



**Vincent J. Webb**  
**28<sup>th</sup> ACJS President**  
**1990-1991**

Vincent J. Webb, Vince, was born and raised in Nebraska, and upon graduation from high school attended the University of Omaha. He majored in Sociology and graduated with his B.A. in 1967. He continued his studies in Sociology at the University of Nebraska, where he was a Graduate Research fellow with the U.S. Corps of Army Engineers. After earning his M.A. in 1969, Vince moved to Iowa State University where he served as a Research Associate, earning his Ph.D. in 1972.

Webb's first academic post as Assistant Professor was at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa. He then returned to his home state of Nebraska, where he was appointed as Assistant Professor in the Department of Criminal Justice at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Within a year he was elevated to Chair, a position he would hold with only some interruption until 1995. Webb rose through the academic ranks, becoming both tenured and a Full Professor. In the 1979 to 1980 academic year, he served as the Principal Investigator for the Joint Commission on Criminology and Criminal Justice Education and Standards, at the University of Illinois at Chicago Circle. The following academic year found him back at the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) serving as the Director of the Center for Applied Urban Research, a position he would hold until 1986, while in 1982 he returned to his position as Chair of the Department of Criminal Justice.

It was during his early years at UNO that Webb became involved in both the Midwestern Criminal Justice Association (MCJA) and the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences. Webb served as an officer on the board of MCJA, and eventually was elected President for the 1981 to 1982 term. His early work with ACJS entailed focusing on Academic Standards in Criminal Justice, which is why he was eventually asked to serve as the Principal Investigator for the Joint Commission. Following this work in Chicago and upon his return to Omaha, Webb took over as the Editor of *ACJS Today* and advanced the official newsletter of the Academy into the source we are familiar with today. In addition, because the national office of ACJS was located at the University of Nebraska at Omaha at the time, Webb was named Project Director for the Academy. For all this and more, he was soon elected to the Executive Board and rose to become the 28<sup>th</sup> President of ACJS.

While President of the Academy, Webb continued to advocate for professionalization standards for the Criminal Justice discipline, he worked closely with the Academic Peer Review Committee, he helped move the *Guide to Graduate Programs in Criminal Justice and Criminology* to publication, and his tenure saw the first issue of the *Journal of Criminal Justice Education* published.

Following his tenure as President, Webb remained active within the Academy, assisting Ed Latessa in the development of the ACJS strategic plan, which set the course for ACJS for the next 10 years. In 1996, Webb left Nebraska, accepting the position of Chair of the Department of Administration of Justice at Arizona State University until 2003, when he then took over as a Research Consultant to the Office of the Provost until 2005. Webb then served one year as the Director of the Center for the Study of Crime, Delinquency, and Corrections at Southern Illinois University, before moving to Huntsville, Texas, where he became Dean and Director of the College of Criminal Justice at Sam Houston State University.

In light of his dedication to ACJS he received the Founders Award (1994) and was made an ACJS Fellow (1988).