



# Gerald Emison

Experience: Jerry Emison is a Professor Emeritus of Political Science and Public Administration at Mississippi State University and a retired Senior Executive Service appointee at EPA. He teaches city planning, public management/leadership and environmental policy. His research interests concern the effectiveness of public environmental institutions, professionalism in city planning and engineering, and environmental consequences of growth management.

Prior to joining MSU Jerry served for over twenty years in Senior Executive Service positions with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as the Director of the Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, as the Deputy Regional Administrator in Seattle and as the Director of the Program Evaluation Division in Washington, DC. Among his activities he was an architect of the Clean Air Act of 1990, supervised EPA's clean up responsibilities at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation and managed the Spotted Owl controversy for EPA. He was a member of EPA's Quality Improvement Board and personally trained in TQM about 25% of EPA's senior executives. He is experienced in executive decision making at the political-professional boundary for environmental issues as well as managing complex, large organizations.

In his civic life he has served as chair, vice-chair or member of municipal land use, planning/zoning and open space commissions as well as serving on a number of special purpose task forces at the local government level; he most recently was chairman of the City of Starkville Planning and Zoning Commission. In 2013-2014 he served as the President of the Faculty Senate at Mississippi State University.

Additional Information: Jerry is the author or co-editor of three books: *Practical Program Evaluations: Getting from Ideas to Outcomes* (CQ Press 2006), *Speaking Green with a Southern Accent* (Lexington Press 2010) and *True Green: Executive Effectiveness in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* (Lexington Press 2012). In addition he has authored over 30 professional journal articles/book chapters and 60 academic conference papers. He was chosen by students to be the departmental Professor of the Year in 2006, 2008, 2012, 2015 and 2017. He served as a Fulbright Specialist to Cambodia in 2015.

He received his Ph.D. in City and Regional Planning from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He also holds additional graduate degrees in Political Science and Engineering Management. His undergraduate work was in Civil Engineering at Vanderbilt University, and was followed by service in the Seabees in Viet Nam. He is a registered professional engineer, a board-certified environmental engineer of the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and a Fellow of the American Institute of Certified Planners.

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