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Julie Mitchell, University of Dayton assistant dean of special programs and continuing education, has been selected to attend the Summer Institute for Women in Higher Education Administration, a four-week residential program on the Bryn Mawr College campus in Bryn Mawr, Pa.

Sponsored by Higher Education Resource Services, the summer institute (popularly known as HERS) facilitates the professional development of women in higher education and their advancement into positions of greater responsibility and authority. Each year approximately 75 women administrators and faculty from the United States, Canada and Africa attend. The curriculum prepares participants to work on issues facing higher education, with emphasis on the growing diversity of the student body and the work force.

Mitchell assists adult students who are interested in returning to school and participating in undergraduate courses at the University of Dayton. She works with students in the Adult Degree Advancement Program and designs developmental seminars and workshops for professionals. Mitchell also manages learning opportunities for senior adults. She provides leadership for UD’s Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, which has received $2 million for an endowment and $250,000 in grants from the Osher Foundation since 2004 to sustain programming for senior adults.

A UD alumna with an undergraduate degree in communication and a graduate degree in counseling, Mitchell joined the University staff in 1988.

“I am incredibly humbled and honored to be selected to represent UD this summer, and feel certain that this opportunity will be one of the most valuable experiences in my professional development to date, Mitchell said.

This is the second year that UD administrators have been selected to attend the Summer Institute for Women in Higher Education Administration. Tricia Hart, director of the Berry Scholars and honors programs, and Kathleen Webb, dean of University libraries, participated in HERS last year.

The program’s more than 2,000 alumnae include presidents, vice presidents and deans. In addition to pursuing advancement, participants are asked to shape careers that are personally satisfying and to make strong and informed contribution to their home institutions.