

JULIE ABRAMSON

Fall 2008 marks the completion of Julie's third year working at UW-Whitewater. Originally from Whitewater, she moved to Milwaukee quite a few years ago, and established herself in the city for about fifteen years. She and her family moved back to the Whitewater area in 2004 and she began working part-time for the Whitewater Aquatic Center. While employed there, Julie helped implement a daycare program for that facility. When a position opened up in University Advancement, she was able to secure the position and became a full-fledged UWW employee.

Julie's main job duty is to process donations that come in to the University. She helps maintain the database and updates records on a regular basis. It is her job to create files for any actions/scholarships/estate plans, etc., when the need arises. She also keeps track of matching gift companies (those that match and those which do not), and monitors them to be sure those companies are paying the matching gifts requested by the donors.

Julie and her family make their home out by Whitewater Lake. Her husband, Gregg, sells cars for a dealership in Kenosha. They have two children, Hunter and Wesley. Rounding out the family is their pet cat, Kitty, who is nine years old. A slice of nostalgia that Julie shares is that, in 1998, she had an opportunity to spend a week in Scotland with Gregg's rugby team, which was touring that country. It was during the tour in Scotland that Gregg proposed to her. It is definitely a trip she will never forget.

Oldest son, Hunter, is seven and enjoys playing soccer, biking and skiing. Wesley is five years old and is into biking. Living out by the lake is great for this family that shares a love of outdoor activities. Julie's favorite sports are water skiing and downhill skiing, and she says she makes the most of every skiing opportunity that presents itself. She usually gets out to Colorado once a year to hit the slopes, and she and Hunter are learning to snowboard. Her claim to fame from the aquatic perspective is that she was once a member of the Minnieska Ski Team. Another hobby she enjoys is selling PartyLite candles and gifts. She really likes the product, claiming that it is the only candle she will burn. She has a lot of fun with the sales and going to national conferences in other states.

Ask Julie what she likes about her job in University Advancement and she has no problem listing a number of positive aspects regarding her job: great people with whom to work, flexibility with her work hours, and a good office location. What she enjoys most about UW-Whitewater is the "hometown" feeling she experiences here. She grew up and went to school in Whitewater. She attended UW-Stevens Point for a couple of years, pursuing a degree in fashion merchandising. Being single and free, she headed to California and spent a year out there, before returning to Wisconsin. She enjoys being back in the Whitewater area and working on campus.

Julie's take on the recent campus construction and changes? She says it's nice to see the changes and the updates that are taking place, but she likes the idea of keeping the history of the campus. She would like it even better, if the campus didn't have to lose its green space.