As a scholar-in-residence at the National Constitution Center since 2016, Michael Gerhardt has advised the Center on and assisted with the development of constitutional content; strategic partnerships; podcasts; online content; programming, including on-site and traveling Town Hall events; and other educational initiatives. Gerhardt is one of the leading constitutional scholars in the nation. His specialties include civil rights, the legislative process, the presidency, and separation of powers.

Michael Gerhardt is also Samuel Ashe Distinguished Professor of Constitutional Law at UNC Law School and the inaugural Richard Beeman Visiting Scholar at the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

He has served as special counsel, public commentator, and testified before Congress on all the major constitutional conflicts between presidents and Congress over the past 25 years. He is the only legal scholar to have testified as a joint witness in the House Judiciary Committee’s hearings on President Clinton’s impeachment and advised the White House or senators in Supreme Court confirmation hearings for seven of the nine justices currently sitting on the Supreme Court. In 2015, the Library of Congress selected him as the first independent scholar as its principal consultant in updating and revising the official United States Constitution Annotated.

Michael Gerhardt is a nationally recognized expert on constitutional conflicts and the author of dozens of law review articles and several books, including The Forgotten Presidents: Their Untold Constitutional Legacy, which the Financial Times named as one of the best nonfiction books of 2013. In 2018, he published a primer on impeachment law, Impeachment: What Everyone Needs to Know (Oxford University Press); and in 2019 he published the third edition of his book, The Federal Impeachment Process: A Constitutional and Historical Analysis (University of Chicago Press), which is widely regarded as the preeminent modern treatise on the subject.

He received a bachelor’s degree with honors from Yale University, a master’s degree from the London School of Economics, and a juris doctorate with honors from the University of Chicago, where he was also selected for membership in the Order of the Coif.

Michael is married to Deborah Gerhardt, who is also on the faculty of UNC Law School, where she teaches intellectual property, trademark, copyright, and art law as well as arts entrepreneurship in the college. They have three sons (Ben, Daniel, and Noah) and two dogs (Ari and Lyla).