

I am The **ROCK**

Gisela Dieter

Job: Spanish instructor, modern languages and cultures.

Joined SRU: Fall 2006.

Background: I was born and reared in Panama. I moved to the U.S. in 1990 to complete my undergraduate work at Clarion University. I graduated in 1993. I returned to Panama for two years and worked at Esso Standard Oil, Latin America. I moved back to the United States for good in 1995. I have worked at the Catholic Diocese of Youngstown, Goodwill Industries and Home Savings & Loan Co., all in Youngstown. I have two sons, Dylan, 4, and Grant, 7. They live with my husband, Dan, and me in New Bedford. We travel to Panama every year to visit my father and relatives. We all speak Spanish and English at home and enjoy a bi-cultural home environment where love and respect for the United States and Panama are emphasized.

Interests: Our family enjoys traveling as much as possible every year. We all love movies and music, and dancing parties are a frequent occurrence at our house on Saturday nights. Our entire family is very involved in our church as part of its leadership.

Last book read: 'America's Prophet: Moses and the American Story' by Bruce Feiler.

Why I work at The Rock: I love teaching college-age students, and I want to work at a university that stresses teaching. My goal for my students is that they develop a respect and appreciation for Spanish and that they have fun while learning. My first concern is for my students. I try to make classes a meaningful experience, and I want my students to make lasting friends in Spanish class. I believe that I can achieve my goals right here at The Rock, and for that I am very appreciative of the opportunity to serve SRU.

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