

JoELLEN SHELTON

A relative newcomer to campus, JoEllen has been working at UW-W for four years. Initially, she worked for a year as a Limited Term Employee in the Young Auditorium. In 2008, she accepted a permanent, full-time position in Career & Leadership Development and began working in the University Center when it opened its doors following the remodel in 2006-2007. Prior to her work as a UW-W employee, JoEllen worked off and on for the Elkhorn School District. She has also given countless hours of volunteer time to the school district while her children have been in school.

JoEllen and her husband, Ron, have been married for 24 years and live just outside of Elkhorn with their two daughters, Stephanie and Rebecca. Ron is retired from Tankcraft, Inc. in Darien. Stephanie is nineteen and attends UW-Madison where she is majoring in English. Rebecca is a senior at Elkhorn High School and she is considering pursuing a career in elementary education. Both girls have always been very involved in music. They play piano and perform at recitals, occasionally volunteering their talents at functions at the Young Auditorium.

JoEllen's interests outside of work include family, travel and the arts. Together with other family members, she regularly attends a variety of activities, often to watch her daughters or other young relatives who are performing. She has been a member of the UW-W Cultural Affairs Committee for a number of years and is very involved with auditorium programming. Every year, JoEllen looks forward to family travel that allows them to visit other states, particularly the state capitols. She is happy that her daughters have had the opportunity to see 42 state capitols and hopes they will eventually be able to travel to the remaining eight. She is planning on trimming the eight down this summer by taking in a couple more states. JoEllen is also active in a number of church activities, including the church choir.

A University Services Associate, JoEllen's job duties in Career & Leadership Development include: providing program assistance to the Leadership staff, involving a myriad of programs; assisting with the hiring of student employees; training and supervising front desk employees; purchasing and maintaining an inventory of supplies; corresponding with students regarding programs; and providing customer service to students, faculty, staff and other customers.

JoEllen finds a great deal of joy working with students, staff, and other individuals across campus. She says that the students keep her thinking young and help her maintain an open mind to new ideas and technology. She also likes being situated in the University Center, where things are centrally located and in the hub of the campus activity.

What she likes most about UW-Whitewater is that "it's a world-class university on a small-town scale." Because of the size of the campus, it is easy to get to know students on a first-name basis – they're not just a number. JoEllen also feels that it is easy to communicate with people across campus. "People are friendly and always willing to open their doors and invite you in."

Asked about her thoughts on the many recent campus changes, JoEllen notes that there have been many great building projects, with Hyland Hall and Starin Residence Hall in the forefront. Is there anything she would change on campus? She smiles. "Things are pretty nice just the way they are."