

## SUSIE OLSON

You can't miss Susie if you walk into the main entrance of Upham Hall – just look to your left as you enter the building and you will see a wall of large windows, behind which is located the main office area for the Geography & Geology Department. It's one of the nice features added in the remodel of the building and it makes the office area open and inviting.

Susie's employment with the State of Wisconsin began in 1994. She worked as a library services assistant at the Reference & Loan library in Madison – an office that was part of the Department of Public Instruction. In 2004 she came to UW-Whitewater and started working in the Letters & Sciences Advising Office with Deb Heiber. She transferred to the History Department in 2007, and in January of 2010 she moved to the Geography & Geology Department. Susie also works part-time at a frame shop in Madison called Meuer Art and she has worked there since 2001.

Susie lives in Cambridge with her faithful companion, Libby, a 13-year-old Cocker Spaniel. She has two daughters who are both married and have families of their own. Her older daughter, Amy, lives in Green Lake. Amy is an animal pharmaceutical sales representative. Her husband, Dean, is a UW-Extension 4-H Youth Agent in Green Lake. They have two sons (Cole-9 and Gavin-3) and one daughter (Kylie-6). Susie's younger daughter, Lindsay, lives in rural Cambridge. She is a dental hygienist and her husband, Dustin, is an electrician. They have two sons (Brody-2 and Grant-3 months).

When she is not at work, Susie likes to spend time with her grandchildren. She also enjoys picture framing, photography, and Muskie fishing. Her mother has a cottage in northwestern Wisconsin near Hayward. Susie and her mom try to get to the cottage at least two or three times a year to fish and relax.

Susie's job is to keep the office running smoothly and efficiently. This includes: many administrative changes to student records of various kinds; working with the class timetables; follow-through with faculty requests for things needed to keep classrooms running smoothly; and requests for building maintenance. She monitors the budget, and this year is coordinating the Math & Science awards. Susie also processes the Fischer scholarships (usually 40-50 per semester). She works with twelve faculty plus academic staff. What she likes about her job is the student contact and seeing them progress through their college years. She also likes the nice office location.

What does she like most about UW-Whitewater? "The people are friendly. There are lots of students that come through the department and it's fun to be around them."

As for recent changes on campus, she is happy that she won't have to prepare for the physical move to Carlson, like many other L&S staff. If she could make any changes of her own she would definitely like to make some changes in the campus food service – offer more options at lower prices.