

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR RETIREMENT, PROFESSOR HEY. AND THANK YOU. . .

Dr. Jane Hey retired May 31 from her position as professor and chair of biology and chemistry, following a career at Morningside in which she saw the average number of biology majors double.

"Jane Hey has been instrumental in shaping the biology department and the natural sciences," said Dr. William Deeds, vice president for academic affairs and dean of the college. "She has witnessed a great deal of change at Morningside and has always worked to make this institution better. Her presence on our campus will greatly be missed."

Hey taught for two years at Wisconsin State University and for two years at Briar Cliff College before coming to Morningside in 1979. She remained at the college for the rest of her career.

"I wanted to teach at Morningside because faculty members were passionate about their subject, and that's my approach, too," she said. "I try to motivate students to find what excites them because if they do find something that really excites them, then that's very possibly a lifelong interest or a lifelong career for them. And they'll enjoy their work if they find something they're passionate about."

Hey encouraged her students to experience firsthand the thrill of hands-on research. She has been involved in research since arriving at Morningside, first in aquatic studies of the Missouri River for the Iowa Public Service Com-

pany and then directing the Science and Undergraduate Research Program (SEURP) funded by MidAmerican Energy. The SEURP program lasted for eight years and annually involved six members of the science faculty, college students and area high school students in summer research.

Since that time, Hey has received seven grants for research from state and regional agencies. Her most recent project, which is still ongoing, involves working with Dr. Eugenia Farrar, Iowa State University, to study amphibian success in a recently restored wetland complex on the Missouri River floodplain southeast of Sioux City.

"Amphibians are older than dinosaurs in terms of how long they've been around, but now they are in trouble throughout the world," she said. "Since amphibians spend their lives in both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems, they serve as important indicators of the health of our environment."

Besides making her field relevant and exciting to students, Hey was also instrumental in the re-design of Morningside's science building. She

coordinated input from the faculty to help make the re-built Walker Science Center a top-notch facility when it opened in 2001.

"One of the reasons that building looks as nice as it does is her attention to detail over there," Deeds said.

Hey said that after almost 30 years of teaching biology at Morningside College, it's a good time for new faculty to bring their fresh perspective to students.

When asked what she will miss most, Hey said, "I will miss working with Morningside's science students." So don't be surprised if you're at a college event and you see her in the audience.

"I plan to stay in touch with Morningside," she said. "I always tell our graduates to stay in touch with us, and I'm not going to let Morningside out of my sight."



Dr. Jane Hey retired in May from her position as professor and chair of biology and chemistry. She taught at Morningside for almost 30 years.