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My Days at Fisher

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My Days at Fisher

Abstract

In lieu of an abstract, below is the essay's first paragraph.

"I began my Fisher journey in the fall of 1987. I was a transfer student from SUNY Potsdam. I worked full time at St. John Fisher's child care center and took classes before work, on my lunch hour, and at night. I had a job at the child care center that was supposed to be a summer job, but turned full time at the end of the summer. I was very lucky to have a boss who was flexible with my hours. I taught the three year old class, ran the after school program, and supervised work study students. I loved working at the child care center because it was such a warm caring environment for both children and employees. I learned a lot from the director Sally Zepecki and all of the staff really. They were all women with families and I was just barely twenty years old. I still can't believe they trusted me to drive a Fisher van full of six through ten year olds around all summer on field trips. At the end of the summer those same school aged kids would come to my house for a camp out."



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My Days at Fisher

I began my Fisher journey in the fall of 1987. I was a transfer student from SUNY Potsdam. I worked full time at St. John Fisher's child care center and took classes before work, on my lunch hour, and at night. I had a job at the child care center that was supposed to be a summer job, but turned full time at the end of the summer. I was very lucky to have a boss who was flexible with my hours. I taught the three year old class, ran the after school program, and supervised work study students. I loved working at the child care center because it was such a warm caring environment for both children and employees. I learned a lot from the director Sally Zepecki and all of the staff really. They were all women with families and I was just barely twenty years old. I still can't believe they trusted me to drive a Fisher van full of six through ten year olds around all summer on field trips. At the end of the summer those same school aged kids would come to my house for a camp out.

The lecture halls at Potsdam had been too big for me, so when the director of the child care center asked me if I wanted to work there full time and go to school part time, I jumped at the chance! I would be building my resume doing something I loved and attending much smaller classes than I had at the SUNY College. I loved the small class sizes and individual attention I received at Fisher. Dr. Tam Spitzer was one of my favorites and she taught psychology. I also

enjoyed the religion classes I took and met Father Michael Costanzo who eventually was part of my wedding.

Upon graduation from St. John Fisher, I was lucky enough to be hired as a kindergarten teacher at my Alma Mater, Honeoye Central School. I had always dreamed of teaching Kindergarten! While teaching and raising my son Andrew, I earned my Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education at Nazareth College. Towards the end of that program, I had my second son Aaron. I took a two -year maternity leave and went back to teaching Kindergarten at Honeoye. I taught second grade for three years, but then went back to my kindergartners. I am currently teaching first grade and I love helping children learn to read! My husband Brian and I live in Bristol and are coming up on twenty -three years of marriage. He helped me through five years as a part time Fisher student and through the two years at Nazareth. I couldn't have done it without his support. My youngest son Aaron is a junior at Honeoye. His brother Andrew is a junior at Fisher! This past fall Andrew walked into his first religion class and who do you think his professor was? My beloved Father Costanzo. I am thankful for all that he and the other professors, as well as the staff at the child care center taught me about life, children, and education.



Aftermath of Nemo

(Photo by Dr. Linda MacCammon)