

JOETTE MATHER

Joette has been at UW-Whitewater for eight years. For the first six and a half years, she worked in the Admissions office. When her duties with the scholarship program were realigned with the University Advancement office, she moved to that area and is now located in the Alumni Center. Her employment has always been on a part-time basis, originally at 50% and now at 65%, so she has summers off and works during the academic year.

Joette and her family live in Lyons, near Burlington. Her husband, Skip, has his own business – Mather Tree Service, Inc. Their daughter, Jenna, is a senior in high school. She works at Dairy Queen and volunteers at a local farm. She likes animals and is considering pursuing a career in that area. She is planning on attending UW-Richland Center when she graduates. Their son, Cody, is a freshman and getting his driver's license is among his top priorities. Joette notes that he has already eagerly requested to sign up for spring classes. He also participates in a number of sports, including football, track, and wrestling. Last, but not least, in the Mather family is five-year-old Shadow, a seven pound Shi-Poo (a Shih-Tzu and Toy Poodle mix).

Among Joette's outside interests are going to the beach (she loves being out in the sun), swimming in their pool, and reading. Mysteries are her favorite reading material. She and her family also enjoy traveling and every year they pack up and head to Canada to enjoy some time at a fishing resort in Ontario. They have met some other people there who are also regulars and they look forward to those summer reunions and spending time in the great outdoors.

As the Scholarship Coordinator for the campus, Joette is in charge of overseeing and distributing criteria for the scholarship awards. She keeps track of various related reports and processes records of awards for student accounts. Her scholarship duties actually began when she was working in the Admissions Office. About a year and a half ago, this job function was restructured and moved to University Advancement. Joette enjoys her work, even though she sees less of the students compared to when she was working in Admissions. She also appreciates having her summers off.

Joette likes the UW-W campus because "It is a nice environment. People try to make things work despite any difficulties that might arise, like what is happening in Madison right now." She feels that recent changes on campus substantiate this because there have been a lot of positive changes with new buildings, programs, grounds, etc.

We didn't have far to look when we asked Joette if she would be inclined to change anything or add anything on campus. Scattered on the conference table in the Alumni Center were blueprints for an upcoming remodel of that area. The Center is due for a facelift that should bring it more up-to-date and Joette is looking forward to the changes, along with the rest of the staff. Fresh paint, new carpeting and some new furniture should give the area a more modern appearance. "It's a quiet, homey environment," explains Joette, and she is obviously quite happy working there.