

Love for Rowan faculty continues

Spring 2018



Dr. Denis Mercier says Rowan couldn't have come back into his life at a better time. Last year, the 75-year-old retired professor said

“for no apparent reason other than his own thinking,” he decided it was time to get some affairs in order. So when the idea to support faculty development was brought to the table, he couldn't have been more thrilled.

The Denis Mercier Endowed Professional Development Fund was established to support faculty members within the College of Communication & Creative Arts (CCCA) in professional development endeavors.

During his 35-year career as a writing and mass media professor at Rowan, Mercier self-financed some of the department's costs because he was so passionate about his work and that of his colleagues.

Mercier loved getting the University's name out into the greater academic world, traveling all over the country and even into Canada. He wrote papers, presented his work, chaired panels and participated in various conferences, furthering his knowledge of mass media and popular culture while working to put Rowan's communication faculty on the map.

Dean of the College of Communication & Creative Arts Dr. Sanford Tweedie was overwhelmingly supportive of Mercier's fund to support faculty and instrumental in getting the initiative started.

Katherine Budris and Tim Zatzariny, Jr. '94, M'07, both CCCA writing instructors, are the first two recipients of the Fund and recently attended The Association of Writers and Writers Programs conference in Tampa, Florida.