karsh Center for Law & Democracy

2021–2023

Amazon.com, Inc., Seattle, WA

Senior Corporate Counsel for Network Technologies (Amazon Web Services)

Senior Product Manager (Amazon Web Services)

2017-2023

Microsoft Corporation, Redmond, WA

Attorney for Cloud Computing Division (Microsoft Azure)

Director of Business Development

2013-2017

Hogan Lovells U.S. LLP, McLean, VA

Associate Attorney – Technology, Media, and Transactions

2012-2013

MH2 Technology Law Group LLP, Tysons Corner, VA

Associate Attorney – Patent Prosecution

2011-2012

Finnegan LLP, Reston, VA

Associate Attorney – Electrical Practice Group, Patent Litigation and Prosecution

2008-2011

EDUCATION

Vanderbilt University Law School, Nashville, TN

J.D., May 2008

John W. Wade Scholar – Full, three-year scholarship

Vanderbilt Law Review – Managing Editor

Dean's List

Best Oralist Award

Indiana University, Bloomington, IN

B.S. (Computer Science), 2003

B.M. (Music Performance: Classical Guitar), 2003

Honors Scholar

Founders Day Award

Graduation with Distinction

Assistant instructor for seven computer science courses

PUBLICATIONS

Law Journal Articles

Who Controls the Internet Now? (in progress)

Digital Inflection Points (submitted)

Generative Cybersecurity

___ TENN. L. REV. ___ (forthcoming)

The Unpropertied Internet

110 CORNELL L. REV. 1209 (2026)

The Five Internet Rights

98 WASH. L. REV. 527 (2023)

Masters of Their Own Domains: Propertization as a Bulwark Against DNS Censorship

19 COLO. TECH. L. J. 43 (2021)

Toward a RFRA That Works

61 VAND. L. REV. 1027 (2008)

Other Writings

Artificial Intelligence and Cybersecurity in ELGAR CONCISE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND THE LAW (2025)

Artificial Intelligence and Telecommunications in ELGAR CONCISE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND THE LAW (2025)

Social Media Isn't a Public Function, but Maybe the Internet Is

LAWFARE (March 14, 2023), <https://www.lawfaremedia.org/article/social-media-isnt-public-function-maybe-internet>

CLASSES TAUGHT

- Property
- Intellectual Property
- Copyright
- Privacy
- Cybersecurity
- Computer Crime and Digital Evidence
- Artificial Intelligence
- Internet Law
- Computer Programming

PRESENTATIONS

Cybersecurity Meets AI (presenter)

UTK “Mic Nite,” Knoxville, TN (Mar. 19, 2026)

Generative Cybersecurity (presenter)

ACM Symposium on Computer Science and Law, Berkeley, CA (Mar. 4, 2026)

The New Ancient Lights (discussant)

Law & Technology Workshop (online) (Feb. 27, 2026)

Cybersecurity in the Age of AI (presenter)

Winston Scholars Webinar (online) (Feb. 25, 2026)

Generative Cybersecurity (presenter)

University of Richmond School of Law, Richmond, VA (Nov. 3, 2025)

Presenting the Governance Document for the Recognition, Maintenance, and Derecognition of Regional Internet Registries (presenter)

Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) 84
Dublin, Ireland (Oct. 25-30, 2025)

Generative Cybersecurity (presenter)

University of Alabama School of Law, Tuscaloosa, AL (Oct. 6, 2025)

Generative Cybersecurity (presenter)
Law & Technology Workshop (online) (Oct. 3, 2025)

Generative Cybersecurity (presenter)
Winston College of Law, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN (Sep. 25, 2025)

Supreme Court Roundup: Free Speech Coalition v. Paxton (presenter)
Winston College of Law, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN (Sep. 12, 2025)

Presenting the Governance Document for the Recognition, Maintenance, and Derecognition of Regional Internet Registries (presenter)
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) 83
Prague, Czech Republic (Jun. 8-11, 2025)

Generative Cybersecurity (presenter)
11th Eleventh Law and Computer Science Roundtable
Penn Carey Law, Philadelphia, PA (Jun. 4-5, 2025)

Presenting the Governance Document for the Recognition, Maintenance, and Derecognition of Regional Internet Registries (presenter)
American Registry for Internet Numbers (ARIN) 55
Charlotte, North Carolina (Apr. 28, 2025)

The Unpropertied Internet (presenter)
Workshop at the Wake Forest University School of Law (Mar. 20, 2025)

Privacy & Cybersecurity in Practice (panelist)
Panel discussion at the University of Tennessee College of Law (Mar. 10, 2025)

An Update on Internet Coordination Policy 2 (presenter)
Asia Pacific Regional Internet Conference on Operational Technologies
Petaling Jaya, Malaysia (Feb. 27, 2025)

International and Space Policy Dimensions of LEO Satellite Internet Constellations (presenter)
U.S. Space Command Academic Engagement Enterprise Fall Symposium
University of Colorado (Nov. 20, 2024)

Combatting Internet Crimes Against Children (moderator)
Panel discussion at the University of Tennessee College of Law (Nov. 18, 2025)

The Unpropertied Internet (presenter)
Workshop at the University of Arizona College of Law (Oct. 25, 2024)

Connecting the Threads (discussant)
Tennessee Journal of Business Law Symposium, Knoxville, TN (Sep. 20, 2024)

An Update on Internet Coordination Policy 2 (presenter)
Africa Internet Summit, Mauritius (Sep. 11, 2024)

The Unpropertied Internet (presenter)
Workshop at the University of Richmond School of Law (May 22, 2024)

Artificial Intelligence and Existential Risk (panelist)
Center for Artificial Intelligence Security Research (CAISER)
Oak Ridge National Laboratory (Mar. 19, 2024)

Artificial Intelligence and the Law (presenter)
Symposium on AI Technologies and Their Implications, Planet+AI (Feb. 22, 2024)

The Unpropertied Internet (presenter)
Workshop at the University of Tennessee College of Law (Feb. 5, 2024)

The Unpropertied Internet (presenter)
Innovation Policy Colloquium, NYU School of Law (Jan. 25, 2024)

The Unpropertied Internet (presenter)
Annual Meeting of the American Association of Law Schools (AALS) (Jan. 3, 2024)

AI Personhood (guest lecturer)
Seminar: Artificial General Intelligence: Separating the Hype from the Science
University of Tennessee Department of Engineering and Computer Science (Nov. 27, 2023)

Connecting the Threads (discussant)
Tennessee Journal of Business Law Symposium, Knoxville, TN (Oct. 6, 2023)

Social Media & Democracy (panelist)
81st Judicial Conference of the Fourth Circuit, Greensboro, NC (June 30, 2023)

May Gathering: Social Media & Democracy (moderator)
Karsh Center for Law & Democracy, UVA Law, Charlottesville, VA (May 26, 2023)

Innovation and Competition in the Startup Ecosystem (moderator)
Colloquium: Antitrust and Innovation in the Digital Age
Virginia Law & Business Review, UVA Law, Charlottesville, VA (April 17, 2023)

Internet Governance in the Quantum Age
Center for Quantum Networks, Zoom (November 4, 2022)

The Five Internet Rights
Junior Faculty Forum for Law & STEM, Northwestern Pritzker School of Law (co-sponsored by Stanford and University of Pennsylvania) (October 20-21, 2022)

Privacy and Data Security in the Global Cloud
ABA Annual Meeting, Webinar (Nov. 2013)

Onboarding to Tech Transactions
Vanderbilt Law & Business Society, Vanderbilt Law School, Nashville, TN (Oct. 2013)

MEDIA APPEARANCES

Pitch Perfect, UT Torchbearer Magazine (Apr. 30, 2025)

LEADERSHIP POSITIONS AND PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Harvard University, Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society

- Faculty Associate

American Region for Internet Numbers (ARIN)

- Former Vice Chair of the Number Resource Organization Number Council (NRO NC)
 - Liaison to Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)
- Primary draftsperson for the Governance Document for the Recognition, Maintenance, and Derecognition of Regional Internet Registries (RIR Governance Document)

Bar Memberships

- Tennessee Bar (2026)
- Washington Bar (2014)
- Virginia Bar (2008)
- United States Patent Bar (registered patent attorney) (2012)
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas (2010)
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia (2009)

AWARDS

Wilkinson Junior Research Professorship Award (Mar. 2025)

John Reginald Hill Faculty Scholar Award (Mar. 2025)