

SISTER MARY ANN WINTERS, S.C.

CLASS OF 1967

Sister Mary Ann graduated from Seton Hill in 1967 with a degree in biochemistry. After receiving her Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of Pittsburgh, she was prepared to start her career as a member of the Seton Hill Chemistry Department in 1972. During this time, she also served as chair of the department.

Sister Mary Ann was elected to serve the congregation of the Sisters of Charity in 1981 as a member of the leadership council, and then as the Major Superior from 1985-1993. Throughout these years, she made great strides in engaging the congregation in collaborative decision-making. This gave rise to the formation of the Korean Province; the beginnings of what is now Caritas Christi; the dedication of local communities as peace sites; the initiation of a development office for the congregation; and several other important initiatives.

While serving with the Sisters of Charity, Sister Mary Ann served Seton Hill through her membership on the Board of Trustees. She also served on the Jeannette District Memorial Hospital Board and Ethics Committee, and the tri-diocesan Sisters Leadership Council. As

a member of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious and the Federation of the Sisters of Charity, Sister Mary Ann experienced a deepened appreciation of the internationality of Sisters of Charity.



In 1993, she returned to her home state of Arizona, where she served her local church as Chancellor for the Diocese of Phoenix. She was charged with coordinating the research for future planning of the Diocese.

Today, Sister Mary Ann serves as an adjunct faculty member in the Chemistry Program at Seton Hill, a pastoral minister at Caritas Christi, and a formation ministry director for the Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill.

Upon being named a 2013 Seton Hill University Distinguished Alumna, Sister Mary Ann said: "Thank you to the Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill for passing on the legacy of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton through our life together in community and in the community of Seton Hill University. Thank you to Dr. JoAnne Boyle in extending this legacy over her 25 years as president of her alma mater."

SISTER MARY HELEN MEYER, S.C. entered the Sisters of Charity in 1939, from Assumption Parish, Bellevue, Pennsylvania. She earned a bachelor's degree in Social Studies from Duquesne University and a master's degree in Biology from the University of Notre Dame. Sister Mary Helen began her 70-year teaching career in elementary and secondary schools of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, which include Saint Luke (Carnegie), Saint Anselm (Swissvale), and Sacred Heart (East Liberty). Sister Mary Helen was also an instructor in chemistry at Seton Hill University during the summer sessions of the 1960s. In 1967, she was assigned to teach biology and chemistry at Greensburg Central Catholic High School in Greensburg, a position she held for 45 years.

Sister Mary Helen's focus on teaching the sciences was to help students see and understand the scientific relationships based on faith and reason. The intellectual development *and* the spiritual development of her students were equally important objectives in her classroom.

This philosophy was evident in her gentle, patient manner and her ability to motivate students to reach their fullest potential. Her former Sacred Heart High School student, Sister Maureen O'Brien, S.C. notes that Sister Mary Helen also knew how to make the study of the sciences fun by demonstrating scientific principles through activities such as making breakfast and ice cream.

A recipient of numerous honors and awards for her meritorious work with science students, Sister Mary Helen's dedication to her ministry was witnessed by two, possibly three, generations of former students. But in the spring of 2012 at the age of 92, Sister Mary Helen made the decision to retire from teaching. Her legacy will continue to inspire and motivate the students of Greensburg Central Catholic High School where "The Sister Mary Helen Meyer Excellence in Chemistry Award" will be presented each year to a graduating student on Senior Awards Day.

Sr. Mary Helen is always seen with a smile on her face as she goes about her volunteer activities at the offices at DePaul Center and at Caritas Christi, the sisters' motherhouse. Sister Mary Helen continues to bring everyone she encounters "a little closer to God" leaving no doubt that "[her] presence as a religious has been a worthy example of the beauty and wonder of [her] calling."

