

I am The **ROCK**

Colleen Cooke

Position: Therapeutic recreation faculty member.

Joined University: Fall 1997.

Background: Having completed my undergraduate studies at Slippery Rock University [in therapeutic recreation], I went to the University of Pittsburgh and earned a master's degree in counseling. I completed my doctoral degree in health care education in 2002 at Nova Southeastern University.

Hobbies: Golfing, reading, playing the guitar, playing with my pets [two dogs and three cats], watching CNN, Survivor and Big Brother, and politics. I was an elected delegate to the Democratic National Convention.

Most recent book read: "Island of Lost Girls," by Jennifer McMahon.

Why I work at The Rock: I love teaching and, especially, seeing "the lights go on" as students begin to critically think about and understand the nature of disability and the efficacy of recreational therapy. I am consistently amazed and impressed by the willingness of our students to look at the greater society and serve others by volunteering. We have some great students here. I also wholeheartedly agree with President Smith when he says, 'It's a great time to be at Slippery Rock University.' I have observed the University as it has changed – always for the better. We nurture, encourage and challenge our students, faculty, administrators and staff to be better human beings inside and outside of the classroom.

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