Paula Rieder

Job: Slippery Rock University associate professor of history.

Joined SRU: 2006.

Background: After teaching high school for some years, I went back to school and earned my doctorate in medieval history from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. My first job was at the University of Nebraska-Kearney, a small, state campus very much like SRU except way out west in the middle of nowhere. When I had the chance to move to a more urban area at SRU, closer to family in Ohio and West Virginia, I took it.

Person(s) you’d like to have dinner with: Eleanor of Aquitaine, the feisty and influential wife of Henry II and queen of England in the 12th century.

Why I work at The Rock: I work at SRU because of the people on this campus. I enjoy the students, many of who are serious about life and their education, but at the same time bring their youthful enthusiasm and perspective to my classes. I find them challenging and fun. I also enjoy my colleagues among the faculty, staff and administration. Slippery Rock University is blessed with many professionals who work very hard to make good things happen, both in the classroom and around campus. I’m glad to have such a positive place to work.