WHY DID YOU BECOME AN INSTRUCTOR AT AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE (ACC)?

It is much more valuable for a student to have the advantage of learning practical application in addition to theory. I wanted to share my experiences, and motivate students to stretch themselves. I enjoy the interaction and stimulation in the classroom, and that environment helps students learn better.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB?

Exploring options and different ways of doing things with the students. My courses require creativity and innovation, and it is a challenge to get students to think “out of the box.” My greatest joy is watching them achieve beyond what they thought they could.

WHAT MAKES ACC DIFFERENT THAN OTHER COMMUNITY COLLEGES?

ACC provides extensive opportunities to a broad community. It serves students from high school through two years of college. ACC has state recognized programs for high school students (making the transition to college easier), programs for adults and working individuals, the ability to respond to the needs of the community (such as the expansion of our nursing program) and attempts to meet the needs of the entire community through its varied programs.

DESCRIBE THE CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAM AT ACC?

Continuing Education non-credit courses are based upon the needs of the student. The nine areas of study within Continuing Education include: Community Programs, Center for Teacher Certification, Business Assessment Center, Customized Training, Workforce Development Center, International Business Institute, High Technology Institute, Health Professions Institute, and Business and Industry Institute.

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE ACC TO SOMEONE THAT IS NEW TO AUSTIN?

ACC is a college with seven campuses throughout Central Texas, and has about 40 other locations within its service area. Due to growing enrollment, ACC is planning a new campus in Round Rock. The college seeks to provide access to education excellence through its general education, workforce continuing education, developmental education and adult basic education programs. ACC has an excellent faculty and staff that take pride in meeting the needs of students.

WHAT PLANS OR ADVANCEMENTS ARE YOU HOPING TO SEE IN OUR SCHOOL SYSTEM IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS?

We hope to see a reduction in the dropout rate in the school systems, and thus, an increase in the number of high school students going to college. With an open-door policy, all high school students should have the opportunity to enroll in ACC or some other college. In addition, College Connections and Early College Start make it easy and affordable for students to begin their college careers earlier.