



Donna Hale
34th ACJS President
1996-1997

Donna Hale was born and raised in Cincinnati, Ohio, the oldest of three children. Upon completion of high school, she attended Michigan State University in Lansing, Michigan, where she earned her undergraduate degree in criminal justice. She remained at Michigan State University, earning first her Master's degree, and then her Ph.D. in Criminal Justice in 1983.

Hale obtained her first academic post in the fall of 1983, teaching in Milledgeville, Georgia at Georgia College. The following year she moved to Baltimore, Maryland, where she taught the next four years in the Department of Criminal Justice at the University of Baltimore. In 1988, she was hired as the first woman in the Department of Criminal Justice at Shippensburg University in Shippensburg, Pennsylvania, where she would remain for the rest of her academic career.

Hale became involved in the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences early in her career, one of only a handful of women as the time, and she served on numerous committees for the Academy. As a result of her steadfast commitment to ACJS, she was elected Second Vice President in 1994, moved to First Vice President in 1995, and served her term as President from 1996 to 1997. While President, the ACJS Minimum Standards were released and the Academic Review Committee continued to move forward, and the beginning of the long process of moving the national headquarters to Washington, D.C. was begun.

After her term as President of ACJS, Hale's life began to move in a new direction. She found herself spiritually in need, and so she joined a local church (First United Church of Christ) and eventually enrolled in a program to work on her Masters of Divinity Degree part-time. In 2010, she retired from Shippensburg University as Criminal Justice Faculty Emeritus, and enrolled in the Lancaster Theological Seminary full-time. She graduated the following year with a Masters of Divinity Degree and a certificate in youth and young adult ministry.

Hale is the author of numerous peer-reviewed journal articles and several books, including one with Gary Cordner (ACJS President 1998-1999) that was a ACJS/Anderson Monograph: *What Works in Policing? Operations and Administration Examined*. She is also co-author on two books with Frankie Y. Bailey, *Popular Culture, Crime, and Justice* (Wadsworth 1997) and *Blood on Her Hands: The Social Construction of Women, Sexuality, and Murder* (Wadsworth, 2004).

Donna Hale is the recipient of numerous awards and has a scholarship named after her and her husband, also a retired faculty member from Shippensburg University, the Tom Austin and Donna Hale Scholarship, awarded to a criminal justice freshmen student each year.

In 1999, for her hard work and dedication to the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, she was awarded the ACJS Founder's Award.