The College of Health and Human Sciences at Georgia State University has established the Distinguished Chair of Public Safety Partnerships in the Department of Criminal Justice. The purpose of the endowed chair is to help ensure the provision of better public safety in an era of international terrorism and support the efforts of the Georgia International Law Enforcement Exchange (GILEE) and the International Law Enforcement Exchange (ILEE).

Robert R. Friedmann, criminal justice professor and founder and director of GILEE and ILEE, is the first faculty member to hold the Distinguished Chair of Public Safety Partnerships. This chair will promote a better understanding of crime and international terror threats and the challenges they pose. It will also work to increase international cooperation in the area of homeland security and promote shared experiences of best practices.

Dr. Robert R. Friedmann

Friedmann, who has been a faculty member at Georgia State University since 1986, has considerable experience in developing and growing partnerships throughout the law enforcement community. His areas of research interest include his work on a $4.5 million research grant from the National Institute of Justice to improve crime-reporting databases. He is also a known expert on law enforcement executive development and community policing.

Friedmann is the author of five books and numerous book chapters and journal articles, including A Diary of Four Years of Terrorism and Anti-Semitism: 2000-2004, Volumes One and Two and Community Policing: Comparative Perspectives and Prospects.

In addition to chairing the Department of Criminal Justice, Friedmann has served in various capacities in the law enforcement community. He chaired the Georgia Commission to Assess State Crime Laboratory Needs into the 21st Century, was vice president from 2000 to 2003 of the Metropolitan Atlanta Crime Commission, and chaired the advisory board of the Georgia Security Council. He also served as executive-on-loan to Central Atlanta Progress; was a member of the Atlanta mayor’s 911 Blue Ribbon Commission and the Fulton County Courthouse Security Blue Ribbon Commission; and assisted in planning, preparation, and evaluation of security for the 1996 Olympic Games.

The establishment of the chair was announced at a reception held at Cox Enterprises for the 15th delegation of the GILEE trip to Israel. The reception was attended by Carl V. Patton, president of Georgia State University; Susan J. Kelley, dean of the College of Health and Human Sciences; Richard J. Terrill, acting chair of the Department of Criminal Justice; major GILEE supporter Jay Davis, CEO of National Distributing Company; and other Department of Criminal Justice and GILEE donors such as UPS, The Home Depot, Georgia Power, Equifax, and Carbon Motors.