

Gerhard O.W. Mueller

About Gerhard O.W. Mueller

Gerhard O. W. Mueller was a Distinguished Professor Criminal Justice at Rutgers University, School of Criminal Justice. After earning his JD degree from the University Chicago, he went on to receive a Master of Laws degree from Columbia University. He was awarded the degree of DrJur (hc) by the University of Uppsala, Sweden. His career in criminal justice began in 1945, when he served as a chief petty officer in the British Military Government Water Police, where he commanded a Coast Guard cutter. His teaching in criminal justice, begun in 1953, was partially interrupted between 1974 and 1982 when, as Chief of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch, he was responsible for all of the United Nations' programs dealing with problems of crime and justice worldwide.

He continued his service to the United Nations as chair ad interim of the Board of the International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme. Professor Mueller was member of the faculties of law at the University of Washington, West Virginia University, New York University, and the National Judicial College, with visiting appointments and lectureships at universities and institutes in the Americas, western and eastern Europe, Africa, Asia, and Australia. He is the author of some 50 authored or edited books and 270 scholarly articles.

To many criminologist around the world Professor Mueller is considered the "father" of international/comparative criminal justice. He not only founded the UN Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch but through his teaching, research, and mentoring he has helped to create a body of knowledge and a generation of scholars that will serve the field for many years to come. For his lifelong efforts, the International Section of ACJS has named its outstanding scholar award the G.O.W. Mueller Award for Outstanding Contributions to Comparative/International Criminal Justice. Professor Mueller died on April 20, 2006.