

Paul Reiter appointed Dean of Education. He is a graduate of Tarkio College and Dallas Theological Seminary. He had been a pastor for 20 years. He was described as being "aggressive, action-oriented, and an independent thinker." He promoted 'the school' versus the 'mission' concept of the organization (although he raised considerable personal 'missionary' support) and brought the idea of 'academic excellence' to fuller reality. Along with his office as Dean of Education he also assumed the chairmanship of the Pastoral Studies Department.

Paul's stern appearance and his persistency in his role as an instructor earned him the title of "The Bear" by his students. Many who could see under his firm exterior affectionately renamed him the "Teddy Bear". He is also remembered by many of his students as "The Bleeder", a name given because of his habit of 'bleeding' all over term papers with his red marker. It was not difficult to find the mistakes! The 'red pen' also gave many suggestions, which were very helpful at exam time. His exams remained practically the same year after year so students borrowed old exams from former students in order to get 'one up' on the professor. His counseling students will well remember his assignments to collect counseling material. The larger the file the better the grade. In later years aspiring students were bringing file cabinets to his office to satisfy that assignment.

Lou Reiter, Paul's wife, had not been employed by the school but had a very active role as an advisor to the student wives. She was known for her support role to her husband. He lovingly called her his "sandpaper" for her help in smoothing off some of his rough edges. Her experience as a faithful Christian, a mother and the wife of a former pastor has prepared her for her position as role model for future pastor's wives. She is an excellent Bible teacher and an example of the 'virtuous woman'.

Excerpt from Appalachian Bible College 50 Anniversary Book by Fern Hanlin Coberly, published in 2000.