Dr. Deborah McCollister, or “Dr. Mc” as she is affectionately known by her students, has called DBU’s Department of English home since 1991, but she is spending the 2010-11 academic year as professor of English at LCC International University in Klaipeda, Lithuania.

Prior to the academic year, Dr. McCollister was awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to lecture at the university by the United States Department of State and the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board. Her grant proposal was entitled “Partnership and Promise: Pedagogical Support in English Studies in Modern Lithuania,” and part of her responsibilities at LCC International University include teaching world literature and writing classes. She is also serving as the English department chair during the spring semester.

Last fall, she used her many years of experience and expertise to help train other English teachers by conducting a workshop for teachers in the Lithuanian public schools, which was a requirement for their re-certification process.

Aside from her responsibilities in the classroom, Dr. McCollister and her husband, Mackie, hope to be examples of God’s grace and love to the university students. The McCollisters live in an apartment within a university dormitory. With constant student interaction, they find themselves counseling and mentoring many students on subjects of life, religion, and academics.

While Dr. Mc is busy in the English Department, her husband, Mackie, has become involved with the Student Life and Spiritual Life divisions of the university, serving as an instructor for the First-Year Seminar class and as a Spiritual Formation Coordinator.

“We are honored to live among such resilient and lovely people,” expressed Dr. McCollister. “We are grateful to be here and hopeful that we will be more effective instruments of the Father when we return to Texas and to DBU in May.”