

Biographical Sketch
James R. "Chip" Coldren, Jr., Ph.D.

James R. "Chip" Coldren, Jr., Ph.D... recently joined the faculty of Governor's State University as a tenured Professor and Academic Program Coordinator in the Criminal Justice Department. He is concluding his term as the sixth President of the John Howard Association in Chicago, Illinois, a 104 year old non-profit organization dedicated to monitoring and improving the conditions of confinement in prisons and jails, as well as to fair, humane, and effective sentencing and correctional policies. Prior to joining the John Howard Association, Mr. Coldren served in several capacities at the University of Illinois at Chicago -- Director of the Center for Research in Law and Justice and of the Institute for Public Safety Partnerships, a U.S. Department of Justice-funded regional community policing institute that fosters the development and evaluation of local community public safety problem solving partnerships. Prior to joining UIC, Coldren was a Deputy Director with the Project on Human Development in Chicago Neighborhoods, a longitudinal prevention-oriented research project of the Harvard University School of Public Health. Mr. Coldren also served for seven years as Director of Research for the Justice Research and Statistics Association (JRSA) in Washington, DC. He began his professional career in Chicago, where he worked for seven years with the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority. He went on to become the Director of Research and Computer System Development at Patuxent Institution in Maryland, a maximum security, treatment-oriented prison, and he recently published a book about Patuxent Institution. Dr. Coldren holds a Master and Doctorate in Sociology from the University of Chicago. He currently serves as Chair of the Illinois State Bar Association Standing Committee on Corrections and Sentencing, member of the Capital Punishment Reform Study Committee, Vice Chair of the Institutional Review Board (IRB) of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, member of the Institute for Public Safety Partnerships Policy Board, Associate Editor for Evaluation Review, and on several committees and working groups relating to public safety and corrections. Dr. Coldren is married to Ms. Mary Novak and is the father of Elaine (16) and Lance (19).