

## **Karen Phinazee, M.A.**

### **Senior Dean of Student Development/Deputy Title IX Coordinator, Wake Technical Community College**

Karen came to Wake Tech in 1990. She has worked in Student Services in various roles for more than 25 years. Initially she began as a Pre-Curriculum Counselor with the Curriculum Education Department. Karen has worked as an Advisor, Assistant Registrar, Coordinator of Student Services, Director of Student Services, Dean of Student Services, and currently as the Sr. Dean of Student Development/Deputy Title IX Coordinator. Karen has a passion for helping people, especially those that may be having some challenges with the college experience. Student Conduct is a vehicle that she embraces and sees this as an opportunity to help students change their negative behavior into a positive, and learn from the process. She uses educational sanctions as a way to teach students how to get through some of life's challenges.

One of Karen's beliefs is that we are here to serve and to serve with a thankful heart. Currently Karen applied and was accepted to bring a team from the College to the 2019 Injury-Free NC (IFNC) Academy. A team of 5 from the College are enjoying this opportunity to learn more about violence prevention using shared risk and protective factors.

Prior to coming to Wake Tech, Karen has worked in industry, as an adjunct instructor at Brunswick Community College and as Director of the Learning Assistant Center at Halifax Community College.

Karen is an alum of the North Carolina Community College Leadership Program and was a Co-director for three years. She was also a recipient of the Staff Excellence Award for Student Services.