Peggy Sullivan
NCE Excellence in Advising Award
Mechanical and Industrial Engineering

Margaret Sullivan often meets prospective NCE students when they are in high school – at the open houses, and she sometimes stays in touch with them after they graduate. That’s how dedicated she is to students in the Mechanical and Industrial Engineering Department, where she has worked devotedly for more than 25 years.

Sullivan, who is known on campus as Peg, has the common touch as well as degrees in psychology – a combination of warmth and intellect that makes her a great adviser. She also coordinates the department’s curriculum and is the go-to person for student clubs.

She encourages students to join professional societies, apply for scholarships, consider taking co-op jobs, and she tracks their progress as they advance at NCE. She also reaches out to students with electronic surveys so their opinions on classes and the curriculum are considered.

In the mid 1990s, Peg applied for a grant to increase underrepresented groups’ participation in student clubs. She was awarded the grant, part of which was used for alumni career workshops. And when the grant funding ended, Peg personally endowed the Sullivan Memorial Lecture Series, so students could continue to hear from alumni, make professional contacts and learn about career paths. It was an amazing act of generosity – one that shows her devotion to the students and illustrates why she is receiving this award.