

DIANE JOY

Amid the turmoil of moving, Diane manages to remain low-key and upbeat, taking the stream of recent office changes in stride. In the spring of 2005, Leadership Development was merged with Career Services, though not physically at that point in time. In 2006, her office was relocated from the University Center to Drumlin Hall, while the UC was being renovated. In January of 2008, she packed everything up again and moved back to the newly refurbished UC. She appears to have had enough moving for awhile and is content to settle in for the long haul.

Diane began working on campus in 1978 as an LTE in Safety Education. She was there for a few months and then took a job with the City of Whitewater. From 1980 to 1983, she was back on campus doing accounts receivable for SAGA Foods on campus. A brief hiatus followed, while she stayed home and raised her two children. In 1990, she returned to campus to work half-time for Facilities Planning & Management/Stores while also working half-time for the Whitewater School District. She became a full-time campus employee in 1995, for FP&M. Later that year, she accepted a position in the University Center Administration office. She started her current position in 1998 when the Student Involvement office was created. Now part of Career & Leadership Development, she is happy to be back “home” in the University Center and is adjusting to an office that doubled in staff size, but not physical space. Possessing a laid-back personality definitely helps her handle the changes gracefully.

Diane and Steve reside in Whitewater, sharing space with three-year-old Coco, a small black cat. Diane’s two daughters have left the nest and are pursuing their own interests. Older daughter, Brianna, is 25 years old and is currently living and teaching English in Prague, the Czech Republic. Her current plans are to do some traveling while over in Europe, then return to the U.S. for a short time while she decides which country hold her next teaching destination. Younger daughter, Samantha, is 22 and lives and works in Madison. She is also attending MATC, working on a Mechanical Design degree. Steve is a purchasing agent in Facilities Planning & Management, on campus.

Diane’s interests include travel, cooking, dining out, reading, and spending time with her family. She enjoys visiting her daughter and other family in the Madison area and is extremely fortunate to be able to see and speak with Brianna, in Prague. Via the computer, she has a system hooked up that has a camera and microphone and the two are able to have a face-to-face conversation at no cost. Diane says it’s been great for both of them. Her reading is focused on science fiction, although she is open to various genres. She is particularly fond of “The Lord of the Rings” and Robert Jordan’s “Wheel of Time” series. She also enjoys reading cookbooks. As for travel, Diane has been to Italy, England, Costa Rica and Belize. She tries to spend a few weekends each year in Door County. In a few weeks, she will have an opportunity to visit her daughter in Prague and expand her travel experiences.

Diane is a Financial Specialist in Career & Leadership Development. Her primary responsibilities include keeping financial records for the office, reconciliation, contracts, and student payroll. What she likes most about her job are the people with whom she works. “The work is interesting and I am able to work independently. I have been able to work with some of the staff for many years.” She is content with her job and is happy to be working at a campus that is a nice size – not too big. She says that makes it easy to become familiar with the campus, to get to know the people, and it’s also a nice location – situated between Milwaukee and Madison.

As for the changes on campus, she likes seeing all of the improvements, especially the newly remodeled University Center. She is thankful that her role in the change on campus has settled down.