



I am The ROCK

Lee Williams

Job: Professor elementary education/early childhood education.

Joined SRU: 1991.

Background: I grew up in northern New Jersey and came to western Pennsylvania to attend Grove City College in 1970. I have lived in the area ever since. I have two master's degrees from SRU, and my Ph.D. was awarded from Kent State University. I have worked for the phone company as a customer service clerk, dishing ice cream at Carvel and at a lumberyard before I started in basic education as a reading specialist and English teacher.

Interests: I am a collector. It's a sickness. Give me one cool thing and all of a sudden I have 100. For a time I collected floaty pens – you know the ones where the barrel of the pen has an airplane flying over a view of a city – but lately I am collecting mid-century bar glasses. I also like to cook and to go out to eat at foodie restaurants.

Person(s) I would like to have dinner with: Mark Twain and Fred Rogers.

Why I work at The Rock: I chose to work here because as a faculty member, I wanted to teach, not mainly focus on publishing and doing research. I like that SRU is an undergraduate-focused teaching institution. But what makes it special? It's not a cliché that SRU is a caring community. I know and like people from all over campus – not just other faculty members, but staff and managers too. My job is enriched and made easier by the student-centered values of the folks here on campus, and so is my life. It is an amazing place to work.

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