

BARB HOUSNER

Barb began her UW-Whitewater employment in 1994, working in the Minority Business and Teacher Preparation Program from 1994-1997. She then moved to the Registrar's office, where she remains today. Barb is a Student Status Examiner Senior (graduation examiner) – the only one doing this job in the Registrar's office. Prior to Whitewater, Barb worked at UW-Platteville and UW-Extension in Madison. She took some time off to raise her children and then got back into the workforce as an LTE at U-Rock. She now seems to be happily settled in at UWW.

Barb makes her home in Milton and is the mother of two daughters. Her oldest daughter, Staci, graduated from UW-Oshkosh and is a manager for Kohl's Department Stores in the Milwaukee area. She is married to husband, Chris, and has three stepchildren – Marcus, Tyler, and Emily. Barb's younger daughter, Carrie, works for UW-Stevens Point in the Wisconsin K-12 Energy Education Department. She lives with her husband, Craig.

Working on campus must have given Barb the itch to set another goal. She received her BBA in Business Management from UW-Whitewater in 2001. Aside from work, she enjoys spending time with friends, going out to dinner and taking in a movie now and then. Among her hobbies are creating greeting cards for all occasions. She creates them online and has had some published. It's a wonderful outlet for her creative streak. She also enjoys what she refers to as "dirt therapy", her bent for flower gardening. The neighbor children stop over and help her with work around the house and she says she has fun talking with them and sharing popsicles (her standard payment).

Barb's job duties include undergraduate clearance and posting graduate degrees. She is responsible for making sure that students complete all of the requirements for graduation. She works with students who come up short on the requirements and helps them resolve their problems so they can graduate. She also works with the different colleges in conjunction with those student issues.

Barb likes working in higher education and is happy to be at Whitewater. "It's small enough that you can get to know all of the people – like a big family." It's a viewpoint echoed by many around campus. She works with a good group of people in the Registrar's Office and many other individuals around campus. As with most jobs, there are good days and bad days, so she tries to let the bad ones slip by while she enjoys the many good ones.

Regarding the changes happening on campus, Barb is quick to acknowledge that the new buildings are good for the campus and the students, particularly Hyland Hall. She is happy to be in a new office space and is delighted with her view of the children's playground. All in all, life is pretty good.