

## MaryLou Rupp retires after nine years of service

JENNY CHAVEZ  
Copy Editor

MaryLou Rupp, department secretary of community education, told John Keyser when she first started here that her goal was to "see how many departments she could work in before retiring" - she will retire June 28 after serving in at least five departments in nine years.

"Change is not something I ever get tired of," said Rupp. "I like to see the new, see what's happening, and see what new technology there is."

Rupp started as a temporary secretary in the purchasing department in 1992, which soon turned into a full time position. She worked four years as manager of purchasing telecommunication, then moved to the registrar's office in the old Help Center. Rupp followed that as art department secretary for two years and in 1999 began as the Community Education department secretary.

*"The Redwoods on the back of a motorcycle is the most awesome experience."*

MaryLou Rupp  
Department secretary

retary.

Rupp's diverse role at Clackamas is only a sampling of the diversity in her life. Growing up, she lived in several states including Southern California, Nebraska and Montana before moving to Portland in 1964. She went to college at the University of Nebraska and Montana State University in Bozeman. Her work adventures include working on a newspaper in Lincoln, Neb. doing camera work, half-tones and photo processing in an old fashioned dark room. She also worked for an advertising agency.

Rupp had connections to the college long before she worked here. Her parents both graduated from Clackamas' graphic arts program and Rupp acted in the Clackamas repertoire theatre. She eventually took over the family printing business after discovering her love of people and designing.

It wasn't until Rupp started work-

ing here that she became aware of all the things the college does.

"I am absolutely and continually amazed at what is available for more than the average student," said Rupp. "The things they do for people in the YPOP program and Life and Careers Options as well as the Targeted Learning Center are wonderful."

Rupp has a true heart for kids and adults alike who "don't fit the mold" and has had the chance to see them succeed while working here.

"I have a concern for those who aren't cut with the same cookie cutter," she said. "I see adults coming back after years to re-educate themselves and it's so inspiring."

Though Rupp is retiring from Clackamas, she considers it merely her second career. After spending the first weeks after retirement recuperating from knee surgery, she will continue her embroidery business that she began last September and expand it into a quilting business as well. She will also be teaching quilting classes for North Clackamas Community School in the summer.



MAGGIE JIRASEK / Clackamas Print

MaryLou Rupp, department secretary of community education, is planning on opening her own quilt shop upon retirement.

Aside from work, Rupp also plans on spending some time traveling to the California Redwoods on a Gold Wing motorcycle driven by her husband.

"The Redwoods on the back of a motorcycle is the most awesome experience," she said. "You can really smell the land; you're aware

of the temperature and the fragrance of the Redwoods."

Rupp has a retired Greyhound and two cats awaiting her motherly attention post retirement and she foresees a fruitful retirement.

"It's going to be really fun," she said. "I hope to stay healthy and really spread some joy."

## Arlene Jurgens says goodbye after 20 years



MIKE POLLOCK / Clackamas Print

Arlene Jurgens, chairperson of the Nursing and Allied Health Department, is retiring.

DAISY BAIN  
Staff Writer

Arlene Jurgens, chairperson of the Nursing and Allied Health Department, is retiring after 20 years of service.

Jurgens started her career in nursing at Cincinnati General Hospital in intensive care right out of nursing school. Then in 1972, she landed a job at Emanuel Hospital in intensive care.

While working at Emanuel, Jurgens fractured her knee in a hiking accident that put her in therapy

for one year. That was when she decided to go back to school for her master's degree in teaching.

"It really opened a new field for me," said Jurgens.

In 1973, Jurgens began teaching at Good Samaritan School of Nursing. She

taught there until 1980 and then had a private practice for one year.

She focused mainly on stress management and therapeutic touch.

"Good things come out of things that seem unfortunate," said Jurgens.

In 1981 Jurgens began her career here at Clackamas. She served as department chairperson along with

being an instructor.

"I enjoy the students; that's the best part of it," said Jurgens.

Jurgens said that being the chairperson is a lot of work. It involves coordination with state agencies, a lot of meetings away from campus, and working with curriculums for the various programs.

Jurgens says she is ready to retire.

"I feel like it's time; it's time to slow down a bit and smell the roses."

She has been working at Providence on-call for the Support of Care Team working with life crises. Jurgens plans to continue working there and staying involved.

"Hopefully I can keep my fingers in here a bit," she said.

Jurgens says she would also like to do some more hiking during her new free time.

*"It's time to slow down a bit and smell the roses."*

Arlene Jurgens  
Chair of Nursing, Allied Health Department

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