Faculty Profile: Donna R. Christie

Professor Emerita Donna R. Christie is a renowned expert in marine and coastal law. She earned a bachelor’s degree in chemistry from the University of Georgia and holds a JD from the Georgia School of Law. Christie served as FSU’s associate dean for academic affairs and taught for 38 years. She has been instrumental in establishing the LL.M. in American Law for Foreign Lawyers and has directed FSU programs in China, the Netherlands and Australia. She also directed FSU and numerous exchange programs with foreign universities, including China.

Christie is a driving force in the development of both FSU Law’s environmental and maritime law. She has served as chair of the Association of American Law Schools Section on Natural Resources Law and the Section on Ocean and Coastal Law. She is the leading authority on legal issues surrounding coastal access. She has been involved in ocean policy development at the state level for Florida and at the national level as a contributor to the White House Council on Environmental Quality. Christie also chairs the Task Force on Marine and Coastal Law and is a fellow of the Ocean Policy Institute.

In 2012, Christie was named a professor of practice at FSU and in 2015, she taught a course on the history and development of Florida Law.

Christie has served on the Florida Bar Board of Governors and the Florida Public Service Commission. She is also a member of the Florida State University Board of Trustees.

“FSU Law is a wonderful place to teach and a wonderful place to learn. The school has an incredible reputation and is well respected throughout the country. It is a great place to be part of an academic community and a great place to teach. The dedication and commitment of the students is impressive. They are very engaged in their studies and their communities. I am very proud to be part of this institution and it was fun to return and teach this course for the 2020 Florida Law School Challenge.”