Patricia Yancey Martin, Emerita Professor of Sociology, Florida State University (ARFS President 2024-2025)

Patricia (Pat) Yancey Martin earned her BA in English Literature and Spanish from the University of Alabama and her MA (Sociology and English) and Ph. D. (sociology) from Florida State University. Before completing her Ph. D., she served as Director of a multi-state project on the U. S. social welfare system and when her degree was completed, she was asked to remain on the project. She did so and was offered an Assistant Professorship in the School of Social Work. After two years in that position, she joined a class action lawsuit lodged in federal court (with 8 other FSU faculty women) against the State of Florida for sex discrimination (federal law had just allowed women to sue public institutions). As she worked toward tenure and promotion, the suit advanced and in the late 1970s, an agreement was reached between the federal court, FSU administration, the State University System (SUS) and the plaintiffs. The judge who oversaw the agreement made his final ruling apply to all Florida public institutions, thus women faculty across the state received pay increases, tenure, promotion, access to graduate students, research laboratory space, and lower service assignments. Pat was tenured and promoted on time and thereafter named Daisy Parker Flory Alumni Professor. She remained on the faculty in Social Work for 18 years and moved into Sociology for 19 more.

Pat's research focused on the sociology of organizations and (paid) work, with the early years devoted to bureaucratic structures and processes. From the outset, she was interested in the dynamics of gender. In the last 20 years of research, she focused on this issue: How if at all is gender "at play" in the workplace, regardless of whether workers intend it? A related interest was that of gender and violence, for example, how community organizations deal with victims of rape: Do hospitals, police/sheriffs, courts, and rape crisis centers prioritize victims' welfare and, if so, how? If not, how so?

During her tenure at FSU, she spent sabbatical/research years at Plymouth & Bradford Universities in England, the University of Delaware, Ohio State University, and the University of Tennessee. Pat received a Fulbright Award in 2007 to teach and do research in Sweden. She began teaching short courses on organizational research in sociology at Trento University, Italy, in 2000 and continued doing so through 2012. She taught graduate courses on gender and organizations in Germany (Ruhr University, Bochum), Sweden (Gothenburg), Italy (Trento) and England (Bradford). She lectured and served on Ph. D. committees in The Netherlands, Finland, Sweden, and the UK and authored or edited 6 books and 139 articles or book chapters. Four of her books are titled: Feminist Organizations: Harvest of the New Women's Movement; Rape Work: Victims, Gender, & Emotions in Organization and Community Context; Handbook of Gender, Work, and Organization; and Gender Reckonings: New Theory and Research.

Pat received multiple teaching awards at FSU where she directed the dissertations of 25 Ph. D. students (and served as the outside committee member for many more). She was honored by the Southern Sociological Society and the American Sociological Association for her research on gender. Due to her love of Florida State, she keeps up with her former students, faculty, department and college. She is grateful that her involvement in FSU's retired faculty and staff organization--Association of Retired Faculty and Staff—has allowed her to make new friends and renew her relationships with former colleagues.