

STEM SPOTLIGHT

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Ph. D. in Mathematics Education – The University of Alabama
Masters in Mathematics – Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Bachelor of Science in Mathematics – Knox College, Galesburg, IL



Q How did you select your college major?

A I had excellent teachers in mathematics in elementary and secondary schools. Through them, I learned to love the subject and with their help I did well in my mathematics courses.

Q What was the biggest influence in your selection of major/ career?

A Elementary and high school teachers of mathematics. My professors at Knox College were also excellent and encouraging.

Q If you could go back to high school and select any elective course to take that would have better prepared you for college, what would it be?

A I did not take biology but I did take physics and chemistry. Someday I intend to study some phase of biology.

Also, because of the small high school that I attended, I was not able to take calculus in high school. When I arrived at Knox College I found that many of my classmates in physics had already had calculus in high school.





Q What is your favorite aspect of your job?

A I enjoy working with and helping people succeed and I enjoy solving problems.

Q How do you/ your company make a positive impact on society/ our community?

A We prepare students for a productive future.

Q What is the most interesting thing you have been able to do in your career?

A I have had the opportunity to lead DSCC for the past 30 years. We have expanded educational opportunity to many people in northwest TN by building two new centers – one in Trenton and one in Covington and by expanding online classes and dual enrollment and by raising scholarship funds.

I also had the opportunity to teach mathematics in Colombia and in Mexico. I lived in Latin America for 4 years and taught in international schools.

Q What makes you get up each morning excited about your profession?

A I am excited about the opportunity that DSCC has to improve the economic development of this region and to improve the economic opportunities available to our students.

Q How does your career incorporate STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math)?

A All of my college degrees involved the study of mathematics. I use mathematics in the many problems that I address on a daily basis. The logical thinking and problem solving skills that I developed in my study of mathematics are used every day.

In my work at DSCC I emphasize the importance of STEM careers to our students.

Q What advice would you like to share with K-12 students who are considering your profession?

A There are many opportunities available in education.