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Tancy has served as the Associate Director of the Social Science Research Center since its inception in 1998. She also currently serves as the University Institutional Review Board (IRB) chair for the review of human subjects research. Tancy has over 20 years of experience with various forms of research methods and data collection including mail surveys, telephone surveys, household interviews, and focus groups; and most conventional forms of data analysis. She enjoys working with faculty, area businesses, and health and human service providers to determine their research and data collection needs, developing survey instruments, and presenting data results to various stakeholders. Her research interests include nursing home policy, changes in research methods, and issues surrounding the mentally ill and the criminal justice system. Tancy earned her Master of Arts in Applied Sociology with a certificate in Criminal Justice from Old Dominion University as well as a PhD in Public Administration and Urban Policy.