ITS Newsletter Special Retirement Edition

Information Technology Services Honors four retirees in the ‘Class of 2010’, and thanks them for their total combined 131 years of expertise and service to SUNY Fredonia!

Mrs. Diana Carpus, Mr. Colin Plaister, Mr. Michael VandeVelde, and Mr. Art Walker not only experienced tremendous changes in technology applications during their tenure with SUNY Fredonia, but typically went above and beyond in their efforts to support the institutional mission and the specific needs of students, faculty, staff, and administration. This special edition was an opportunity to share their career highlights and to wish them well.

Please join Diana and Colin in their retirement celebration open house on Monday, December 13th from 3:00-5:00 in S104 Williams Center. Art and Mike retired effective November 30th, and elected to do solo "goodbye tours". We thank them for their dedicated service!

The computer center in 1983.

INSIDETHIS ISSUE

Special Retirement Edition Featuring

- Diana Carpus
- Colin Plaister
- Michael VandeVelde
- Art Walker
Diana joined Computing Services in October of 1973 as an Electronic Computer Operator. In 1978 she was promoted to Senior Electronic Computer Operator, and in 1987 promoted again to Supervising Computer Operator. During the conversion from a legacy computer system to the Banner Student Information System from 1998-2001 Diana’s knowledge of legacy processing, programs, and procedures was a critical component in conversion success. In addition, Diana developed team charts for the Banner conversion, assisted with the security and access schema and documentation, maintained the user request workflow, continued legacy system support throughout the entire implementation until Banner “Go Live”, and then managed the archiving of legacy data. Since that conversion Diana has served as a Project Coordinator, and, since July of 2006, as a Project Manager responsible for defining and communicating project timelines and completion deadlines and facilitating the on-time conclusion of a variety of projects such as Banner hardware and software upgrades, web server upgrades, online SOAP registration, online academic standings process, and online SOM audition registrations, to name a few! Diana has served her community of Silver Creek through School Board membership (14 years with two terms as President), Director of the Festival of Grapes for 15 years, and service with Girl Scouts, Jaycees, Youth Groups, and the Fire Department. Please join us in honoring and celebrating Diana’s thirty-seven years of service on December 13th, 3:00-5:00 PM in s104 Williams Center.
Colin Plaister joined SUNY Fredonia in October, 1975 as a Technical Assistant (Audio Visual Coordinator) for the Instructional Resources Center. Within three years he was promoted to Assistant for Instructional Resources. Over the past thirty-five years Colin accepted increased responsibilities as first Acting Director and then Director of the Instructional Resources Center/Creative Support Services/Academic Information Technology. Under Colin’s leadership, Academic Information Technology (AIT) Services has provided exemplary graphics support for faculty and multi-media and help desk services. Commencement audio and video production is a huge endeavor coordinated by Colin each year, as is “Talk to Santa”, a community service project that is near and dear to the many individuals that volunteer their services. “Talk to Santa” is a live television call-in show that will air for the 20th year on December 14th, 15th, and 16th. Everyone knows Colin as an enthusiastic and service-oriented individual, who will go out of his way to assist students and faculty. A former student wrote “Colin always put students first, be it the ones that worked for him or otherwise. If a student needed a piece of equipment, or was having a computer issue, Colin made sure that student was taken care of.” A former colleague noted “Colin is unfailingly helpful, cheerful, and, when required, resourceful and inventive about solving our problems. He goes out of his way; it seems to me, to be of aid and assistance.” Please join us in honoring and celebrating Colin’s thirty-five years of service on December 13th, 3:00-5:00 PM in s104 Williams Center.
Mr. Michael VandeVelde

SUNY Fredonia Employee from

December 8, 1980 – November 29, 2010

Mike VandeVelde joined Computing Services in December, 1980 as a Computer Operator.

In 1988 Mike was promoted to Senior Computer Operator, and in 1991 to Coordinator of Administrative User Services. In 1997 Mike was promoted to Assistant Director of Administrative Information Technology, a position he has held until his retirement. Those who have worked with Mike on projects or committees, or have sought assistance in meeting a business requirement, will attest to Mike’s “low-key, non-confrontational approach” as quoted by someone with whom Mike has worked for many years. It was Mike’s desire to slip quietly from SUNY Fredonia into retirement, but we take this opportunity to thank him for his thirty years of dedicated service to SUNY Fredonia students and colleagues.
Art Walker joined SUNY Fredonia in September 1981 as a Technical Specialist for the Instructional Resources Center.

Throughout Art’s career, he has received numerous thanks and letters of commendation from colleagues across the institution. As quoted by someone with whom Art worked for many years, “Art is a valuable asset to the college community and an integral part of every phase of our operation”. As many of us are aware, Art will take with him a deep understanding and knowledge of the campus infrastructure, and his technical support of that infrastructure will be deeply missed. It was Art’s desire to slip quietly from SUNY Fredonia into retirement, but we take this opportunity to thank him for his twenty-nine years of dedicated service to SUNY Fredonia students and colleagues.