

SCOLT Spotlight
Dr. Judith Cox

Dr. Judith (Judy) Cox is Professor of German at Birmingham-Southern College in Birmingham, Alabama. In 2000 she was the recipient of **SCOLT's Post-Secondary Teacher of the Year Award**.

In addition to her selection as Teacher of the Year, Dr. Cox received the Exemplary Teaching Award for 2004-2005 given by the Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry of the United Methodist Church at Birmingham-Southern College.

Dr. Cox oversees both the major and minor in German. She also teaches an Honors Course in British and German Romantic literature and a course entitled Humanistic Perspectives for Management for the Masters Program in Public and Private Management.

Her favorite part of her job is the relationships she develops with students. "I really enjoy when students are enthusiastic about learning and willing to work hard because they are having fun. Especially gratifying is when a student, who has been somewhat frustrated with learning a language, eventually—or even suddenly 'gets it.' I have seen that happen often, and it makes me happy, but it is also fun to see how happy it makes the student. I would recommend that language teachers challenge students and make them work hard, but be sure that you and they have fun. I firmly believe that the more we laugh in class, the more the students learn."

These are rather difficult days, due to dwindling interest in German by students and administrators, but as a language teacher, Dr. Cox supports other languages and believes that learning a second (or third) language is very important for students' education and for the world. "My college has added three new languages for the coming year, and it is exciting to see the interest among students for these languages."

Dr. Cox is active in the profession. She attends conferences and presents workshops and sessions. Look for her at upcoming meetings or write her at <jcox@bsc.edu>

