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Anne O'Dwyer

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**Simon's Rock Oral History Project**

Interviewee: **Anne O'Dwyer**

Faculty in Psychology (1997 - present); Dean of Academic Affairs (2008 - 2016)

Interviewer: **Molly McGowan, Class of '13**

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**Interview with Anne O'Dwyer**

**June 17, 2016**

**Hall College Center, Bard College at Simon's Rock, Great Barrington, Massachusetts**

**Selected excerpts from the Oral History Project interview. The full transcript may be restricted. To request access please contact the [Simon's Rock College Archives](#).**

**Keywords:** Ed Misch, Ginny Brush, Pat Sharpe, Nancy Yanoshak, Joan DelPlato, Bob Schmidt, Mike Bergman, Academic Dean

“I remember thinking ‘I don’t like adolescents because you know, they’re in your face, they have so many strong opinions, and they’re really constantly changing their minds about things, and they have attitude.’ And now, those are the things I love about students. I love the in your face, I love the opinions, I love the attitude.”

“I think it’s one thing that defines us: that we’re a place where people are open to being criticized and challenged. And that doesn’t mean it’ll always go smoothly. As we know, it can be hard and it can be painful, but I think we all know that that’s the way to grow, and I hope that we can continue to model that as a way of discourse and as a way of learning going forward.”

“I just can’t imagine that I could have found such an interesting group of people, and I often talk about this with new faculty, I think it is such a great advantage here that you are not just talking to people in your discipline. I think if I were in a big psych department somewhere and all I ever talked to were other psychologists, I think that would be really boring. And I don’t think that I would be as good a thinker. I might have known more about all the specific debates in the field but I don’t think I would be as broad a thinker as I am because I don’t just talk to other psychologists.”