



Laura J. Moriarty
43rd ACJS President
2005-2006

Laura J. Moriarty was born and raised in New Jersey. Upon graduation from high school she attended Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, majoring in criminal justice. After graduating in 1984, she remained at Louisiana State earning her Master of Criminal Justice degree in 1985. She then pursued her doctorate in the College of Criminal Justice at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas, where she defended her dissertation and graduated in 1988.

Moriarty's first academic post was in the Department of Criminal Justice at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, North Carolina as an Assistant Professor. She taught there for five years before accepting a similar position at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia. In 1996, she was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure and in 2000 to Professor. Although she had started in the Department of Criminal Justice, in 2003 the Department was merged into the L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs. At this time, Moriarty was serving as the Acting Chair of the Department, and also has served as the Assistant Dean for Special Projects (1998-2000) and Faculty Affairs (2000-2004). In 2004, she became the Associate Dean for Academic and Faculty Affairs, and in 2005, she was made Acting Associate Vice Provost for Academic Affairs. It was in this role that she served as president of ACJS.

Moriarty became active in both the Southern Criminal Justice Association (SCJA) and the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS) early in her career. In SCJA, she served on numerous committees and served as that organization's president in 1996. In ACJS, she served on such committees as the Affirmative Action committee (1990-1993), Budget and Finance (2000-2001), and she was program chair in 2002. From 1997 to 2000, she served as the editor of *ACJS Today*. In 2003, she was elected to serve ACJS as Second Vice President. After her term as First Vice President, Moriarty became the 43rd President of ACJS, serving from 2005 to 2006.

During her presidency, Moriarty focused on assessment, in particularly student learning outcomes, throughout the criminal justice discipline. She also worked alongside Mittie Southerland, conducting ACJS Certification workshops where her emphasis was on assessment.

Since her presidency, Moriarty has remained active in the Academy, serving on the Academic Review Committee as Chair (2007-2010), and as Chair of the Assessment Committee (2010).

In 2006, Moriarty became the Vice Provost for Academic and Faculty Affairs in the Office of the Provost at Virginia Commonwealth University, where she continues to serve today.

Moriarty is the author and co-author of numerous peer-review journal articles, book chapters, edited volumes, technical reports, and books. Most recently she co-authored *The Victims of Crime* (Prentice Hall, 2010). She also has delivered many workshops and presentations, many related to assessment.

In 1997, she was awarded the Glencoe/McGraw-Hill Educator of the Year from the Southern Criminal Justice Association, and in 2010, she was awarded the ACJS Outstanding Mentor Award. In 2013 she was the co-recipient of the ACJS Founders' Award.