



I am The ROCK

Tom Pearcy

Job: Professor of history.

Joined SRU: 1998.

Background: After completing my doctorate, I accepted a tenure-track job at Brigham Young University in 1991. After teaching Latin-American history for five years, I became director of BYU's Latin American Studies Program. I enjoyed my time at BYU, but I grew weary of teaching classes with 900 students in one class. In 1998, I applied for, and accepted, my current position at SRU. I have been at SRU since, except for 2008-2009 when I took unpaid leave to serve as joint historian, with the U.S. Department of State Central Intelligence Agency.

Interests: Reading, high-end audio equipment, time with family, and not traveling.

Person(s) I would like to have dinner with: Archbishop Oscar Romero and Panamanian Gen. Omar Torrijos.

Why I work at The Rock: I enjoy teaching and interacting with students, and having classes with 900 students in them complicated these things. At SRU, I have the opportunity to look into my students' eyes and tell whether or not they are understanding what I'm saying. Our classes and SRU's University environment both nourish the personal approach to education where faculty and students get to know each other. SRU is a great place to be a scholar-teacher.

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