

# I am The ROCK

## Donald Zapien

**Job:** Professor, chemistry. My research is in the area of protein electrochemistry.

**Joined SRU:** 2004.

**Background:** I grew up in San Jose, Calif. I received my undergraduate degree in chemistry at the University of Santa Clara and my doctorate in analytical chemistry at the University of California at Santa Barbara. I was a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine before taking my first faculty position at the University of Colorado. I am married, and my wife and I live in a little white house in Prospect. We have a dog and a cat.

**Interests:** I enjoy working with wood, particularly the hardwoods like maple, walnut and cherry. I prefer the woodworking styles of the late 18th- and early-19th centuries. I am a student of U.S. colonial history. I gather my information from books, documentaries and visits to museums. Another interest I have is identifying trees through their bark, leaves, buds and branching patterns.

**Person I would most like to have dinner with:** My wife, Jenny. She is my confidant and counsel. During our dinner I would share with her my dreams and I would ask her what she thinks.

**Why I work at the Rock:** I am very privileged to work at SRU. I say this because I have been entrusted with a few students and have been asked to instruct and equip them so that they are able to face the challenges of the outside world. I can think of no greater responsibility. I enjoy the students at SRU very much, and everyday I look forward to seeing them.

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