



Tuesday, April 22, 2003

Mary Stein

Mary Stein, associate professor of teacher development and educational studies, joined Oakland University in 1999, prior to which she was an assistant professor at Wayne State University. Her publications and scholarship focus on the teaching and learning of science in elementary education.

She has given numerous national, international, and state presentations with intriguing titles such as "Seize the Teachable Science Moment" and "Cool Science and Hot Stuff." Stein has taken a leadership role in curricular development and in the mentoring of faculty colleagues. She has received a variety of grants including "Mentoring Part-time Faculty through Technology Integration: A Web-based Tutorial to Support Instructional Leadership" and "Science and Mathematics Summer Programs in the Detroit Public Schools: Building Communities of Learners for Mathematics and Science Literacy."

But the comments of Stein's colleagues and students regarding her ability to inspire and mentor prospective teachers are the greatest testament to her career. Colleagues comment that she has taken a leadership role in making sure her department's science education courses meet or exceed state and national standards and that she models a well-prepared, creative and confident instructor. Her students indicate her courses "exemplify superior classroom teaching" by balancing "a heartfelt love for people, teaching and science." They applaud her use of humor, song and drama to convey an understanding of the principles and methods of science. By teaching 275 undergraduate pre-service teachers who in turn will teach 30 elementary and middle school children, Stein is touching the lives of more than 8,000 young people every year.

SUMMARY

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