

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY EDWARDSVILLE

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BRINGING THE PAST INTO THE FUTURE



This weekend on Segue, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville's premier radio show that discusses the lives and work of the people on campus and beyond, CAS Dean Greg Budzban, PhD, interviews new Chair of Anthropology, Julie Zimmermann.

This episode of Segue aired at 9 a.m. this Sunday, August 11, 2019, on WSIE 88.7 FM The Sound and siue.edu/wsie.

Zimmermann reveals a life-long interest in Anthropology. As a child, her parents discouraged her early interest in Archaeology as being "for rich people".

Zimmermann entered college on scholarship without a fixed idea for a career, but was drawn in by Anthropology by its being on the first page in the school catalog. She became interested in teaching Anthropology because of an instructor that fascinated her, and made Zimmermann think it would be an interesting and worthwhile career.

Zimmermann refused to be discouraged by the naysayers who told her that academia is an impossibly hard career to hope to enter. Zimmermann said she brushed off any doubts by internalizing "why not me"?

The summer after her first year of college, Zimmermann participated in her first excavation and "loved it". Going on an excavation drove home a desire to make a career of archaeology. A second excavation the following summer cemented that desire.

Zimmermann has just received notice that her dissertation was approved and her Ph.D. would be granted, when she was offered her position at SIUE. It was both unusual and wonderful to have such a smooth transition between graduate study and a tenure track position. Zimmermann believes she is “made for the job”.

Zimmermann talks at length about the breadth of opportunity actually available to students pursuing anthropology careers, from conventional jobs on archaeological excavations to forensic work for district attorney offices. SIUE actually now works in concert with the Integrative Studies Program to offer a graduate program in Cultural Heritage Resource Management, with either a museum track or an archaeology track.

To hear this episode in its entirety, return to the College of Arts and Sciences website and choose “College Talk” for our episode archives. Or, follow this link:

http://www.siu.edu/artsandsciences/CASsegue_prevshows.html .