

## **Joyce Howes, Assistant Dean for the College of Science and Mathematics Retires**

After earning BS and MS degrees in the Department of Biological Sciences, Joyce started her Wright State career as a Faculty Associate in 1980, then served seven years as an instructor, teaching introductory biology lectures and advanced biology labs. She crossed over from faculty to administrative staff in 1988 and served five years as Assistant to the Chair; during this time Joyce took on administrative tasks such as class scheduling, GTA teaching assignments, and management of the intro biology labs.



In the early 1990s, Joyce started thinking about professional advancement. In 1993, then-Dean Marc Low appointed Joyce to the position she has held since: Assistant Dean for Student Affairs. In her 21+ years in this role, Joyce has wandered all over the university, snooping out new and interesting opportunities, such as serving as faculty-registrar liaison during Banner Student Implementation and the introduction of WINGS Express and, later, facilitating campus-wide adjustments to academic advising policy and practice during the conversion from quarters to semesters.

Joyce has served on countless committees, mentored many professional women, represented the college at endless events and ceremonies, and helped dozens of faculty when they encountered prickly situations with students in difficulty. With her friend and colleague, Susan Yeoman, Joyce administered support, academic advice, and tough love, and helped a lot of struggling students succeed and graduate. Joyce and Susan never turned away a student needing help and together they set the tone for accessible and kind-but-firm academic advising across the college.

As Joyce retires, she considers two things: first, the amazing people she has known and loved at Wright state, colleagues who generously “parented” her into a young professional (Lois Cook, Arlene Foley, Jerry Hubschman, Marc Low, John Rossmiller, Al Smith, Tim Wood all were generous mentors); and second, the time she’ll spend making quilts and loving her grandchildren to pieces in the coming years. Finally, Joyce says she’s overflowing with gratitude for the golden career, she has enjoyed among so many fine people and in such a caring, supportive, humane college.