

Des Moines Area Community College

Open SPACE @ DMACC

Recollections

DMACC Pioneers

2016

Recollections by Dolores Fortner

Dolores Fortner

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DMACC Recollections

Submitted by: Dolores Fortner
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1. When did you begin work at DMACC?

1973

2. When did you retire or leave DMACC?

1992

3. In the early years, what was your work position and major responsibilities?

At the age of 40 years in 1972, I was in my last year of college at Drake University. A woman of that age just graduating from college was unusual at that time. I was ready for my student teacher experience and had asked Drake to put me at the Women's Training Institute in Mitchellville. Drake did not have a contract with them for student teachers and was not willing to initiate one. My second request was to student teach at DMACC at the Ankeny campus so I could utilize my work experience in offices, of 20+ years. Again, there was no contract, but Drake did initiate a contract, and I became the first student teacher at Ankeny campus from Drake University. Because of my teaching experience, I was hired as a teacher in the Office Occupations Department as a legal secretary teacher. My previous work experience had been in a law office in Des Moines. Nineteen years later I retired from the department as chair.

4. What events or happenings to you remember most about your first years at DMACC?

5. What major changes did you observe during your time at DMACC?

6. Who do you remember the most from DMACC and why?

7. Please share any other special memories you have about the early years at DMACC.