

Tom Bechard

Job: Assistant professor of public health and social work. I coordinate SRU's social work internship program.

Joined SRU: 1998.

Background: I am originally from Salamanca, N.Y. I have a doctorate from Adelphia University, a master's degree from Barry University and bachelors' degrees in psychology from the University of Maine and philosophy from the University of Wisconsin. I was an adjunct professor of social work at the University of South Florida before joining SRU.

Interests: I'm a film critic as a hobby. I have a pilot's license for a High Wing Cessna. Some of my favorite movies include 'The Great Beauty' and 'Monarch of Glen.' My research interests are alcoholism recovery and HIV prevention. I raise Great Danes and am interested in architecture.

Person(s) I'd like to have dinner: Mahatma Gandhi, Mother Teresa and architects Philip Johnson, designer of the Glass House, and Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, the German-American architect

Why I work for The Rock: Students would be my number one reason. There are many exciting things about SRU's social work program. We just finished the reaffirmation of our original accreditation. The program is a professional and academic discipline that improves the quality of life of individuals, groups and communities. I am proud to help our graduates find employment in child welfare, aging services, drug and alcohol treatment, family services, schools, corrections and non-profit organizations.

