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Criminal Justice News

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Dr. Sharon Tracy Awarded Title of Professor Emerita

January 9, 2015

Dr. Sharon Tracy, Professor of Criminal Justice and Criminology, retired July 31, 2014. Dr. Tracy received her B.A. in Political Science and English from Southern Illinois University and her M.P.A. from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. She joined the Political Science Department at Georgia Southern University in 1989, after earning her Doctor of Public Administration from the University of Southern California. Over the course of her 25 year career at Georgia Southern University, Dr. Tracy distinguished herself as a true teacher-scholar. Her scholarship focused on understanding young offenders, particularly their participation in gangs in the United States, leading her to collaborate with local agencies to understand gang membership in Georgia. Dr. Tracy was professionally involved in numerous scholarly and professional organizations, including, among others, the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Pi Alpha Alpha, Sigma Phi Alpha, and the Georgia Gang Investigators Association; she serves on the National Social Sciences Association National Governing Board. Dr. Tracy served on numerous committees for the Department, in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, and in service of the University. She also served on multitudes of graduate internship and oral examination committees. Most notable, however, is the role played by Dr. Tracy as a teacher. A perennial favorite of the students, her courses, which included Gangs, Drugs, and Criminal Justice, as well as Hate and Bias Crimes, among numerous others, were popular draws on campus. In recognition of her meritorious service to Georgia Southern University, in particular within the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences and the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology, Dr. Sharon Tracy was awarded the title of Professor Emerita of Criminal Justice and Criminology.

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