

Colette Fahrner says her friends would describe her to be fun-loving, enthusiastic, generous and most importantly a spirit-filled person. Her main goal is to nurture new and sustainable life on our planet. Fahrner expressed that her weaknesses would have to be impatience while getting results and skipping some necessary details in the process.

Colette, just like everyone else, experiences stressful situations and when she does, she copes with stress by going for a walk preferably, near water, sitting down to read a mystery or solve Sudoku puzzles. She expressed that she faces conflict head on and does not wait for the appropriate time.

"My work environment is important to me because it nurtures my spirit. I enjoy interacting with people in my ministry; I do not enjoy long and boring meetings which are numerous, however. I am willing to provide people with my attention, time, energy and experience," said Colette. Leadership and connection are the two greatest components when it comes to life in a ministry. Without both of these components an individual would not be able to express and solidify the interest they have towards the work they do each day. Colette believes she leads by example and tries to let her enthusiasm run over. As a school principal, she also believed in preparing a faculty and maintaining communication with each of them.

She went on to express that her greatest passions in life revolve around ecological issues. "I desire to be a person who nurtures and shares new life with people, creatures and environment." Colette expressed that she sees herself working with ecological issues in various capacities around the world. "I often do what needs to be done which I consider the extra mile. In my ministry life, twice I have taken on a job, which was not my first choice."

Colette believes that she has been a positive influence on many around her. She has been told that she laid some of the groundwork for what is now Loyola's Retreat and Ecological Center. She says of herself, "Each person I get to see smile and feel better about themselves is a success story for me."

Written by Michelle Czaja